

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTIETH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JULY 09, 2004 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110 068

The following were present:

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| (1) | Prof. H.P. Dikshit, Vice-Chancellor | - | Chairman |
| (2) | Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor | - | Member |
| (3) | Prof. (Mrs.) Surabhi Banerjee | - | Member |
| (4) | Prof. C.L. Anand | - | Member |
| (5) | Shri Y.N. Chaturvedi | - | Member |
| (6) | Prof. B.S. Saraswat | - | Member |
| (7) | Prof. S.S. Hasan | - | Member |
| (8) | Prof. Swaraj Basu | - | Member |

Prof. A.S. Narang, Registrar - Secretary

Shri R.D. Sahay, Deputy Secretary, MHRD attended the meeting on behalf of the Secretary, MHRD, Government of India. Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting could not attend the meeting.

Mrs. Meenakshi Mishra, Finance Officer attended the meeting as a Special Invitee.

Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Deputy Director (VCO) and Shri T.K. Kaul, Assistant Registrar (VCO) were present to assist the Chairman. Shri R.P.D. Singh, Assistant Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the 80th meeting of the Board of Management. The Chairman specially welcomed Prof. S.S. Hasan as the new member of the Board of Management. The Chairman on behalf of the Board of Management also placed on record the valuable contributions made by Prof. Kapil Kumar as the member of the Board of Management. The proceedings of the meeting commenced with the presentation of the **PREAMBLE** by the Chairman.

Chairman's Preamble:

We have pleasure in reporting that the following programmes, which are pioneering initiatives in our country, are ready for launch from July 2004:

1. Post Graduate Diploma Programme on Intellectual Property Rights developed jointly with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva.
2. An Online Training Programme for mid level Indian Diplomats developed in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.
3. B.Sc. (Nautical Sciences) in collaboration with the Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Government of India.
4. Integrated Doctoral Programme in Mathematics and Physics in collaboration with Harish Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad under the Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India.

In changing global scenario, there is considerable increase in demand for Commerce Programmes and the conventional system is not able to meet the contemporary educational requirements in this area. As a result a large number of students, who are keen to study such programmes, are deprived admissions and are forced to opt out for some other programmes. In order to meet this important requirement, we are launching Masters Degree Programme in Commerce with effect from July 2004.

We are also launching Masters Degree Programmes in Political Science and History and Bachelor Degree Programme in Social Works (BSW) from July 2004. An important and major programme in computer education at Masters level, MCA, is under thorough revision and it is expected that the Revised Programme contents would be available by January 2005.

The MHRD is giving greater focus to the development of education in the states of the North East and Sikkim. In this context the Hon'ble HRM had convened a meeting of all the Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Education Ministers, Education Secretaries and educationists in the region at Shillong from June 13-15, 2004. He emphasized the importance, relevance and usefulness of the Distance Education mode especially in the region. He also laid due emphasis on the important requirement of training of all in-service untrained teachers in the schools and desired that all such teachers should be trained through the Teacher Training Distance Education Programme of IGNOU during the next 2-3 years. Several participants in the meeting like the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Assam and Meghalaya mentioned about the success of quality distance education programmes of IGNOU in the region. In fact, there has been tremendous growth in number of our students in the region during the last one year. All the participants agreed to make greater efforts to accomplish the target of training of all in-service untrained teachers in the respective states. The Vice-Chancellor informed that IGNOU has already developed the course material for Teachers

Training Programme in English, Hindi, Assamese, Bangla and that translation in Garo and Khasi languages will be available from January 2005. He also informed that in Sikkim the teachers training programme has picked up faster but in several other states greater interest and commitment on the part of the State Govts. was necessary for training all the teachers within the next 2-3 years. Since DIETS are not functional in several states, the Secretary (EE&L) after a discussion with me and the Chairman NCTE mentioned that to meet the requirement of the large target group of untrained teachers, it would be necessary to activate all Block Resource Centres (BRCs) for providing training. It was proposed that Master Trainers, one each from every BRC will be trained who in their turn will act as resource persons for BRCs.

As IGNOU's further initiatives in the region, it was informed that an FM radio station at Gauhati is being setup and it was expected of the Govt. of Assam to provide nearly 8000 sq ft built in area for the purpose. Similarly for a second FM radio station in Shillong, an equivalent built-in area was required. On a suggestion of the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, the Hon'ble CMs of Assam and Meghalaya assured to provide the required space. We have started further action in this direction. The Hon'ble CM of Assam also had a separate meeting with me to discuss the pending matter of setting up of an Open University for Assam. It is expected that the follow up action on the lines discussed will be taken soon by the Govt. of Assam. The Ministers and officials of some more states including Sikkim appealed to Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development for making arrangements for learning of functional Hindi, which they considered was also important link language to facilitate mobility of students and others. We are taking steps in consultation with the State Govts. to design and develop a programme on functional Hindi.

We are also making special efforts to provide education to the marginalized, minority groups and people living in distant and less-developed areas. We look forward to some successful interventions through the Sub-Regional Centres at Jabalpur in MP and Koraput in Orissa. Both these Centres are substantially focusing their activity for the education of the tribal people in and around their respective locations. In this connection, I had a teleconferencing session with the Chief Secretary, Education Secretaries, Tribal Welfare Secretary and Collectors of eight districts under KBK region in Orissa on July 6, 2004. The Orissa Govt. officials have assured me to extend all support in identifying centers with greater concentration of tribal population. The State Govt. also agreed to facilitate us in establishing five more Centres for B.Ed. Programme in the state. The issue of setting up a new State Open University was also discussed and the Chief Secretary assured that the Govt. had taken necessary steps for setting up of a State Open University.

The Student Support Committee in its meeting held on July 8, 2004 has recommended setting up of some Special Study Centres for Women in areas with greater concentration of minority communities. It is proposed to add one-hour daily transmission in Urdu along with other languages in Bhasha Mandakini

Programme under Gyan Darshan. We also intend to develop a teacher training programme for teachers of minority institutions.

The Vice-Chancellor of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) had a meeting with the senior officials of IGNOU regarding launch of some collaborative programmes of IGNOU and MANUU. The proposal is being further developed for some major initiatives in this direction.

The Chairman then requested the members to offer their valuable suggestions and comments on the various proposals and issues dealt in the Preamble.

The Board considered the main highlights of the Preamble and appreciated the initiatives of the University, particularly for introducing some innovative and need based new programmes and for increasing access to higher education to educationally backward, marginalized and socially deprived sections of our people/regions through special centres/collaborations. The Board acknowledged the encouragement, cooperation and support extended by the State Governments in the North-East region. The Board appreciated the encouragement being extended to IGNOU by the MHRD towards the development of educational opportunities in the North-East. The Board noted that the Distance Education was particularly relevant to the North-East where the infrastructural facilities were virtually non-existent. The Board also appreciated the University's efforts in designing customized programmes/ courses for these regions, like, teacher education programme in Assamese, Bengali, Manipuri, Garo and Khasi languages, apart from mainstream languages like, English and Hindi. The Board noted the efforts of the University in setting up FM Radio Stations in the States of Assam and Meghalaya, which could go a long way in expansion of the educational opportunities in the region. Similarly, the initiative of the University to set up special study centres for women in the areas with greater concentration of minority communities was considered a positive step in the right direction. The Board also appreciated the proposal of the University to start transmissions in Urdu language and the teacher training programmes for the minority institutions and desired that efforts should be further accelerated.

The Board further advised that –

- (i) a course in functional Hindi for all North Eastern States and other non-Hindi speaking States of the country may be designed, developed and offered.
- (ii) particular emphasis may be given to improving access to science education in the North-East region at all levels. At School level, joint efforts could be made with NGOs, Navodaya and Kendriya Vidyalayas.
- (iii) PG Diplomas in Intellectual Property Law, Human Rights Law and Arbitration Law may also be developed in a phased manner through the proposed School of Law.

The Chairman then requested Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor to present the items on the Agenda.

ITEM NO. 1 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 79TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON APRIL 30, 2004 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON**

BM 80.1.1 Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the Minutes of the 79th Meeting of the Board of Management were circulated to the Members and that no comments have been received on the Minutes.

BM 80.1.2 The Board confirmed the Minutes of its 79th Meeting. The Board noted the action taken by the University on various resolutions. With regard to the rationalization of cadres in the Translation and Hindi Cells in the University, it was explained that the proposal has been pending for long with Ministry of Human Resource Development. It was resolved that Ministry of Human Resource Development be approached for the decision in the matter to be expedited. The Board also decided that suspension of Dr.M V Laxmi Reddy be extended for a further period of 90 days.

ITEM NO. 2 **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (1) (VI) (b), (c) OF STATUTE 6A**

BM 80.2.1 The item was taken up for consideration. Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor explained that the term of 3 years as members on the University's Board of Management in respect of Prof. C.L. Anand and Shri Y.N. Chaturvedi will expire on 5-8-2004. The Board may, therefore, co-opt two members for a term of 3 years with effect from 6-8-2004.

BM 80.2.2 The Board co-opted the following as members with effect from 6th August, 2004 under Sub-Clauses (b) and (c), Statute 6A (1)(vi) for a period of 3 years:

- (i) Dr. N.S. Rame Gowda, Former, Vice-Chancellor, Karnataka State Open University, Mysore {under Sub Clause (b)}
- (ii) Shri Pawan Chopra, Former Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India. {under Sub Clause (c)}

ITEM NO. 3 **TO DESIGNATE A REGISTRAR AS MEMBER (EX-OFFICIO) OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL AND PLANNING BOARD UNDER PROVISIONS OF STATUTE 9(1) (X) AND STATUTE 10(1) (V), RESPECTIVELY**

BM 80.3.1 The item was taken up for consideration. The Board decided that Registrar (SR&E) shall be a Member (Ex-officio) of the Academic Council, and Registrar (Admn.) shall be Member (Ex-officio) of the Planning Board.

ITEM NO. 4 **TO RATIFY ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN NOMINATING A DIRECTOR OF A SCHOOL AS MEMBER TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY UNDER CLAUSE (1) (iii) OF STATUTE 11**

BM 80.4.1 The item was taken up for consideration. Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed that a vacancy had arisen in the Finance Committee of the University with effect from 1st July, 2004 under Clause (1)(iii) of Statute 11 of the Statutes of the University and the Vice-Chancellor has nominated Prof. P.N. Pandit, Director, School of Humanities, as a member on the Finance Committee for a term of three years or till he holds the position of the Director of the School, whichever is earlier.

BM 80.4.2 The Board ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in nominating Prof. P.N. Pandit as a member of the Finance Committee of the University in terms of the provisions under Clause (1)(iii) of Statute 11.

ITEM NO. 5 **TO CONSIDER THE REPRESENTATION OF DR. M.V. LAKSHMI REDDY IN THE DEPARTMENTAL PROCEEDINGS INITIATED AGAINST HIM**

BM 80.5.1 The item was taken up for consideration. Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed that Board of Management considered the case of Dr. M.V. Lakshmi Reddy at its 74th Meeting and decided that disciplinary proceedings be initiated against the official as per CCS (CCA) Rules. To implement this decision, Charge Sheet was issued to him and an Inquiry Officer was appointed by the Vice-Chancellor in his capacity as the Disciplinary Authority. However, the Inquiry Officer suspended the inquiry proceedings due to allegation of bias made by Dr. Reddy against the Inquiry

Officer. Dr. Reddy had also contended that the Board of Management was the Appointing Authority in his case and the Vice-Chancellor could not issue a Charge Sheet to him. It was explained that the Charge Sheet was issued and Inquiry Officer was appointed by the Vice-Chancellor in his capacity as the Disciplinary Authority as per the provisions of Clause (5) of the Statute 2 of the Statutes of the University. Thus, the action of the Vice-Chancellor of issuing the Charge Sheet and in appointing the Inquiry Officer was within the provisions of the Statute 2 and the CCS (CCA) Rules.

BM 80.5.2

The Board considered the representation of Dr. Reddy on merit and decided that (i) the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor was within the statutory provisions and as per its directions, (ii) there is no substance in the allegation of bias against the Inquiry Officer, and (iii) the objections raised by Dr. Reddy in the above matter were only aimed at delaying the inquiry proceedings against him.

BM 80.5.3

While disposing the representation of Dr. Reddy on merit, the Board directed that the inquiry may be resumed. The Board further directed that any further attempt on the part of the Charged Officer on any pretext to stall or delay the process of lawful inquiry in future may be dealt with administratively.

ITEM NO. 6

TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE UNDER CLAUSE (1) (V) AND (IV) OF STATUTE 11

BM 80.6.1

Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed the Board that the term of two members of the Board of Management nominated by it on the Finance Committee of the University was due to expire on 5-8-2004. The Board nominated Shri M.P. Gupta, Additional Secretary (Retd.), Ministry of Finance, Government of India as a member on the Finance Committee with effect from 6-8-2004 under Clause (1)(v) of Statute 11 for a period of 3 years. As regards the nomination under Sub-Clause (1)(iv) of the Statute *ibid.*, the Board authorized the Chairman to make nomination on behalf of the BOM after nominations of the Visitor to the BOM are obtained.

**ITEM NO. 7 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE
QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR,
COMPUTER DIVISION**

BM 80.7.1 The proposal was considered. The Board approved the qualifications and experience proposed for the post of Director, Computer Division, as recommended by the Committee with the modification that a Doctoral degree should be an additional Essential Qualification (Appendix-1).

**ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE AMENDMENT OF
IGNOU EMPLOYEES WELFARE FUND RULES**

BM 80.8.1 The proposal was considered. The Board approved the amendment to the Clause 3(i) of the IGNOU Employees Welfare Fund, to the effect that the amount of Rs.25,000/- shall be replaced by Rs.35,000/- as financial assistance to the spouse or his dependents from the fund in the case of death of the employee and from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/-, as financial assistance to the employee, in the case of death of the spouse.

**ITEM NO. 9 TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-
CHANCELLOR IN IMPOSING A PENALTY ON SH.
K.K. BHAT, DY. DIRECTOR, RSD AND TO
CONSIDER THE APPEAL OF SH. K.K. BHAT
AGAINST THE PENALTY IMPOSED ON HIM**

BM 80.9.1 The item was taken up for consideration. Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor explained that an inquiry into the charges framed against Shri K.K. Bhat was entrusted to a duly appointed Inquiry Officer. in terms of CCS (CCA) Rules. The Inquiry Officer concluded the inquiry proceedings and certain Articles of Charge have been proved. Having regard to the findings of the Inquiry Officer, the Statement of defense against the articles of charge and the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission for imposition of major penalties as per the CCS (CCA) Rules, the Disciplinary Authority viz., the Vice-Chancellor, had imposed the major penalty on Shri K.K. Bhat, Deputy Director, by reduction of his pay to two lower stages, in the time scale of pay, for a period of 5 years, without earning increments during this period and on expiry of this period, such reduction not having effect of postponing future