

**MINUTES OF THE 84<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2014 AT 11:30 A.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM, NEW VCO BLOCK, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI**

The following were present:

1.	Prof. M. Aslam	Vice-Chancellor	Chairman
2.	Prof. Nageshwar Rao	Pro-Vice-Chancellor	Member
3.	Prof. T.K. Jena	Director, SOHS	Member
4.	Shri M.P. Gupta	Additional Secretary (Retd.)	Member
5.	Er. R.K. Gupta	Engineer in Chief (Retd.) & Member, BoM	Member
6.	Shri L.M. Pandey	Finance Officer	Secretary

Shri Praveen Prakash {JS (TEL), MHRD} and Shri Yogendra Tripathi, {JS&FA, MHRD} could not attend the meeting due to their pre-occupation. Shri P.K. Mohanty, Deputy Education Advisor attended the meeting as nominee of Shri Praveen Prakash. Prof. S.V.S. Chaudhary, Registrar (Admn.) attended the meeting as a 'special invitee'.

Shri Aseem Kumar, Assistant Registrar and Shri K.S. Bhatia, Assistant Registrar (Accounts) were present to assist the Committee and to assist the presentation on Accounts respectively.

The Secretary welcomed the Chairman, Finance Committee & Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Aslam to the 84<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee. He also welcomed other members of the Committee. The Chairman also welcomed the members of the Finance Committee to its 84<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Chairman then requested the Secretary to present the agenda items. The following agenda items were presented, and deliberated upon:

**FC 84.1 To confirm the Minutes of 83<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2014.**

84.1.1 The Secretary informed that no comments have been received on the minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee except in respect of Item No. 83.5 and 83.6. Hence the minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee may be confirmed after deliberating on the comments of MHRD.

84.1.2 The Chairman clarified that the revival of the post of Joint Registrar was mainly on the ground of essentiality and administrative exigency. In this context, he emphasized that the case of IGNOU cannot be compared with that of other central universities who have their limited sphere of activities around the place they are situated. Indira Gandhi National Open University has 56 Regional Centres and



2667 Study Centres. Hence, the University has unique features which provide it an edge over the other universities. Further, because of the operational requirements of the University for its national and international operations, the University has 4 Registrar levels of posts. Hence, the need of officers at Senior Middle Level in Administration Division, Finance and Accounts Division, Material Production and Distribution Division and in Student Evaluation Division were found absolutely necessary and inevitable.

Further the revival of the post of Joint Registrar had meager financial implications. Keeping in view the totality of circumstances, Establishment Committee, Finance Committee and Board of Management recorded the concern of the University and approved the revival of four posts of Joint Registrars out of nine posts (being operationalised at Deputy Registrar level).

Against the above backdrop, the proposal for revival of the post of Joint Registrars and creation of the post of Financial Advisor was a well defined thought process keeping in view the specific requirements of the University.

84.1.3 The Finance Committee appreciated the facts being placed before the Committee and agreed to go ahead with the decision already taken in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Finance Committee on the revival of the post of Joint Registrars and the creation of the post of the Financial Advisor.

84.1.4 With the above, the minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 were confirmed.

**FC 84.2 Action Taken Report in respect of 83<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Finance Committee.**

84.2.1 The Secretary informed that the Action Taken Report has been given against each item in the agenda note. The Committee was informed about the compliance of the resolution passed in 83<sup>rd</sup> Finance Committee meeting that ATR on the preceding Finance Committee be only submitted. Accordingly, the ATR was placed only for the agenda items of 83<sup>rd</sup> Finance Committee.

84.2.2 The members of the Finance Committee appreciated the action taken on the resolution passed in 83<sup>rd</sup> Finance Committee and noted the Action Taken Report after going through each of the items mentioned in it. The members however, suggested that the audit of 61 projects, whose balances have already been transferred to Non-Plan Account, may be executed on urgent basis and the compliance for its completion may be reported to the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

FC 84.3 *gn* **To report the action taken on re-appropriation of funds during 2013-14.**



84.3.1 The Finance Committee noted the re-appropriation of funds carried out by the University as per rules during the Financial Year 2013-14 (1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014) as given in the Annexure – 1 and 2 to the agenda item.

**FC 84.4 To consider the Annual Accounts of the University for the Financial Year 2013-14 to be submitted to DGACE for audit.**

84.4.1 A presentation on the Annual Accounts of the University for the Financial Year 2013-14 was made showing the trends in income and expenditure under various major heads for five years. The Chairman highlighted the concern of the University about the steps being taken to offer a quality service to the students and to set the standards in Open and Distance Learning Systems for others to follow. He urged the Ministry of Human Resource Development to extend their helping hand to achieve such targets as they are expected to play a crucial and vital role in taking higher education to the doorsteps of disadvantaged groups of our society.

84.4.2 The Finance Committee appreciated the efforts made for the compilation of Annual Accounts of the University on time and the presentation particularly comparable analysis of the income and expenditure under major heads for five Financial Years.

84.4.3 In view of the time schedule prescribed by the CAG for the submission of annual account of 2013-14 by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 for certification, the Finance Committee confirmed minutes of this item and recommended to get the approval of Annual Accounts of the University for the Financial Year 2013-14 by the Board of Management by circulation.

**FC 84.5 Enhancement in payment of Honorarium to External Resource Persons for STRIDE Training Programmes.**

84.5.1 The Secretary informed that Honorarium to External Resource Persons for STRIDE Training Programmes was decided in the 58<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee @ Rs. 750/- per session of 90 minutes duration. Keeping in view the normal rate of inflation and implementation of sixth pay commission, the rate approved in 2008 is becoming increasingly difficult to attract the experienced and eminent Resource Persons from other institutions. Hence, a need was felt to enhance the Honorarium.

Accordingly, the Competent Authority constituted a committee to review and suggest the revision of honorarium. The committee recommended to enhance the honorarium to External Resource Persons subject to maximum of two sessions per day per Resource Person as given below:

- Rs. 3000/- for a session of 90 minutes duration plus actual conveyance charges.
- Rs. 2000/- for a session of 60 minutes duration plus actual conveyance charges.

The committee also recommended that STRIDE faculty deputed as Resource Person in Training Programme shall not be eligible for the honorarium as it is the part of their work.

84.5.3

After due deliberations, the Finance Committee accepted the recommendations of the Committee for the purpose stated above subject to:

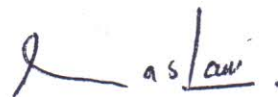
- a. Only two sessions in a day could be allocated to a Resource Person.
- b. IGNOU faculty, if deputed as Resource Person for the training programmes, shall not be eligible for honorarium.

With the permission of the Chairman, Finance Committee, the Secretary informed that a comprehensive proposal as per the recommendations of 82<sup>nd</sup> Finance Committee for revision of payment norms for various activities pertaining to Learner Support Services, practical activity, dissertation, internship, project, examination, activities of Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC) and for online support services has been received from the Regional Services Division (Nodal Division for the purpose), on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014 with a request to place it before the Finance Committee.

The Secretary further informed that the proposed payment norms need to be examined/discussed, before they are placed before the Finance Committee. However, in the absence of the approved norms certain payments have become overdue and need to be addressed urgently, hence, it is proposed that Finance Committee may authorize the Vice Chancellor to approve the urgent payment (if any) and report the same to next Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee accepted the concern of the university and authorized the Vice Chancellor to approve urgent payment (if any) and report the same to next Finance Committee along with full proposal.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(M. Aslam)

Chairman, Finance Committee