

**MINUTES OF THE 149<sup>th</sup> OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON MAY 26, 2022 AT 11.00 A.M. IN BLENDED MODE IN THE BOARD ROOM, VCO BLOCK, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

The following were present:

- |    |  |                              |
|----|--|------------------------------|
| 1. | Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice-Chancellor     | - Chairman                   |
| 2. | Prof. R.P. Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor      | - Member                     |
| 3. | Shri Sh. Mrutyunjay Behera, EA (HE), MOE | - Nominee,<br>Secretary, MOE |
| 4. | Prof. K.K. Aggarwal                      | - Member                     |
| 5. | Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar                | - Member                     |
| 6. | Shri Ashok Sharma                        | - Member                     |
| 7. | Prof. S K Yadav                          | - Member                     |
| 8. | Prof. Jitendra Kr. Srivastava            | - Member                     |
| 9. | Dr. Bharat Bhushan                       | - Member                     |
|    | Shri Alok Chaube, Registrar, Admn.       | - Secretary                  |

The Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Member could not attend the meeting. Dr Dev Kant Rao, Director, Academic Coordination Division and Dr V.B. Negi, Registrar (SED) attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

Dr. R.K. Diwakar, Deputy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, the Chairman, Board of Management (BoM), Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, welcomed all the members of the Board of Management. He specially welcomed Prof. K K Agarwal, Prof. S. S. Sarkar, Shri M. Behra and Prof. Ashok Sharma. The Vice Chancellor also welcomed Dr Alok Chaube, New Registrar (Administration) who has joined recently from Directorate of Technical Education, Govt. of M.P., Bhopal. All the members of the Board specifically appreciated the contribution of Dr. V B Negi, Registrar (SED) and outgoing Registrar, Administration, and Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Director (ACD) for their contributions. Both of them were also felicitated by Prof. K K Agarwal on behalf of the Board. The Board also appreciated the contribution of Prof. M S S Raju, who worked as Registrar, MPDD for around four years in addition to his normal

duties as Professor Commerce, SOMS. The Vice-Chancellor briefly narrated the significant developments in the university since the last BOM meeting, as under:

- i) **Convocation:** Hon'ble Minister of Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan delivered Convocation Address on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 as Chief Guest. Around 2.91 lakh degrees were conferred. Convocation was also organized at 32 Regional Centres all over the country. Distribution of degrees by Block Chain Method was launched in the Convocation by Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan ji and more than 65,000 degrees were distributed through Block Chain Method, simultaneously.
- ii) **New Joinings:** Shri Krishna Kumar Registrar, MPDD; Shri Karan Kapoor, Security Officer; Shri Arvind Kumar Soni, Deputy Registrar; Shri Santhosh Tripathi, Deputy Registrar; Shri S P Rawat, Deputy Registrar, and Shri Kamaldeep Singh Bhatia, Deputy Registrar have joined the University along with the new Registrar, Administration, Dr. Alok Chaube. Board welcomed all of them in the University.
- iii) **Examinations:** Student Evaluation Division conducted December 2021 examinations smoothly for around 7 lakh students. Examinations of online programmes were also conducted along with the specifically conducted online examinations, for Guyana Students.
- iv) **NEP implementation:** The process of NEP implementation is in full swing, a few steps taken in this regard are mentioned below:
  - a. Establishment of NEP Cell,
  - b. Integration of skill courses with undergraduate programmes,
  - c. Strengthening Internationalization,
  - d. For July 2022, following programs have been added so far:
    1. BA Vocational MSME (ODL)
    2. MA Distance Education (Online)
    3. PG Diploma Distance Education (Online)
- v) **Teaching learning process in Regional Languages on SWAYAM PRABHA:** From January 6, 2020 IGNOU started Live Sessions in 13 languages (12 regional languages and in English) on four SWAYAM Prabha Channels assigned to the University with the support of 14 Regional Centres across the country. As on date, total of 1022 hours of live sessions have been conducted for the popular Under Graduate programmes in Social Sciences viz. History, Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology and Environment Science. The live sessions are distributed across 4 channels for 13 hours every day. The sessions are also available through live streaming as well as archived on YouTube. The live sessions of Channel 17 are also made

available on the Gyan Darshan Channel of IGNOU. Apart from that the Live sessions of Gyan Darshan from 3.00 – 5.00 pm every day are also telecasted through the Channel 17 of SWAYAM Prabha. The details of sessions conducted so far are given below:

<b>SWAYAM PRABHA Live Sessions in Regional Languages On SWAYAM Prabha</b>					
<b>Channel No.</b>	<b>Channel 17: Social Sciences and Humanities</b>	<b>Channel 19: Professional and Vocational Education</b>	<b>Channel 18: Basic and Applied Sciences</b>	<b>Channel 20: SOUs and Teacher Education</b>	<b>Total Time Language wise</b>
Hindi	77	5	-	2	84
Tamil	72	3	1	-	76
Punjabi	67	4	-	1	72
Gujarati	76	4	1	-	81
Urdu	3	72	1	2	78
Malayalam	3	76	1	1	81
Odia	3	79	2	2	86
English	4	4	72	-	80
Telugu	4	5	73	2	84
Assamese	5	3	75	1	84
Marathi	4	3	2	73	82
Kannada	2	2	1	66	71
Bengali	4	4	2	75	85
Channel wise Total Timing	324	264	231	225	1044

- vi) **SWAYAM Courses:** The University added 22 new courses on the SWAYAM Portal with total of 151 courses on offer in the January 2022 session. For the July 2022 session another 34 new courses are being added with total of 185 courses on offer.
- vii) **Online Programmes-** 18 new online programmes were added in the January 2022 session with total of 34 online programmes on offer. Popular UG and PG level programmes like MBA, MCA, MA English, MA in Journalism and Mass Communication, MA Rural Development, BCA, B. Com, Bachelor of Social Work, BA (Tourism Studies), Bachelor of Library and Information etc. are on offer in online mode. The online programmes are offered through the dedicated IGNOU-LMS portal and online counselling is conducted through online conferencing tools like Google Meet, Microsoft Teams and ZOOM. In the January 2020, apart from that the University is also using the LMS platform for offer of 26 programmes to around one thousand students

- registered under the Government of Guyana scholarship scheme. The University successfully conducted proctored online examinations for students enrolled in online programmes in the January 2021 session and for Guyanese Students for 10 programmes.
- viii) **Block chain based digital degree-** The University for the first time distributed block chain based digital degrees and certificates to students who registered for the 35<sup>th</sup> Convocation along with the physical certificates and degrees with the support of IIT Kanpur. The digital degrees were digitally signed, cannot be tampered, globally verifiable and available on the personal wallet of the students. In one click digital degrees and certificates were distributed to 60K+ graduating students who registered for the convocation. To receive the degrees and certificates the students had to register for the digital certificates for which the link was provided on the IGNOU website or could download the Indisi Wallet App from either the Google Play Store or Apple App Store.
  - ix) **Migration of University Management System on the SAMARTH Portal:** Technology Enabled Administrative Support includes complete back-office automation, University Management System and Student Lifecycle. All these services are now being hosted on the SAMARTH portal of Ministry of Education. More than 60 percent of the modules of SAMARTH have already been implemented. Major modules like student registration, recruitment, alumni portal, payroll management, leave management, budgeting have been completed and by the end of this year all modules are expected to be completed.
  - x) **ICT Infrastructure Upgradation through HEFA Loan:** The upgradation of the infrastructure includes setting up of Hyper Converged Infrastructure based mini cloud, comprising 12 node HCI Cluster Servers, 200 Tera Bytes of Unified Storage System, Secured DNS and Load Balancer, Next Generation Firewall, Virtualisation and Uninterrupted Power Supply. The mini cloud will cater to the intranet and internet based online services of the University in a highly secured environment and it is future ready for Multi cloud integration. Orders for 500 computers have been placed which is expected to be delivered by mid June this year. Around 300 printers have been also procured.
  - xi) **QR Code Based Course Material:** The SLM and other course material for the B. Ed., MCA and BCA Programmes have been converted into QR codes for easy access on mobile phones by the learners.

xii) **Central Nodal Agency for NMEICT:** IGNOU has been identified as Central Nodal Agency for the NMEICT of MoE. The Project Management Unit (PMU) for NMEICT is being set up at IGNOU which covers all the major projects like SWAYAM, SWAYAM Prabha, NDLI, Virtual Labs, eSodh Sindhu etc.

xiii) **Implementation of Academic Bank of Credit**

In compliance of the UGC letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 regarding the implementation of the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC), the University, in coordination with the MoE-supported Samarth Project has initiated the process of integrating its Admission System with the Academic Bank of Credit.

Work has been started for creating ABC accounts for existing learners, and till date 1.9 million accounts have been created. From now onwards, all learners enrolling in IGNOU shall automatically have their ABC account created at the time of their admission. All the learners whose ABC accounts are created, shall be contacted by the University through various channels of communication and shall be advised to validate their account and link it with their DigiLocker account. The credits earned by the learners shall be visible to them in their ABC account, which they will be able to accumulate and subsequently redeem as per provisions of ABC.

xiv) **Admission in 2021-22 and Plans for 2022-23**

- The University has enrolled 7.11 lakh new learners during 2021-22. In addition, 5.78 lakh learners of UG/PG Programmes have re-registered in their next semester/year during the same period, taking the total student load to 12.89 lakh.
- In July 2022 more than 230 Programmes shall be offered in ODL mode. In addition, 36 Programmes shall be offered in the Online mode. All the Online Programmes are open to aspiring learners from other countries as well.
- In 2021-22, about 1000 learners sponsored by the Government of Guyana have been enrolled in different Programmes of IGNOU. In 2022-23 the number is expected to be higher.
- The University is going to offer a specially designed Certificate Programme to the teachers of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) for building their competencies, from July 2022 admission cycle.
- ITIs and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) are being identified and shall form a part of IGNOU's network. This will provide opportunities for higher

education to the students enrolled in such institutions, without disrupting their profession training.

- A proposal for offering skill-based Bachelor Degree to the Defence Forces personnel by recognizing their skill training received in-service has been made. Once necessary approvals are received from the Regulatory Bodies concerned, this will become an important initiative in realizing the goal of integrating skill education with general higher education set by NEP 2020.

xv) **Alumni Connect**

The University has an Alumni strength of more than 36 lakh, which is perhaps the world's largest alumni base of any single institution. The Alumni of IGNOU are from all age groups and all sections of the society. From school teachers to army officers, from NGO workers to bureaucrats, from nurses to doctors, from computer professionals to college and university teachers – the Alumni of IGNOU represent every segment of the Indian social spectrum. The Alumni Association of IGNOU (AAI) is a registered society and all the Alumni are members of the Association. In order to give a common platform to the Alumni where they can share and exchange their ideas, and in the process, build a global community of IGNOU Alumni, an exclusive Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/ignou.alumni>) has been created. The page has received enthusiastic response from the Alumni. A large number of them have shared their experience with IGNOU in the form of short videos which have been uploaded on the page. These videos have become a source of inspiration for the currently enrolled learners. The University has also put in place an Alumni Portal (<https://ignoualumni.samarth.edu.in>) developed on the Samarth Platform. More than 34,000 alumni have registered on our Alumni Portal.

- xvi) **Celebration of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Week: 24<sup>th</sup> February to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022** - The EBSB celebrations in the 15 pairs of States & UTs was successfully concluded. The report from the paired RCs was compiled and submitted to the University.

Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, Member congratulated the Vice Chancellor for his leadership in successfully carrying out the above stated activities and appreciated the efforts being made by the University in this regard. He wished the University for continuing the good initiatives in future.

After the above prefatory remarks, the Secretary, BOM presented the following Agenda:

**ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 145<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2021 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON**

**BM 149.1.1** The Secretary informed the Board that the Minutes of 145<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Management held on 25.10.2021 were circulated to the members of the Board on 28.10.2021. No comments were received on the same. The Action taken Report on the decisions taken by Board in its 145<sup>th</sup> meeting was also presented before the Board.

**BM 149.1.2** After detailed deliberations, the Board confirmed the Minutes of the 145<sup>th</sup> meeting and also noted the Action Taken report thereon.

**ITEM NO. 2 (A) TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 146<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (EMERGENT) OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JANUARY 10, 2022 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON**

**(B) TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF 147<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (EMERGENT) OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2022 AND THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON**

**(C) TO NOTE THE CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 148<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (EMERGENT) OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON MARCH 07, 2022 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT THEREON**

**BM 149.2.1 (A)** The Board confirmed the minutes of 146<sup>th</sup> meeting (Emergent) of the Board of Management held on 10.01.2022 and noted the action taken report thereon.

**(B)** The Board confirmed the minutes of 147<sup>th</sup> meeting (Emergent) of the Board of Management held on 24.02.2022 and noted the action taken report thereon.

**(C)** The Board noted the action taken report on the minutes of 148<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 07.03.2022 as the minutes had already been confirmed by the Board.

**TEM NO. 3****TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR  
IN APPOINTMENT/GIVING CHARGE OF DIRECTORS OF  
SCHOOLS/DIVISION/ CENTRE****BM 149.3.1**

The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in appointment/giving charge of Directorship of School/Division/ Centres to the following Teachers/Academic as per details given below:

#	Name of Teacher/ Academic & their designation	School/Division/Centre	Period of Appointment/ Charge given
1	Prof. Santosh Panda, Professor, STRIDE	Staff Training and Research Institute of Distance Education (STRIDE)	01.10.2021 to 30.09.2024
2	Dr. Sanjay Kant Prasad, Deputy Director, NCDS	National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS)	01.10.2021 to till further orders
3	Dr. Suneet K. Srivastava, Associate Professor, SOL	School of Law	12.10.2021 to 11.10.2024
4	Prof. Subodh Kesharwani, Professor, SOMS	Centre for Online Education (COE)	01.02.2022 to till further orders
5	Dr. Umesh Chandra Pandey, Sr RD/Addl. Director, RSD	Regional Services Division (RSD)	21.02.2022 to 20.02.2025
6	Prof. K. S. Arul Maragatha Muthu Selvan, Professor, SOJNMS	School of Journalism and New Media Studies (SOJNMS)	25.02.2022 to 24.02.2025
7	Dr. K. D. Prasad, Addl. Director, RSD	Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC)	03.03.2022 to till further orders
8	Prof. Neeti Agrawal, Professor, SOMS	Planning and Development Division (P&DD)	31.03.2022 to till further orders
9	Prof. Malati Mathur, Professor & Director, SOH	School of Foreign Languages (SOFL)	13.04.2022 to till further orders



**ITEM NO. 4 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN GRANTING THE EOL TO PROF. SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA, PROFESSOR OF COMMERCE, SOMS TO TAKE UP ASSIGNMENT AS THE REGISTRAR, CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA FOR FIVE YEARS W.E.F. 18.04.2022 (A/N)**

**BM 149.4.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in granting the EOL to Prof. Sunil Kumar Gupta, SOMS to take up assignment as the Registrar, Central University of Haryana for five years w.e.f.18.04.2022. With respect to the request of the Central University of Haryana for treating it as deputation, the Board resolved that to treat the appointment of Prof Sunil Kumar Gupta on deputation was an internal matter of the CUH and the IGNOU has already granted him EOL for the purpose.

**ITEM NO. 5 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF (1) MS. NAMRATA HAGJER, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, RC- SHILLONG, AND (2) DR. S. FIAYAZ AHMED, SENIOR REGIONAL DIRECTOR/ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR, RC- HYDERABAD FOR VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT FROM THE SERVICES OF UNIVERSITY**

**BM 149.5.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the request of (i) Ms. Namrata Hagjer, Regional Director, RC Shillong, and (ii) Dr. S. Fiayaz Ahmed, Senior Regional Director/Additional Director, RC Hyderabad for voluntary retirement from the services of the University.

The Board also ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in waiving off the shortfall in notice period in respect of Dr S Fiayaz Ahmed.

**ITEM NO. 6 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN ACCEPTING THE REQUEST OF DR. ANSHU MIGLANI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, COE FOR RELIEVING HER FROM THE SERVICES OF UNIVERSITY W.E.F. 28.02.2022 (A/N) BY WAIVING OFF THE SHORTFALL IN NOTICE PERIOD**

**BM 149.6.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in accepting the request of Dr. Anshu Miglani, Assistant Director, COE for relieving her from the services of the University w.e.f. 28.02.2022 (A/N) by waiving off

the shortfall in notice period. The Board also decided that considering her service tenure to be less than 10 years in the University, the VRS request made by Dr. Anshu Miglani may be treated as her resignation.

**ITEM NO. 7 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN DECLARING THE RESULT OF THE INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD ON 20.04.2022 FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT OF DR. S J NEETHIRAJAN, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, REGIONAL CENTRE IMPHAL IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTERIM ORDERS PASSED BY HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR AT IMPHAL IN WP (C) 266 OF 2022 AND WP (C) 243 OF 2022**

**BM 149.7.1** The Board was apprised that in response to the University Notification dated 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (7<sup>th</sup> CPC), the University had received the CAS application of Dr SJ Neethirajan, Regional Director, Imphal, Manipur. With a view to determine the eligibility of concerned Academic, his CAS application was placed before the Screening Committee for verification. The Screening Committee recommended the candidature of Dr S J Neethirajan. Dr S J Neethirajan had joined the services of the University on 21.06.2007 (A/N) and was placed in Pay band IV (Rs 37400-67000) with Academic Grade Pay 9000 w.e.f. 22.06.2010 after completing 03 years of service.

The Board was also apprised that the Board of Management had decided to hold an inquiry against Dr. S.J. Neethirajan, Regional Director, RC-Imphal, under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 for his misconduct and manipulating the ticket amount by forging the documents in TTA adjustment bills on transfer from RC – Vatakara to RC- Bhagalpur and a Chargesheet Memorandum has been issued to him dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Dr SJ Neethirajan had filed a Writ petition before Hon'ble High Court of Manipur (WP(C) 243 of 2022) praying inter alia CAS from Academic level 13A to Academic level 14. Since, Dr S J Neethirajan was due for retirement on 30.04.2022, the case of CAS of Dr SJ Neethirajan was dealt with as per the GoI rules (OM dated 21.11.2002) regarding "Sealed cover procedure in respect of persons under cloud" and he was invited to appear before the Selection Committee on 20.04.2022. Meanwhile, Dr SJ Neethirajan filed another Writ petition and through his advocate Dr S J Neethirajan, RD, RC Imphal, communicated that Dr S J Neethirajan, he

has filed the present Writ petition *inter alia* to set aside or quash the Memorandum, bearing F.No. IG/TA/I/615/07/10503 dated 09.02.2022 by which a Departmental Enquiry is being instituted/conducted; and to quash/set aside the rider in the interview call letter dated 13.04.2022 to the effect that the application of the Petitioner for promotion will be dealt with under the “Sealed cover Procedure in respect of persons under cloud”; coupled with a prayer to direct the Official Respondents to declare the result of the interview held on 20.04.2022 for promotion to the post of Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic level 14) under CAS, before the retirement of the Petitioner on superannuation on 30 April, 2022.

The relevant portion of the interim order dated 27.04.2022 passed by Hon’ble High Court of Manipur in WP (C) 266 of 2022 in the matter of Dr SJ NeethiRajan, Regional Director, Imphal, Manipur Vs IGNOU and 3 others was reproduced as under:

“[4] For interim, the respondents are directed to declare the result of the interview held on 20.04.2022 for promotion to the post of Senior Regional Director (Stage 5/Academic level 14) under CAS, before the retirement of the Petitioner on superannuation on 30 April, 2022”

#### **BM 149.7.2**

The Board was further informed that since, as per rules, the Board of Management is the appointing authority in respect of Teachers and Academics and accordingly, the recommendations of the Selection Committee in respect of direct recruitment and Career Advancement of Teachers and Academics is placed before the Board of Management and after the decision of the Board, the Office Orders are issued communicating the decision. However, in the instant case, since the Hon’ble Court of Manipur at Imphal dated 27.04.2022 in WP (C) 266 of 2022 and 243 of 2022 had passed interim Orders to be complied with by 30.04.2022 (before his retirement), with the approval of the Vice Chancellor, the results of interview for CAS of Dr SJ Neethirajan, Regional Director, RC Imphal were declared vide Notification F.No. IG/TA/1/615/07/11171, dated 29.04.2022. Vide the notification it was also decided that further action on the matter would be subject to the following:

1. Ratification of the recommendations of Selection Committee by the Board of Management of the University, being appointing Authority in respect of Teachers and Academics of the University.

2. Final outcome of the Writ Petition(s) filed by Dr SJ Neethirajan No(s). WP(C) 266 of 2022 and WP(C) 243 of 2022 at Hon'ble High Court of Manipur.

**BM 149.7.3** After detailed deliberations, the Board ratified the action taken by the University in declaring the result of the interview conducted by Selection Committee for Career Advancement of Dr S J Neethirajan, Regional Director, Regional Centre Imphal (now retired) in compliance with the interim Orders passed by Hon'ble High Court of Manipur at Imphal in WP (C) 266 of 2022 and WP (C) 243 of 2022. The Board also decided that any further actions would be as per the final outcome of the case.

**ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER THE REPRESENTATION OF DR. PANKAJ KHANNA, DY. DIRECTOR, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION ON THE PENALTY AWARDED TO HIM BY BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AT ITS 140<sup>TH</sup> MEETING IN VIEW OF PLAGIARISM CHARGES AGAINST HIM**

**BM 149.8.1** The Board was informed that in its 140<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29.12.2020, in view of the findings of the inquiry officer wherein it had been established that Dr. Pankaj Khanna has plagiarized the article to the tune of 55%, the Board decided to award the following punishment to Dr. Pankaj Khanna:

- (i) Dr. Pankaj Khanna be served with a stern warning for act of plagiarism;
- (ii) The date of eligibility for promotion to Dr. Pankaj Khanna under CAS be postponed by one year from the date he become eligible and found successful for promotion by Selection Committee. During this period of deferment he will not be given any financial benefit or otherwise including seniority and the same shall be regulated on expiry of said period, by granting the benefits prospectively.

Accordingly, Dr. Pankaj Khanna was awarded penalty vide Office order No. 168 dated 11.03.2021.

The Board was further informed that, Dr. Pankaj Khanna vide his letter dated 16.12.2021 had raised certain objections to the penalty awarded to him and requested for withdrawal of the penalty. The representation of Dr. Pankaj Khanna, Dy. Director, Planning & Development Division dated 16.12.2021 was placed before the Board.

**BM 149.8.2** The matter was discussed at length. The Board opined that plagiarism is a serious issue and severe punishment be imposed. After perusing the representation, the Board did not agree with the request of Dr Pankaj Khanna to withdraw the penalty awarded to him.

The Board further directed to explore the possibility of re-opening the case and enhancing the penalty commensurate with the offence of plagiarism committed by him.

**ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER CLAUSE (1) (IV) OF STATUTE 9 OF THE IGNOU ACT**

**BM 149.9.1** The Board approved the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor for nomination of three members in the category of Reader/ Associate Professor of the Academic Council under Clause (1) (iv) of Statute 9 of the Statutes of the University for the residual term upto 08.02.2023 commencing from the date of nomination or till they hold the position under which nomination is made, whichever is earlier, as under:

1. Dr. Mangla Prasad Mishra, SOCIS
2. Dr. Bishnu Mohan Das, SOCE
3. Dr. Devesh Kumar, SOH

**ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR EXAMINING THE UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE OF SHRI K. VENKATARAMAN, PRODUCER, EMPC**

**BM 149.10.1** The Board was informed that a note dated 12.12.2019 was received from Director, EMPC against Sh. K. Venkataraman, Producer, EMPC for initiation of appropriate action against him on his remaining absent from duties without any prior approval/information and not mending his ways despite issuance of various memos on his unauthorized absence. Accordingly, the Vice Chancellor had constituted an Inquiry Committee vide notifications dt. 17th February, 2021 and 29th October, 2021. The Committee had examined the matter in totality and on the basis of the facts and supporting documents, his overall leave records, his absence from duties without prior intimation, post-facto leave sanctioned by the Controlling Division, etc. since his joining till 29th October, 2021. The Committee submitted. The key observations of the Committee, as per its

report on 23rd February 2022, *inetralia*, are as under:

- 1) Sh. K. Venkataraman has been granted several opportunities to improve his habitual absenteeism in the past, more than 22 Memorandums since the year 2009 and advisories were issued by the EMPC and ACD, and his salary was withheld five times.
- 2) Leave records of ACD and EMPC are inconsistent. There is usually no evidence of submission and forwarding of any Joining Report after availing of various kinds of regular leaves i.e. E.L/ HPL/ Medical Leave etc.
- 3) Sh. K. Venkataraman has not followed the leave rules and has rarely taken prior approval before proceeding on leaves. Even in many instances his wife has informed the University about his proceeding on leaves.
- 4) The reports of previous Inquiry Committees and Prof. B.B.Khanna Committee and the legal opinion on the report of the Inquiry Committee is of the similar opinion about his conduct and behavior towards his unauthorized absenteeism.
- 5) Despite having negative leave records, his leaves were sanctioned post-facto by the leave sanctioning authority i.e. EMPC. Currently most of his post-facto approved leaves are yet to be adjusted.
- 6) Sh. K. Venkataraman is a habitual offender of absenting himself from the duties unauthorizedly, by not following the Leave Rules of the University as per the Ordinance and the CCS (Leave) Rules 1972.
- 7) The unauthorized absence of Sh. K. Venkataraman can be attributed to ignoring long and consistent history of act of indiscipline/ misconduct and the manner in which all the leaves were handled/ processed/adjusted time and again. Also, the manner in which unauthorized absence remains unaccounted which could have been reflected in the break in service, thereby affecting his seniority, pension, pay etc.

**BM 149.10.2**

Noting the recommendations of the aforesaid Committee, and considering the gravity of the matter, the Board decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Sh. K. Venkataraman under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 for his misconduct and unauthorised absence from work and neglecting his duties despite repeated warnings and issue a Chargesheet to him.

The Board further directed that the daily leave record of Shri Venkataraman

be maintained and monthly report of the work done alongwith leave records of Sh. Venkatraman be submitted to the Competent Authority on regular basis.

The Board also decided that his salary, which was put on hold for his unauthorised absence from duty, and if otherwise due, may be released only after the outcome of the disciplinary proceedings.

**ITEM NO. 11 TO CONSIDER THE REPLY RECEIVED FROM DR. S J NEETHIRAJAN, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, RC IMPHAL (SINCE SUPERANNUATED) AGAINST THE CHARGESHEET MEMORANDUM DATED 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUED TO HIM UNDER RULE 14 OF THE CENTRAL CIVIL SERVICES (CLASSIFICATION, CONTROL & APPEAL) RULES, 1965 FOR HIS MISCONDUCT AND MANIPULATING THE TICKET AMOUNT BY FORGING THE DOCUMENTS IN TTA ADJUSTMENT BILLS ON TRANSFER FROM RC – VATAKARA TO RC- BHAGALPUR**

**BM 149.11.1** After detailed deliberations, the Board did not agree with the clarifications/submissions/comments of Dr S J Neethirajan in response to the Chargesheet issued to him, and directed to conduct disciplinary proceedings and appoint Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer. The outcome of the inquiry, which shall be subject to the final outcomes of the Writ petition filed by Dr SJ Neethirajan before Hon'ble High Court of Manipur at Imphal, may be placed before the Board for its consideration.

**ITEM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER THE ISSUE OF OFFER LETTERS TO WAITLISTED CANDIDATES AGAINST THE POSTS OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SOCIOLOGY (UR) AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ENGLISH (UR) CONSEQUENT UPON RESIGNATION OF THE INCUMBENT WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THEIR APPOINTMENT**

**BM 149.12.1** The Board was informed that two Teachers namely Dr. Monishita Hazra Pandey, Assistant Professor of English, School of Humanities (SOH) and Dr. Tarushikha Sarvesh, Assistant Professor of Sociology, School of Social Sciences (SOSS) who had joined the University, have resigned and relieved from the services of the University before completion of one year of their service, as per details given below.

Sl. No.	Name of Teacher	Post held, name of discipline and School	Date of joining	Date of resignation (and relieving)
1.	Dr. Monishita Hazra Pandey	Assistant Professor, Discipline of English, School of Humanities (SOH)	27.08.2021	11.10.2021 (11.10.2021)
2.	Dr. Tarushikha Sarvesh	Assistant Professor, Discipline of Sociology, School of Social Sciences (SOSS)	28.09.2021	17.01.2022 (25.02.2022)

The Board noted the rules mentioned in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pension, DOPT, Govt. of India, Office Memorandum No. 41019/18/97-Estt.(B) dated 13.06.2000 regarding *‘Operation of reserve panels prepared on the basis of selections made by UPSC, Staff Selection Commission, other recruiting agencies and*

*where selections are made by Ministries/Departments etc. – acceptance of recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission’* has notified vide its para 2 that *‘with a view to reduce delay in filling up of the posts, vacancies resulting from resignation or death of an incumbent within one year of his appointment should be filled immediately by the candidate from the reserve panel, if a fresh panel is not available by then. Such a vacancy should not be treated as a fresh vacancy’.*

Accordingly, since there were persons available in the panel reserved against the aforementioned two vacancies, it was proposed to regulate the reserve panel for the said two posts and issue offer letters to the waitlisted candidate(s) in respective Subjects as per the recommendations of the Selection Committees, duly approved by the Board of Management.

**BM 149.12.2**

After detailed deliberations, the Board directed to refer the matter to the DoPT for its clarification, as to whether the Office Memorandum issued by DoPT, No. 41019/18/97-Estt.(B), dated 13.06.2000 was still valid and if so whether it would also apply for teaching positions in the University.

**ITEM NO. 13**

**TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF LIBRARIAN ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS**

**BM 149.13.1**

The Board was informed that the Board of Management at its 135<sup>th</sup> meeting



held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019 had approved the proposal, to appoint Librarian on direct recruitment basis at the University Headquarters at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).

Accordingly, the University had advertised the post of Librarian (in Academic Pay Level 14 of 7<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission Pay Matrix (Rs. 1,44,200 – Rs. 2,18,200/-) (on direct recruitment basis) through Online Portal in compliance with the University Grants Commission Regulations, 2018. The applications so received were screened by the University level Screening Committee and the Selection Committee meeting was convened on May 11, 2022. The recommendations of the Selection Committee were placed before the Board for consideration. The Board approved the recommendations of the Selection Committee, as per details given below:

S. No.	Date of Selection Committee	Position(s)	Name(s) recommended by the Selection Committee
1.	11.05.2022	Appointment to the post of Librarian (on direct recruitment basis) at Headquarter of Indira Gandhi National Open University (01) in Academic pay level 14 of 7th CPC	1. Dr. V. K. JAGAJEEVAN  <u>Waiting list:</u>  1. DR. NEERAJ KUMAR CHAURASIA 2. DR. ANAND PRATAP SINGH

**BM 149.13.2** The Board confirmed this Item for implementation and directed that Appointment Orders for the post of Librarian on direct recruitment basis be issued accordingly. The Board also directed to issue the Part Minutes in this regard.

**ITEM NO. 14** **TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF SCREENING-CUM-EVALUATION COMMITTEES AND SELECTION COMMITTEES FOR PROMOTIONS OF TEACHERS AND ACADEMICS UNDER CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME (CAS)**

**BM 149.14.1** The Board was informed that the University had conducted “Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/Selection Committees” for Career Advancement of Teachers and Academics of the University as per Ordinances on Career Advancement Scheme of Teachers and Ordinances

on Career Advancement Scheme of Academics including Librarian duly approved by the Ministry as per UGC Regulations, 2010 alongwith subsequent amendments thereto under 6<sup>th</sup> CPC, and UGC Regulations, 2018 under 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. The recommendations of the Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/ Selection Committees were placed before the Board for consideration. The Board approved the recommendations of the “Screening-cum-Evaluation Committees/Selection Committees”, as per details given below:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Date of Selection Committee</b>	<b>Position(s)</b>	<b>Name(s) recommended by the Screening-Cum-Evaluation Committee/Selection Committee</b>	<b>Date of eligibility</b>
<b>1</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Vocational Education, School of Vocational Education & Training (SOVET)	Dr. Rana Sanjay Pratap Singh	08.09.2015
<b>2</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Sociology, School of Social Studies (SOSS)	Dr. Archana Singh	31.12.2020
<b>3</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Sociology, School of Social Studies (SOSS)	Dr. Kiranmayi Bhushi	30.06.2021
<b>4</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13 A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Commerce, School of Management Studies (SOMS)	Dr. Rashmi Bansal	29.12.2020
<b>5</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Commerce, School of Management Studies (SOMS)	Dr. Madhulika P. Sarkar	06.01.2021

<b>6</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Promotion from Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) to Professor (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) in the discipline of Library Science, School of Social Studies (SOSS)	Dr. Zuchamo Yanthan	10.01.2021
<b>7</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Commerce, School of Management Studies (SOMS)	Dr. Leena Singh	05.05.2020
<b>8</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Commerce, School of Management Studies (SOMS)	Dr. Anupriya Pandey	09.09.2020
<b>9</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of French, School of Foreign Language (SOFL)	Dr. Deepanwita Srivastava	04.02.2021
<b>10</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Arabic, School of Foreign Language (SOFL)	Dr. Mohammad Saleem	10.02.2021
<b>11</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies, School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies (SOITS)	Dr. Sadananda Sahoo	01.09.2021
<b>12</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4,	Dr. Saumya	24.08.2021

		AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Social Work, School of Social Work (SOSW)		
<b>13</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) to Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) in the discipline of Social Work, School of Social Work (SOSW)	Dr. Sayantani Guin	14.09.2021
<b>14</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) in the discipline of Extension and Development Studies, School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS)	Dr. Grace Don Nemching	01.09.2018
<b>15</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Professor (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Professor (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) in the discipline of Extension and Development Studies, School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS)	Dr. Pradeep Kumar	02.09.2018
<b>16</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Praseetha Unnikrishnan, Regional Centre, Cochin	25.05.2020
<b>17</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Oinam Jayalakshmi Devi, Regional Centre, Imphal	09.05.2020
<b>18</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional	Dr. Pravat Kumar Jena, Regional Centre, Bhubaneswar	29.05.2021

		Services Division		
19	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. M Shanmugham, Regional Centre, Bangalore	23.05.2020
20	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Shalini Dixit, Regional Centre, Patna	27.05.2020
21	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Shalini, Regional Centre, Patna	16.05.2020
22	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Rupal M Kubavat, Regional Centre, Rajkot	13.05.2020
23	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. B.K. Sahoo, Regional Centre, Bhubaneswar	24.05.2020
24	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. S. Vijayaraghavan Regional Centre, Cochin	20.05.2020
25	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director	Dr. Savita Panwar, Regional Centre, Chandigarh	12.05.2020

		(Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division		
26	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Dharendra Pratap Singh, Regional Centre, Delhi II	12.04.2015
27	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Ataur Rehman, Regional Centre, Delhi II	29.06.2020
28	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Regional Director (Senior scale/ Academic Level 11) to Assistant Regional Director (Selection grade/ Academic Level 12) (pre-revised Stage 2 to 3, AGP Rs. 8,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Ms. Moni Sahay, Regional Centre, Delhi I	03.05.2016
29	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director/ Regional Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director/ Senior Regional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. B Sukumar, Regional Centre, Thiruvananthapuram	23.07.2011
30	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director/ Regional Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director/ Senior Regional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. M. Rajesh, Regional Centre, Vatakara	24.12.2014
31	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director/ Regional Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director/ Senior Regional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Dr. Yonah Bhutia, Regional Centre, Gangtok	23.12.2014

32	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Staff Training and Research Institute in Distance Education (STRIDE)	Dr. G. Mythili, STRIDE	28.05.2016
33	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Research Unit	Dr. Bijayalaxmi Mishra, RU	21.06.2017
34	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at International Division	Dr. D. C. Sharma, ID	21.06.2018
35	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13 A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Planning and Development Division	Dr. M. C. Nair, P&DD	01.01.2009
36	20th April 2022	Promotion from Assistant Director (Selection Grade/ Academic Level 12) to Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) (pre-revised Stage 3 to 4, AGP Rs. 9,000/-) at National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)	Dr. Moumita Das, NCIDE	02.01.2018
37	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE)	Dr. O.P. Sharma, NCIDE	15.05.2014
38	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Student Registration Division (SRD)	Dr. Suresh K. Pulist, SRD	30.12.2017
39	20th April 2022	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC)	Dr. Sunil Kumar Das, EMPC	07.12.2019
40	20 <sup>th</sup> April	Promotion from Deputy Director/	Dr. Biswajit	11.10.2015*

	2022	Regional Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director/ Senior Regional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Regional Centre/ Regional Services Division	Bhowmik, Regional Centre, Kolkata	
<b>41</b>	29th Dec. 2021	Promotion from Deputy Director (Academic Level 13A) to Additional Director (Academic Level 14) (pre-revised Stage 4 to 5, AGP Rs. 10,000/-) at Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC)	Dr. Abdul Samad Ibrahim, EMPC	24.08.2018**

\* Board decided that Promotion Order in respect of Dr Biswajit Bhowmik may be issued after withdrawal of his representation for not transferring him out of Regional Centre Kolkata and receipt of a satisfactory clarification from him for the same.

\*\* Board decided to open the envelop (deferred by 147<sup>th</sup> BOM) since, the official was a direct selectee as Deputy Director and fulfilled all the eligibility conditions for the post.

**BM 149.14.2** The Board confirmed this Item for implementation and directed that Promotion Orders under CAS in respect of Teachers and Academics be issued accordingly. The Board also directed to issue the Part Minutes in this regard.

**ITEM NO. 15 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR RECOGNITION OF OVERSEAS STUDY CENTRES OF THE UNIVERSITY AT CLASCMA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTRE, SINGAPORE AND UNIGRAD EDUCATION CENTRE, BAHRAIN**

**BM 149.15.1** The Board was informed that two proposals have been received for establishment of Overseas Study Centre at Clascma International Education & Research Centre, Singapore and UniGrad Education Centre, Bahrain. On the basis of feasibility report received from the respective Indian High Commission/Embassy, the Board of Management in its 139<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 17.3.2020 and 145<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 25.10.2021 considered the proposals for Overseas Study Centres. In this regard, the Board noted the following:

- The proposal of Clascma International Education & Research Centre, Singapore was referred to High Commission of India, Singapore for seeking a feasibility report. The credentials of the institution additional arrangements made by the institute for conduct of exam and hiring of computer lab etc. were verified by the High Commission of India,



## Singapore

As per decision of the Board, the proposal was forwarded to the Ministry of Education vide letter No. IG/ID/OSC-Props./18/20361 dated 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 for seeking approval of the Hon'ble Visitor of the University for establishment as an Overseas Study Centre. The Ministry of Education vide letter No. 5-28/2014-DL (Pt.1) dated 04.06.2021 informed that there is no need for another Overseas Study Centre as one Overseas Study Centre at Open Minds International, Singapore is already functioning. The University again wrote to the Ministry on 30.7.2021 and subsequent reminders dated 14.12.2021 for re-considering the proposal as internationalization of higher education is an agenda of New Education Policy 2020 launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and there is no financial liability on the part of the University.

- The proposal of UniGrad Education Centre, Bahrain was referred to Indian Embassy, Bahrain for seeking feasibility report on 26.5.2021. The Embassy in their report suggested for improving infrastructure facilities at the institute, however, the institute was said to be in possession of commercial registration and copies were also enclosed. The same was conveyed to the institute and Indian Embassy was again requested to confirm the improvements suggested by them. Now, a confirmation has been received from Indian Embassy, Bahrain that Centre has improved its ICT and library facilities. Similarly, the proposal of UniGrad Education Centre was also forwarded to the Ministry of Education vide letter No.IG/ID/OSC-Props./18/24641 dated 14.12.2021 for seeking approval of the Hon'ble Visitor of the University for establishment as an Overseas Study Centre and approval of the Visitor is still awaited.

**BM 149.15.2** In the meanwhile, the Board in its 147<sup>th</sup> (Emergent) meeting held on 24.02.2022 has approved a policy for ‘Recognition process for Overseas Study Centres with the approval of Board of Management’ after following the laid procedure which is as under:

- I. Receipt of application from interested overseas institutions of Higher Education.
- II. Scrutinizing the application at International Division of IGNOU.
- III. Forwarding the proposal to the concerned Embassy/ High Commission of India for verification of status and claims of the institution.

IV. Report of the Embassy/High Commission is placed before the BOM for approval.

Both the institutions have consented for recognition of their institute as Overseas Study Centre of the University.

**BM 149.15.3** The Board approved proposal for recognition of Overseas Study Centres of the University at Clascma International Education & Research Centre, Singapore and Unigrad Education Centre, Bahrain.

**ITEM NO.16 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO FRAME THE RECORD RETENTION POLICY OF STUDENT EVALUATION DIVISION**

**BM 149.16.1** The Item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. R.P.Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor to frame the Record Retention Policy of Student Evaluation Division (SED) by examining the significance of each type of document and recommend a time frame for retention of the records. The Committee deliberated upon the draft of Record Retention Policy and based on the discussions/suggestions furnished by the members of the Committee, submitted its final recommendations, which was placed before the Board.

**BM 149.16.2** The Board considered the Minutes of aforesaid Committee and Table indicating the type of Documents, Custodian, Retention Period and Disposal Method etc. and approved the same (**Appendix-1**).

**ITEM NO.17 TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST FOR VACATING THE BUILDING OF RC DELHI-2 LOCATED IN THE PREMISES OF GANDHI SMRITI AND DARSHAN SAMITI**

**BM 149.17.1** The Board was informed that in NCT of Delhi, the University has four Regional Centres with jurisdiction over entire Delhi and adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana located at Mathura Road (RC Delhi-1), Rajghat (RC Delhi-2), Narayana (RC Delhi-3) and Noida (UP). The Regional Centre Delhi-2 is located in the premises of Gandhi Darshan Complex, Raj Ghat, New Delhi. The University has received a letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022 from the Chairman, Executive Committee, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) to vacate their premises within one month.

The Board was further informed that the University had signed a MoU with

the GSDS on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2003 and set up a centre at Gandhi Darshan Complex, named the International Centre for Gandhian Studies and Research (ICGSR). IGNOU had invested nearly Rs. one crore towards renovation and construction including fixtures in the space allocated to IGNOU in the GSDS premises. The main objectives of the collaboration were to jointly develop programmes on Gandhian Studies at various levels carry out academic and extension activities and to function as the Resource Centre for Gandhian Studies.

The Board was further informed that as per MoU, the GSDS was to provide accommodation to RC for no cost including free maintenance. However, the University has been spending more than four lacs rupees per month on electricity, water, security and maintenance. The University so far has spent more than Rs. 2 crores on security, maintenance, electricity, water charges etc.

The Board was further informed that GSDS has been making regular requests to vacate the premise and in view of the same, RC Delhi-2 had placed advertisement in 2019 for hiring of space for the RC building. Subsequently fresh e-tender through CPP portal had been initiated , however nothing concrete. Now, the University is in receipt of a letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022 from the Vice- Chairman GSDS for vacating the premises of GSDS within one month. Thus, it has become necessary to vacate the premise and look for alternative arrangements for shifting the Regional Centre Delhi-2 to another place or merging the Learner Support Centres under its jurisdiction with other Regional Centres in Delhi- NCR region immediately.

**BM 149.17.2** After detailed deliberations, the Board decided to vacate the GSDS premises urgently and look for alternative arrangements for shifting the Regional Centre Delhi-2 to another place or merge with nearby Regional Centres in Delhi- NCR. The Board also directed to review the expenditure made by the Regional Centre during last five years towards maintenance and other overheads etc.

In order to initiate immediate steps to meet the timeline given by GSDS, the Board confirmed this item and decided to issue Part Minutes.

**ITEM NO. 18 TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF THE PANEL DRAWN FOR GROUP-A POSTS IN RESPECT OF ASSISTANT REGISTRARS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENTAL PROMOTION COMMITTEE**

**BM 149.18.1** The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in extending the period of the Panel drawn for Group-A Posts in respect of Assistant Registrars recommended by the Departmental Promotion Committee for a period of six months after the expiry of one year.

**ITEM NO. 19 TO CONSIDER THE MATTER PERTAINING TO THE DELAY IN SUBMITTING THE REPORT OF THE INQUIRY INSTITUTED AGAINST SH. RAKESH DHANIYA, ASSISTANT, SOET BY SH. ASEEM KUMAR, INQUIRY OFFICER/DEPUTY REGISTRAR, EMPC AND THE JUSTIFICATION GIVEN IN THIS REGARD BY HIM**

**BM 149.19.1** The Item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that Sh. Aseem Kumar, Deputy Registrar, EMPC was appointed as Inquiry Officer by the Competent Authority vide order dated 25.08.2015 to Inquire into the charges framed against Sh. Rakesh Dhaniya, Assistant, SOET with a direction to complete the Inquiry within a period of six months from the date of issue of the said order. Since the Inquiry Report was not submitted by the Inquiry Officer within the stipulated timeframe, several reminders from February 2017 to September 2021 were sent to him directing to Submit the Report. Thereafter, the Inquiry Officer submitted Inquiry Report dated 12.11.2021 to the Disciplinary Authority on 15.11.2021. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor directed to seek comments from Inquiry Officer for processing the case so late which was communicated to Inquiry Officer on 30.12.2021.

Accordingly, Sh. Aseem Kumar, Inquiry Officer / Deputy Registrar, EMPC has submitted his response dated 17.01.2022 in detail. The Board considered the reply of Sh. Aseem Kumar.

**BM 149.19.2** The Board decided to constitute an Inquiry Committee for fact findings in the light of the explanation submitted by Sh. Aseem Kumar, Dy. Registrar in the delay in submitting the Inquiry Report in respect of Sh. Rakesh Dhaniya, Assistant.

**ITEM NO. 20 TO APPRISE THE STATUS REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:**  
**(i) GRIEVANCES RECEIVED AND DISPOSED OFF ON PG PORTAL AND IGRAM PORTAL**  
**(ii) VIGILANCE CASES PENDING IN THE UNIVERSITY; AND**  
**(iii) PARLIAMENTARY ASSURANCES PENDING IN THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 149.20.1** The Board noted the status report on the grievances received and disposed off on PG Portal and iGRAM Portal (**Appendix-2**). The Board also noted the status of the vigilance cases closed after 145<sup>th</sup> BOM held on 25.10.2021 and that there are only two vigilance cases under process in the University (**Appendix-3**). The Board was informed that there was no parliamentary assurance case pending in the University.

**ITEM NO. 21 TO CONSIDER THE REPLY RECEIVED FROM PROF. SRINIVAS KUMAR, PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, SOET AGAINST THE MEMORANDUM DATED 12TH OCTOBER 2021 ISSUED TO HIM AS PER THE DIRECTIONS OF BOARD ON THE MATTER OF HIS TRAVELLING ABROAD WITHOUT PERMISSION**

**BM 149.21.1** The Board was informed that Prof. Srinivas Kumar, Professor of Civil Engineering, SOET applied for No Objection Certificate to visit USA during the period from 27.04.2021 to 30.06.2021 on personal grounds to visit his family at USA. He left the country without being granted the NOC/permission. The matter was placed before the Competent Authority and Prof. Kumar was informed that he had proceeded on foreign visit without prior permission of the Competent Authority in violation of the instructions in this regard issued by DoPT, Govt. of India and that the leave applied by him was used for personal private purpose. The Competent Authority decided to withhold his salary for the month of June 2021 and to report the matter to Board of Management. The matter was placed before the Board in its 143<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 06.08.2021. The Board decided to issue a show cause notice to Prof. Kumar and agreed to release the withheld salary for the month of June 2021. Accordingly a Memorandum was issued to Prof. P Srinivas Kumar vide F.No. AD/TA/1/1292/89/9353 dated 12.10.2021.

**BM 149.21.2** The Board noted that Prof. P Srinivas Kumar has submitted his reply to the

Memorandum issued to him vide his letter dated 26.10.2021 wherein he has tendered his apology and mentioned that he did not have intention to violate the University rules and would take precautions not to repeat such actions in future. Accordingly, the Board directed to issue an advisory to Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar not to repeat such acts in the future and close the matter.

**ITEM NO. 22 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF INQUIRY OFFICER IN RESPECT OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AGAINST SHRI RAJAMANNAR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, EMPC**

**BM 149.22.1** The Board was informed that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting vide their letter dated 20.11.2015 had stated that Shri M. Rajamannar, during his tenure in Songs and Drama Division, has committed irregularities in discharging his duties, which resulted in huge loss to the state's exchequer authority amounting to approx. Rs.73.70 crores. The Competent Authority of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Shri Rajamannar. Accordingly, the Ministry of I&B forwarded the draft Memorandum containing the statement of Articles of Charge, statement Imputation of misconduct/misbehaviors in support of each Article of Charge, a list of documents by which the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained. After detailed deliberations, the Board approved the initiation of disciplinary proceedings against Shri M. Rajamannar. A memorandum number IG/TA/1/515/05 dt. 13.6.2016 was issued to Shri M. Rajamannar. He replied vide letter dated 06.08.2016. Accordingly, copy of reply received from Shri Rajamannar was forwarded to CVO, IGNOU for onward transmission to CVO, I & B.

It was further informed that vide their letter dt. 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting informed that *“this proves that the replies furnished by Shri Rajamannar is not satisfactory and are not acceptable. As such necessary action may be taken to initiate Major Penalty proceedings against Shri Rajamannar, presently working as producer EMPC, IGNOU under relevant rules under intimation to this Ministry.”* Accordingly, the major penalty proceedings were initiated and Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer was appointed in the year 2021. The Disciplinary proceedings were conducted. The Inquiry Officer submitted his report on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The report was shared with Shri M. Rajamannar vide letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and the Ministry of Information

& Broadcasting vide letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Shri M. Rajamannar has submitted his comments on the report of the Inquiry Officer. A copy of the comments has been forwarded to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. However, the response is awaited from Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

**BM 149.22.2** After detailed deliberations, the Board decided to impose the major penalty of reduction of pay of Shri M Rajamannar by three increments w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022, till the date of his retirement (i.e. April 2023) with cumulative effect. Shri M Rajamannar will not earn any annual increment during this period. The reduction will have effect of postponing his future increments, if otherwise admissible.

**ITEM NO. 23 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF INQUIRY OFFICER IN RESPECT OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AGAINST ER. K K BHAT, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, REGIONAL CENTRE JAMMU FOR FAILING TO PERFORM HIS DUTIES IN THE CONDUCT OF THE TERM END EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2019 SMOOTHLY IN THE JAMMU REGION**

**BM 149.23.1** The Board was informed that the University had received some complaints regarding conduct of December 2019 Term End Examinations at Regional Centre-Jammu including reported leakage of question papers of B.Ed. Exams (BES-128(S) and BES-129(S), held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The matter was examined by the Examination Committee constituted to monitor the conduct of Term End Examinations etc. and prima facie it appeared that Shri Kuldeep Kumar Bhat, Regional Director, Regional Centre, Jammu had failed to perform his overall duties for the process of conduct and monitoring of the Term End Examination December 2019 smoothly in the Jammu Region. Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred to the Vice Chancellor under Clause (1) of Statute 19 of Statutes of the University under IGNOU Act, 1985 read with Sub-Rule (1) of Rule 10 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules 1965, Shri Kuldeep Kumar Bhat, Regional Director, Jammu was placed under suspension with effect from 09.01.2020 till further orders vide dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The Vice Chancellor had also constituted a Fact Finding Committee under the Chairpersonship of Prof. RR Kanhere, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Member BOM, IGNOU on 09.01.2020 to investigate the whole matter relating to the reported leakage of B.Ed. question papers in Jammu Region. In its Report,

the Committee has observed slackness on the part of Shri K K Bhat, RD. Accordingly, on the basis of the Report of the Committee, a Chargesheet has been issued to Shri Kuldeep Kumar Bhat, Regional Director, Jammu vide Memorandum F.No. IG/TA/1/229/95/Vol.IV/ 6552 dated 05.03.2020. The Board noted that the major penalty proceedings under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 were initiated and Inquiry Officer and Presenting Officer were appointed vide Office orders dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020. The Disciplinary proceedings were conducted. The Inquiry Officer submitted his report. The report was shared with Er KK Bhat vide letter dated 19.01.2022. However, despite passage of more than 04 months, no reply has been received from Er KK Bhat. Er KK Bhat retired from services of the University on 30.04.2020 and a provisional pension was sanctioned to Er KK Bhat vide Office Order dated 08.2.2021 w.e.f. 1.5.2020. Now 02 years have passed therefore a decision is also to be taken regarding further continuance of the provisional pension to Er KK Bhat. He has not been released any Gratuity or leave encashment.

**BM 149.23.2** The Board took a serious view regarding non-responsive attitude of Shri KK Bhat. Further, the Board decided to send the last reminder letter to Sh. K.K. Bhat to explain his position on outcome of the Inquiry Report sent to him earlier. Till such time he will continue to receive provisional pension.

**ITEM NO. 24 TO CONSIDER THE STATUS OF RECRUITMENT TO TEACHING POSTS ADVERTISED BY THE UNIVERSITY ALONGWITH STATUS OF BACKLOG VACANCIES FOR SC/ST/OBC/ EWS ETC.**

**BM 149.24.1** The Board noted the status of recruitment to teaching posts advertised by the University along with status of backlog vacancies for SC/ST/OBC/ EWS etc. The Board also decided as under:

1. The posts as per 2019 roster, remaining vacant, may be advertised as per requirement of the University.
2. The reservations rosters may be finalized and posts be advertised as per requirements of the University.

**ITEM NO. 25 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE UNIVERSITY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE (SSC), A STANDING COMMITTEE OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MADE AT ITS 51<sup>ST</sup> MEETING HELD ON 27.01.2022**



**BM 149.25.1** The Board considered and approved the recommendations of the Student Services Committee, a Standing Committee of the BOM made at its 51<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 27.01.2022.

**ITEM NO. 26 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 78<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE, A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT TO BE HELD ON 24.05.2022**

**BM 149.26.1** The Board considered and approved the minutes of the Establishment Committee, a Standing Committee of the BOM made at its 78<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 24.05.2022 (**Appendix-4**). The brief recommendations of the Establishment Committee are given hereunder:

**Item No.2:** Based on the self appraisal report submitted by each teacher and the recommendation of the Directors, the Establishment Committee recommended to lift the probation and confirm the services of 08 teachers.

**Item No.3:** The Establishment Committee observed that the matter in the case of Shri Apurba Swarnkar is subjudice in the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta and hence resolved to direct Sh. Apurba Swarnakar to get the prorata pensionary benefits from the West Bengal Govt. remitted to the University so that his request may be examined as per relevant rule provision.

**Item No.4:** The Establishment Committee accepted the recommendations of the Committee and resolved not to accede the request of Sh. R.K. Soni for considering his case for pension. However, the EC further recommended that the University may pay the balance gratuity and other admissible amount as per the extant rules. The payment due may be released to Guru Ghasi Das Vishwavidyalaya as per the request of the concerned University.

**Item No.5:** The Committee perused the brief activities/performance of 11 officers and recommended that the probation of the following Group–A Non-Academic officers be lifted from the dates indicated against each in the agenda.

**Item Nos.6 &7:** In cases of late Dr. Gurupada Saren, Associate Professor and Dr. Sukant Kumar Mohanty, ARD regarding NPS Scheme, the Establishment Committee recommended to refer the matters to the Committee, already constituted by the Vice Chancellor, for further examination and to ensure that the provisions contained in the CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 read with CCS (Implementation of NPS) Rules 2021 and notification of the University No. AD/2/NA/ATR/BM-145/2021/3491 dated 26.11.2021 are fulfilled.

The Establishment Committee further desired that Finance & Accounts Division may ascertain if the conditions laid down in Clause 20 of the GSR 227 of Gazette

notification of DP&PW dated 30.03.2021 are fulfilled with regard to receipt of government share from accumulated corpus in the NPS account of the subscribers.

**Item Nos.8, 9, 10 & 18:** In matter of NPS to GPF in respect of (i) Prof. Deepika, (ii) Dr. M.P. Mishra, (iii) Prof. P.K. Jena and (iv) Sh. Hari Prasad Tanniru, the Establishment resolved as under:

“After detailed discussions, the Establishment Committee recommended to refer the matter to the Committee, already constituted by the Vice Chancellor, for further examination and to ensure that the provisions contained in the Notification No. 57/04/2019-P&PW(B) dated 17.02.2020 of Department of Pension and Pensioners’ Welfare, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and University Notification F.No.AD/2/NA/ ATR/BM-145/2021/3490, dated 26.11.2021 are fulfilled in the instant case. Till such time a decision is taken on the matter, he would continue to subscribe under NPS.”

**Item No.11:** The Establishment Committee recommended as under:

- (i) to again write to Rani Durgawati Vishwavidyalay to deposit the pro-rata pensionary benefits in respect of services rendered by Prof Anjila Gupta, with a copy to Prof Anjila Gupta to take up the matter with her previous employer.
- (ii) If the pro rata pensionary benefits are not received from Rani Durgawati Vishwavidyalaya within 06 months, her subscription into GPF Account be discontinued.
- (iii) Pensionary benefits, including pension, if any, post retirement/voluntary retirement, as the case may be, of Prof. AnjilaGupta would be released only after receipt of pro rata pensionary benefits from her previous employer, ie. Rani Durgawati Vishwavidyalay in accordance with Govt. of India, DOPT, OM No. 28/30/2004-P&PW (B) dated 28.10.2009 and related orders.

**Item No.12:** After detailed deliberations, the Establishment Committee didnot consider the request of Shri Jasola since the pensionary benefits were not dealt with as per the relevant DoPT rules. It was decided to re-examine the fixation of pensionary benefits administratively as per the extant rules of GoI/DoPT and recovery, if any, be initiated from the concerned official.

**Item No.13:** After detailed discussions, the Establishment Committee recommended to refer the request of Dr. Sanjay Gupta, to the Deptt of Personnel and Training through Ministry of Education for their comments with regard to his admissibility under Old Pension Scheme under CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972 as per the OM No.57/04/2019-P&PW dated 17.02.2020. Till such time a favourable reply is received, Dr Sanjay Gupta shall continue to be covered under NPS scheme.

**Item No.14:** The Establishment Committee recommended to consider the leave (extra ordinary leave since no other leave was available to her credit) taken by Dr Indrani Lahiri as Child Care Leave, for the below mentioned period:

01.09.2009 to 18.09.2009 (18 days)  
05.10.2009 to 31.10.2009 (27 days)  
20.11.2009 to 06.03.2010 (107 days)  
31.05.2010 to 27.08.2010 (89 days)  
Total: 241 days or 8 months and 01 day)

Her request for grant of CCL w.e.f. 1.9.2008 to 31.08.2009 (13.3.2006 to 31.8.2009 granted as EOL) cannot be acceded to since at the time of her leave application or extension thereof, there was no such provision of CCL in place. The Establishment Committee also recommended that above period of 241 days may be considered as Child Care Leave and Dr Indrani Lahiri would be entitled to such benefits, including salary and counting of period for CAS, as per rules.

**Item No.15:** After detailed deliberations, the Establishment Committee accepted the requests of Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Assistant Professor, SOA, Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Bedi and Dr. Anand Gupta, Assistant Professor, SOL and considered their request for consideration of their promotion as per 6<sup>th</sup> CPC subject to the condition that these teachers shall apply afresh for CAS as per 6<sup>th</sup> CPC UGC Regulations and University's Ordinance duly approved by the Visitor for promotion from Assistant Professor (Stage I/6000 AGP) to Assistant Professor (Stage II/7000 AGP) and Assistant Professor (Stage II/7000 AGP) to Assistant Professor (Stage III/8000 AGP) by filling up requisite forms.

**Item No.16:** In the case of Dr. Shikha Rai, Associate Professor, after detailed deliberations, the Establishment Committee agreed with the decision of the University to consider her promotion from Assistant Professor to Assistant Professor (senior scale) w.e.f. 01.05.2013 in place of 10.05.2011 and recommended to refer the matter to UGC for clarification. The Standing Committee also recommended to confirm the details of experience viz. promotion from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer at MBICEM as mentioned in the Experience Certificate issued by MBICEM dated 30.04.2009.

**Item No.17:** In matters of Dr. Sanjay Agarwal, Professor, and Dr. Deeksha Dave, Assistant Professor, the Establishment Committee agreed with the steps taken by the University. The EC further directed that in respect of pay protection of the above officials a letter be sent to the UGC with all relevant details as is being communicated in other cases.

**ITEM NO. 27 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR OPTIMIZATION OF RESOURCES TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL SERVICES NETWORK AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW REGIONAL CENTRE AT ANGUL DISTRICT IN ODISHA**

**BM 149.27.1** The Item was taken up for consideration. The Board was apprised of 56 Regional Centres established and maintained by the University, 11 Recognised Regional Centres for the Army (6), Navy (4) and Assam Rifles (1). These 67 Regional Centres monitor the learner support services provided by 2140 LSCs including 84 Recognised Learner Support Centres for security forces. Due to the extensive use of information and communication technology in teaching- learning process there is a need for rationalisation and optimisation of both human and material resources at Regional Centres for strengthening support services. There are eleven places where Regional Centres have their own building. Ten more places Regional Centre building construction activities have been entrusted to CPWD. At all other places Regional Centres operate from rented/rent-free accommodation. This necessitates scaling up of activities at places having own building and scaling down of activities at places having rented building without compromising on support services.

The Board was informed that similarly scaling up of activities at few places was felt to reach out to learners in rural and remote areas and particularly to aspirational districts to fulfill the mandate of the National Education Policy- 2020. Board at its 142 meeting held on 31. 05. 2021 had approved the establishment of Sub Regional Centre at Leh in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

It was proposed to establish a new Regional Centre in Angul district in Odisha with jurisdiction over districts of Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Bargarh, Deogarh, Sonapur and Boudh. Angul is a major industrial hub in the state having NALCO, NTPC, Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd, Talcher Thermal Power, Jindal steel, Bhushan steel etc which are potential source of employment and apprenticeship/internship. Currently fifteen Study Centres are operating under the proposed Regional Centre. Many new LSCs can be opened to meet the educational aspirations of youth of the region, industrial workers and their family members. The centre will operate from rent-free/rented accommodation.

**BM 149.27.1** The Board approved the proposal for optimization of resources to strengthen Regional Services Network and establishment of a new Regional Centre at Angul district in Odisha.

**TEM NO. 28** **TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATED TO PAYMENT OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO SHRI SANJAY SAXENA, SHRI BINOD PRASAD GUPTA, AND DR DALJEET SACHDEVA, DEPUTY DIRECTORS, ELECTRONIC MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTRE, WHO RETIRED FROM THE SERVICES OF THE UNIVERSITY ON ATTAINING THE AGE OF SUPERANNUATION**

**BM 149.28.1** The Board was informed that Shri Sanjay Saxena, Shri Binod Prasad Gupta, and Dr Daljeet Sachdeva were working as Deputy Directors in Electronic Media Production Centre, who retired from the services of the University on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.12.2021; 31.01.2022 and 28.02.2022, respectively. While processing their retirement benefits, the matter was forwarded to Finance & Accounts Division for their concurrence. The F&A Division made certain observations and did not concur their retirement benefits on account of them not fulfilling qualifications and eligibility at the time of their induction into Academic Cadre and/or subsequent promotion(s).

The Board noted that since about four months had passed since retirement of Shri Sanjay Saxena, as an interim measure, with the approval of the Vice Chancellor, he has been paid a provisional pension of Rs 50000/- PM, Rs. 10 lacs towards retirement gratuity and Rs 15 lacs towards leave encashment. However, no payments have been made to Shri Binod Prasad Gupta (more than 03½ months since his retirement) and Dr Daljeet Sachdeva (more than 02½ months since his retirement). These persons have been regularly pressing for release of their retirement benefits.

**BM 149.28.2** The matter was discussed at length. The Board after detailed deliberations decided that a Committee may be constituted by the Vice Chancellor to examine the matter holistically including the release of final terminal benefits and pension in respect of Shri Sanjay Saxena, Shri Binod Prasad Gupta, and Dr Daljeet Sachdeva who were working as Deputy Directors in Electronic Media Production Centre, and retired from the services of the University on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.12.2021; 31.01.2022 and 28.02.2022, respectively. The Board also decided that case of Shri K Venkatraman, Producer, EMPC, which appears to be similar in

nature, may also be examined by the same Committee, as above so as to avoid any issues at the time of his retirement.

Meanwhile, since the officials have already superannuated and it would not be appropriate to hold back the retirement dues indefinitely, the Board approved the action taken by the University, as an interim measure, in release of provisional pension of Rs 50000/- PM, Rs. 10 lacs towards retirement gratuity and Rs 15 lacs towards leave encashment in respect of Shri Sanjay Saxena. In other two cases, namely, Shri Binod Prasad Gupta and Dr Daljeet Sachdeva the Board approved a provisional pension of Rs 50000/- PM, and Rs. 10 lacs towards retirement gratuity.

The above retirement benefits shall continue till a decision is taken on the report of the Committee and would be adjusted towards final payments of the same.

**ITEM NO. 29 TO CONSIDER OFFERING OF SKILL-BASED BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME FOR THE SERVING PERSONNEL OF THE DEFENCE FORCES**

**BM 149.29.1** The Chairman informed the Board that the Defence Forces (Army, Air Force and Navy) have been approaching IGNOU with a request to offer Bachelor's degree programme to serving personnel (Jawans, Airmen and Sailors), giving due recognition to the in-service skill training imparted to them, because such a skill-based degree will enhance their employability after retirement. Accordingly, the University has proposed a specially designed 120-credit bachelor's degree programme for the Defence Forces personnel, with a provision of giving up to 50% credit to the skill education/training (both technical and non-technical) imparted to them during service. The proposed degree has been designed on the CBCS/ four year undergraduate degree pattern and is in consonance with the policy direction of NEP 2020 for integrating vocational education with general higher education.

The Scheme proposed has the following objectives:

1. To create avenues for serving Defence Forces Personnel having 10+2 qualification to acquire select undergraduate degrees [BA, B.Com., Bachelor of Arts (Vocational Studies) Tourism Management]
2. To achieve the objectives of NEP 2020 for integration of skill education and higher education by way of balancing the two components in the undergraduate curriculum framework.

The Board was further informed that offering skill-based Bachelor's degree programmewould require the approval of the Regulatory Bodies like NCVET and AICTE. The recognition of this degree by UGC for semester wise curriculum distribution, credit transfer and multiple entry and exit would also be necessary for it to be valid and acceptable at the national as well as international levels for employment and higher education.

Thus, keeping above in view the University had sent a proposal to the Ministry of Education for offering of skill-based bachelor's degree programme, requesting their active intervention in getting the necessary approvals from the Regulatory Bodies. The Ministry of Education, in turn, had forwarded the proposal of the University for offering of skill-based Bachelor's degree programmeto UGC, AICTE and NCVET vide their letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 for seeking in-principle approval. The skill-based Bachelor's Degree Programmewas proposed to be launched from July 2022 admission cycle.

The Chairman further informed the Board that the Ministry of Education vide its letter F.No. 5-12/2022-DL dated 26.05.2022 has informed that the proposal of IGNOU for offering Skill-based Bachelor Degree program for Defence Forces personnel was sent to the three regulatory bodies, viz. UGC, AICTE and NCVET and all the three bodies have given in-principle approval to the proposal. The Ministry also requested the University to take necessary action to implement the proposal **(Appendix-5)**.

**BM 149.29.2** The Board lauded the efforts of the University and approved the proposal of the University to offer skill-based Bachelor's Degrees Programme for serving personnel of the Defence forces.

In order to take immediate actions, the Board confirmed this Item and decided to issue Part Minutes.

**ITEM NO. 30 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED TO EXAMINE THE REPRESENTATION RECEIVED FROM DR. R. SUDARSAN, FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION AGAINST COMPULSORY RETIREMENT IN THE LIGHT OF PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE CVC MANUAL**

**BM 149.30.1**

The Board was informed that in its 118<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 15.06.2013, the Board had decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Dr. R. Sudarsan, Deputy Director, Planning and Development Division under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 read with Statue 19 of the IGNOU Act 1985 and to place Dr. R. Sudarsan under suspension with immediate effect during the departmental proceedings. Disciplinary proceedings were initiated against Dr. R. Sudarsan vide a Memorandum dated 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. The Report of the Inquiry Officer in this case was placed before the Board of Management at its 122<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2015. The Board of Management decided to revoke the suspension of Dr. R. Sudarsan with immediate effect and also decided that the Secretary shall prepare a brief of the findings of the Inquiry Report which shall be placed before the next BOM for consideration.

A brief on the Inquiry Report alongwith the response of the Charged Officer were placed for consideration of the Board at its 124<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016. The Board at 124<sup>th</sup> meeting constituted a Committee to look into the Inquiry Report and the response received from the Charged Officer, prepare a comparative statement and submit its observations to the BOM. While considering the Action Taken Report on the 124<sup>th</sup> BOM, the Board of Management at its 125<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23.07.2016 noted that Dr. R. Sudarsan has leveled allegations against several Officials of the University. The Board took serious view of the unsubstantiated allegations made by Dr. R. Sudarsan against these officials. The Board directed that Dr. R. Sudarsan, Deputy Director, Planning & Development Division should be placed under suspension with immediate effect and resolved that a disciplinary inquiry be instituted under Rule 14 of the CCS (CCA) Rules. Dr. R. Sudarsan was suspended vide Order dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2016.

The 125<sup>th</sup> BOM also decided that appropriate action on the incumbent should be proposed by the Vice Chancellor in the light of the inquiry report, the incumbent's reply and the views of the sub-committee. The Board authorized the Chairman to propose action and bring it before the Board for consideration so that a final decision may be taken accordingly. In 126<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BOM held on 18.10.2016, the Vice Chancellor presented the proposed action as per the recommendations of the Committee set up on the directions of the Board. After considering the reports of the inquiry Committee as well as taking into account the



findings of Board Committee and the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor, the BOM decided to award the penalty of “Compulsory Retirement” to Dr. R. Sudarsan, Deputy Director, P&DD with immediate effect. Accordingly, vide Order No. IG/Admn(G)/BM-125/2016/750, dated 18.10.2016, Dr R. Sudarsan was compulsorily retired with immediate effect under Rule 11(vii) of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965.

Dr. R. Sudarsan, Former Deputy Director, P&DD, represented vide letter dated 20.08.2018 to Vice Chancellor & Chairman, BOM to withdraw the Compulsory Retirement Order issued vide No. IG/Admn(G)/BM-125/2016/750 dated 18.10.2016 and Suspension Order issued vide No. IG/Admn(G)/BM-125/2016/561 dated 23.07.2016. The matter has also been referred by the Ministry of Education for examination.

The matter was placed before the Board of Management in its 130<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.09.2018, however, the matter was deferred. Again, the matter was placed before Board of Management in its 131<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 22.12.2018 and the Board directed that the matter be examined in the light of provisions contained in CVC Manual.

The Board noted that the Vice Chancellor constituted a Committee vide notification No.IG/TA/1/371/1998/4055 dated 24.04.2019. While, the Committee was in process of collecting relevant documents from various Divisions in order to have a holistic view point, National lock-down was declared in the month of March, 2020 due to spread of infection of Novel Corona Virus. Meanwhile, the Chairperson of the Committee got superannuated in the month of June, 2020 during the lockdown. Hence, after lifting of Lockdown, the Committee was re-constituted by the Vice Chancellor vide notification dated January 18, 2021/29.06.2021. The Board considered the report of the Committee.

**BM 149.30.2** The Board discussed the matter at length including the likely scenarios in case Dr R Sudarsan’s penalty is reviewed or revised or revoked and he is allowed to join back the University since the matter is pending for long, and if there were any such instances or precedence in the University in the past.

**BM 149.30.3** After detailed deliberations, the Board directed that legal opinion may be taken on the matter including likely steps that the University can take in the

instant case.

**ITEM NO. 31 TO CONSIDER NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS ON: (I) THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT UNDER CLAUSE (1)(VI)(A)&(C) OF STATUTE 6A, AND (II) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE UNDER CLAUSE (1)(IV) OF STATUTE 11 OF THE IGNOU ACT**

**BM 149.31.1** The Board authorized the Vice Chancellor/Chairman, BOM to nominate members on (i) the Board of Management under Clause (1)(vi)(a)&(c) of Statute 6A and (ii) the Finance Committee under Clause (1)(iv) of Statute 11 of the IGNOU Act.

**ITEM NO. 32 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO SURRENDER OF TWO GYANVANI (GV) FM RADIO STATIONS AT VARANASI AND PUNE**

**BM 149.32.1** The Board was informed that the University was made the nodal organization by MOE (erstwhile MHRD) to establish and operate 37 Educational FM Radio Stations of 10 KW transmitting power (GyanVani) in the year 2000. A Grant of Permission Agreement (GOPA) was signed between Min. of I&B and IGNOU to operate GyanVani FM educational Radio Stations. A MOU was signed with Prasar Bharati to use their existing transmission infrastructure through the payment of an annual license fee which include operational & maintenance cost of GyanVani transmitter and the rentals for the space, building, tower, etc. GyanVani is operational since 2001. However, FM transmitters procured initially out-lived their useful life and repairing them is uneconomical. Support of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) is not available after 10 years of transmitter supply. With the result many GV stations were non operational / working at very low power by the year 2014. As per the MoU with Prasar Bharati, IGNOU has to pay license fee for the *Non- Operational* GV stations as well.

The Board was apprised of other alternatives available for channel based counseling through four free to air Swayam Prabha DTH channels and Gyan Darshan channel, which are having wider reach compared to the less coverage (around 10 to 20 KM only) through GyanVani transmission due to reduced capacity of transmitters. Therefore, to review the organization, infrastructure, cost effectiveness and future requirement of GyanVani stations, a GyanVani Review Committee was constituted by the University.

The GyanVani Review Committee in its meeting held on 9/7/2020 suggested to surrender the *Non-Operational* GyanVani stations. Accordingly, proposal to surrender 17 GV stations were submitted to MHRD on 29/7/2020. Subsequently, the Review Committee also reviewed the remaining GV Stations status and recommended to surrender 8 GV stations.

Board Management in its 145<sup>th</sup> meeting approved the recommendations of the GyanVani Review Committee for discontinuation of the eight Non-Operational Gyan Vani FM Radio Stations including Patna (in addition to earlier discontinued 17 Gyan Vani stations) and e-auction GyanVani FM transmitter equipment.

The Board noted that the University continued to operate the following GyanVani stations at

1. Bangalore
2. Cochin,
3. Delhi,
4. Chandigarh,
5. Jaipur,
6. Jalandhar,
7. Lucknow,
8. Madurai,
9. Thiruvanthapuram
10. Nagpur,
11. Pune,
- and
12. Varanasi.

It was further informed that GyanVani Review Committee in its meeting held on 23/2/22 discussed various aspects of the status of above GV stations and recommended surrendering of the following two GV stations. Minutes of the meeting enclosed.

#	Station	Wireless Operating License No.
1.	VARANASI	FMC15/1
2.	PUNE	FMCR27/1

**BM 149.32.2** The Board approved the proposal for surrendering of the GyanVani stations at Varanasi and Pune as per GV Review Committee, keeping in view the high operational cost, maintenance & rentals.

**ITEM NO. 33 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR REVIEW OF GYAN VANI OPERATIONS**

**BM 149.33.1** The Item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the University was made the nodal organization by erstwhile MHRD to establish and operate Educational FM Radio Stations of 10 KW transmitting power at 40 locations under the phase-1 of Ministry of

Information and Broadcasting (MIB) FM broadcasting extension in the year 2000. IGNOU operated GV stations at 37 locations till 2014. The transmission of Gyan Vani was discontinued for technical reasons w.e.f. 30.09.2014. These operations were resumed from 01.01.2017. For operating the Gyan Vani Stations IGNOU had been paying the amounts of Rs. 16 crores (Apprx.) from 2001 onwards for annually License Fee, WPC Charges, Running of Gyan Vani Stations etc.

It was further informed that in the initial years of Gyan Vani operations the erstwhile MHRD had provided a specified budget for operations of Gyan Vani. However, IGNOU's financial commitments has increased over the years because of the grant released by the ministry had become inadequate. Unlike their counter parts such as Akashvani (AIR), Gyan Vani Channels operated on frugal means with no revenues generated as commercials / advertisements/ sponsorship were not permitted to be aired through them. Under these circumstances, IGNOU as a nodal organization had to utilize all its existing resources human and material, to run the 37 number of Radio Channels. The main expenditure on these channels is payments to government agencies such as Prasar Bharti, Ministry of Communication etc. which relate to Spectrum fee, license fee, etc.

To mitigate the enhanced requirement, the University had requested the erstwhile MHRD on 01/01/2019 for release of Rs. 36 crore one time grant and Rs. 31 crore per year for the recurring expenditure of Gyan Vani stations to clear the dues. The Ministry was again requested vide letter dated 25/03/2020 for one time grant of Rs.14.52 crore to IGNOU to replace the 21 Gyan Vani transmitters and other infrastructures which are almost decade old and outlived its life.

Further, to review the organization, infrastructure, cost effectiveness and future requirement of GyanVani stations, a GyanVani Review Committee was constituted by the University. The GyanVani Review Committee in its meeting held on 9/7/2020 discussed various aspects of the GV stations status and suggested to surrender the *Non-Operational* GyanVani stations and to withhold the release of license fee etc of 22 non-operating Gyan Vani stations till the University receives financial assistance from the of Ministry.

Accordingly from April 2020 onwards IGNOU had paid a sum of rupees 6.5 crore for license fee etc for 15 operational Gyan Vani Stations for the

entire financial year of 2020-21 and Rupees 4.78 crore were paid for the above cause during the financial year 2021-22.

The Board noted that in the financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22 the following amounts have been incurred on functional Gyan Vani stations:-

#	Description	2020-21	2021-22
1.	License Fee etc.	6,23,92,515	47891498
2.	WPC Charges	67,60,000	20,28,000
3.	Running of Gyan Vani Stations	31034510	1,69,52,933
	Total	100187025	66872431

The Board further noted that at present the following committed expenditure is withheld by IGNOU for non-functional Gyan Vani stations for the financial year 2020-21 and 21-22.

Financial year 2020-21 – 5.12 crore

Financial year 2021-22 – 5.86 crore

In addition to above a sum of Rs. 1.52 crore is to be paid to Prasar Bharti towards license fee etc. for the current financial year from 01.04.2022 to 30.06.2022

In view of the above, the total amount to be paid to Prasar Bharati for non operational Gyan Vani Stations is Rs.12.50 crore.

**BM 149.33.2** The Board noted that initially installed transmitters have out-lived their life and spare parts for repairing are not available in the market. The Board, while taking note of the high recurring expenditure to maintain the stations, was of the view to dispose off the obsolete material at these stations and surrender them. The Chairman informed that the University has contacted BASIL and they have assured that they will clear all the obsolete material from these stations at the earliest.

**ITEM NO. 34 TO APPRISE THE STATUS OF RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

**BM 149.34.1** The Board was apprised the status of recruitment to the post of Assistant Registrar. It was informed that 21 posts of Assistant Registrar (UR-13, ST-01, OBC-05 and EWS-02) published vide Advertisement No.58/2020/. The

job of conduct of examination for the post of Assistant Registrar was awarded to NTA as approved by the BOM. As per the data received from the NTA, the result was declared on 16-06-2021. The Screening Committee duly approved by the Competent Authority short-listed the total application 148+1\* (UR78, ST-15, OBC-36 and EWS-20) on 15-11-22021 and the same placed on 17-11-2021 in the IGNOU website. Interview for the above said post was held on 02-05-2022 to 07-05-2022 except on 03-05-2022.

Further, the online applications for the post of A.R. (PwBD) against the Advertisement No.61 dated 03-07-2020 was invited through SAMARTH Portal with opening date 05-07-2021 and closing date was 04-11-2020. Total 116 applications were received. The Screening Committee duly approved by the Competent Authority short-listed 35 candidates (15-VH, 20-OH) on 13-12-2021 and the same was uploaded on the 14-12-2021. Interview for the post of Assistant Registrar (PwBD) was held on 05-05-2022

It was further informed that 01 of OBC candidates shortlisted on the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and interviewed on 04-05-2022 and two more OBC candidates have gone in the court.

The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in WP (C) 6946/2022, 6973/2022 and 7027/2022 in its Order dated 18.05.2022 permitted the candidates to appear for interview for the post of Assistant Registrar, the date for which will be communicated by the University to the petitioners and similarly placed candidates within a stipulated time.

**BM 149.34.2** The Board noted the status of the recruitment of Assistant Registrar.

**ITEM NO. 35 TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DR. AMBEDKAR CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE (DACE) IN THE UNIVERSITY**

**BM 149.35.1** The Board was informed that the University was in receipt of various letter(s) viz. dated 28.01.2022, 16.2.2022, and 21.3.2022 requesting the University, interalia, to set up the Dr Ambedkar Centre of Excellence at the University (**Appendix-6**). The Board was further informed that the University is the ace University of open & distance learning and the learner-centric approach of IGNOU includes various Television, Radio and Internet platforms like Gyan Darshan, Gyan Vani, SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA, Face Book Live, E-Gyankosh, besides the printed course texts

that the University develops. In the same vein, the University proposes to take forward the mettle of Dr. Ambedkar Centre for Excellence (DACE) in order to achieve its laid down objectives. The Steps of the Action or Modality Plan for DACE in IGNOU was placed before the Board for consideration.

**BM 149.35.1** The Board considered the Action or Modality Plan for Dr. Ambedkar Centre for Excellence (DACE) placed in the agenda and approved the establishment of the Dr. Ambedkar Centre for Excellence (DACE). The Board suggested that the DACE be merged with the National ODL Centre for Local Governance in the University.

**ITEM NO. 36 TO APPRAISE THE CURRENT STATUS OF 16 RESIDENTIAL FLATS PURCHASED FROM WEST BENGAL HOUSING BOARD TO PROVIDE THE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES TO THE EMPLOYEES WORKING AT IGNOU RC KOLKATA**

**BM 149.36.1** The item was taken up for consideration. It was informed that the University had purchased 16 MIG flats at a cost of Rs.49,84,608/- from West Bengal Housing Board in December, 1996 to provide residential facility to employees working at IGNOU Regional Centre, Kolkata. The University has released Rs.11,63,850/- for registration charges and electric meter charges, society charges etc. for these flats. Regional Director informed that out of 16 Nos. of residential flats only one flat is occupied by the staff member, 05 flats are used for storing obsolete material and one flat is used for storing of equipments of Gyanvani FM Radio Station. Rest of the nine flats are lying vacant. Most of the staff members are having their own houses and they are not interested to reside in the staff quarters. For putting the staff quarters in use it was tried to convert two flats for Gyanvani FM Station, Guest House/Transit House, Warehouse etc. but, the cooperative housing societies have denied permission for it.

Due to non/under utilisation of flats there is a revenue loss to University apart from a recurring expenditure of Rs.1,32,000/- (approx.) per annum towards property tax, electricity meter rent, external maintenance, common utility charges etc. are being paid to cooperative societies/ statutory bodies. The CAG audit has also raised the audit para of 'Unfruitful expenditure of Rs.15.12 lakh' during the transaction audit for the period 2020-21 stating that IGNOU had incurred 73.51 lakh for purchased of 16 residential flats from West Bengal Housing Board (WBHB). The audit recommended that

IGNOU needs to reassess the requirement to keep the flats in view of the recurring expenditure incurred by University every year which were not being utilised.

**BM 149.36.2** The Board keeping in view revenue loss to the University due to underutilization of flats and recurring expenditure incurred per annum towards property tax, electricity meter rent, external maintenance, common utility charges etc., decided to dispose off the 16 residential flats at IGNOU RC Kolkata by sale.

**ITEM NO. 37 TO REPORT THE MATTER RELATED TO THE AUDIT PARA NO.19 2000-01 PART IIB IN RESPECT TO THE WRONG FIXATION OF HONORARIUM AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT OF SH. D.C. PANT, AS ADVISER AS PER THE REMARKS OF CAG CONVEYED BY THE INTERNAL AUDIT SECTION OF FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS DIVISION**

**BM 149.37.1** The Board noted the Audit Para No. 19 2000-01 Part IIB in respect to the wrong fixation of honorarium at the time of appointment of Sh. D.C. Pant, as Adviser as per the remarks of CAG. The wrong fixation of honorarium has resulted in an overpayment of Rs.36,679/- to Shri D.C. Pant, Advisor from 20.11.2001 to 28.02.2001.

**BM 149.37.2** The Board noted that since the fixation was done by the University, concurred by Finance & Accounts Division and approved by the then Vice Chancellor, the Board agreed to regularize the payment of Rs.36,679/- due on Sh. D.C. Pant.

**ITEM NO. 38 TO CONSIDER THE WRITING OFF OF AN AMOUNT OF RS.39.86 LAKHS AS AN ADVANCE AND PENALTY RECOVERABLE FROM M/S CMC LTD.**

**BM 149.38.1** The Board was apprised of the Audit Para No.3 of 2000-01 Part IIA: Non-realization of the advance and penalty from CMC Ltd. It was informed that in March, 1997, the University issued a purchase order of Rs.4,42,80,963 to CMC for purchase of computer equipments and released an advance of Rs.3,80,52,867. However, the CMC submitted the bill of Rs.3,51,30,963. The penalty imposed by the University on the CMC was of Rs.35,13,096/- against the bills submitted by the CMC of Rs. 3,51,30,963/- (10% uniform penalty worked out to be Rs.35,13,096/-) for delay. After adjusting the penalty against the balance amount of Rs. 33,78,097/- the balance amount of Rs.1,34,999/- was required to be recovered from CMC against the Purchase Order dated 18.03.1997. A further Purchase Order of



Rs.2,06,60,000/- was placed on CMC and an advance of Rs.1,69,73,000/- was release by the University. The CMC had executed the job of Rs.81,21,727/- and refunded the excess advance amount paid Rs.50 lakhs. Thus, out of advance paid, a balance of Rs.38,51,273/- is to be recovered from CMC. Hence, a total amount to be recovered from CMC comes to Rs.38,51,273/- + Rs.1,34,999/- which amounts to Rs.39,86,272/-.

It was informed that the University made efforts from time to time to recover the due amount. In the year 2008, the University approached the Senior Advocate Shri Sandeep Sethi, IGNOU Counsel for his opinion on the matter. In his letter dated 24.03.2008, Shri Sandeep Sethi stated that *“claim amount of the University of Rs.39,86,272/- has become barred by the period of Limitation Act, i.e., 03 years from the date of contract which has been expired on 27.03.2000, therefore, this amount cannot be recovered by the legal proceedings.”* It was also informed that M/s CMC Limited ceases to exist now.

**BM 149.38.2**

The Board noted that since the products were already received by the University and penalty was imposed for delay in delivery and since M/s CMC Limited, which was a PSU under Govt. of India, now ceases to exist, therefore there is no scope of recovery of the penalty.

Keeping in view the above, the Board decided that the matter may be laid to rest.

After completing the agenda items, the Chairman felicitated Prof. K.K. Aggarwal and Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar whose term of membership was expiring on the same day i.e. 26.05.2022. He thanked both the outgoing members and appreciated their contributions made during their tenure of last three years. He further sought their continued support and guidance in the future endeavors of the University.

The Chairman then invited other BOM members for their views on the contributions made by the outgoing members. All the members present in the meeting expressed their respects and regards by narrating their vision, specific strategic advices, valuable guidance etc.

Both the outgoing members thanked the Chairman of the Board and all IGNOU fraternity for their respect and have also shared their memories on various achievements of the University and appreciated the Vice Chancellor and his whole team.

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

**(Nageshwar Rao)**  
**Chairman**