

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY OFFICE AT MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI, ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1995 AT 11.00 HOURS.

The following were present :

1. Prof. R.G. Takwale, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
2. Dr S.K. Gandhe
3. Prof. Rakesh Khurana
4. Prof. Janardan Jha
5. Prof. G.S. Rao
6. Prof. R.K. Grover
7. Prof. V.V. Mandke
8. Prof. R.K. Bose
9. Prof. Pandav Nayak
10. Prof. P.K. Dutta
11. Prof. M.M. Pant
12. Dr. R. Satyanarayana
13. Prof. T.N. Dhar
14. Prof. (Mrs.) Asha Kanwar
15. Dr. (Mrs) Madhulika Kaushik
16. Dr. (Mrs.) Geeta Kaicker
17. Shri Akshay Kumar
18. Shri C.R. Pillai
19. Prof. P.S. Deodhar
20. Dr. K. Subramanian
21. Shri B.S. Bhatia
22. Shri D.K. Modi
23. Prof. Namvar Singh
24. Dr. T.R. Kem, Registrar

Prof M.B. Menon, Prof (Mrs.) Prabha Chawla, Prof V.G. Kulkarni, Prof U.R. Anantha Murthy, Dr Arun Guha and Prof Tushaar Shah could not attend the meeting.

Shri D.C. Pant was present by special invitation.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Dy. Registrar (Gov.) was present to assist the Secretary.

Before the items of agenda were taken up, the Vice-Chancellor extended a cordial welcome to the following new members:

1. Prof P.S. Deodhar
2. Dr K. Subramanian
3. Shri B.S. Bhatia
4. Shri D.K. Modi
5. Prof Namvar Singh
6. Dr T.R. Kem

Prior to taking up the items of Agenda, the Vice-Chancellor informed the Council of the procedures being adopted for programme approval. He also stated that the Schools will undertake two exercises for the preparation of the 9th Five Year Plan:

- (i) Critical assessment/review of existing Programmes; and
- (ii) The strategies for development of programmes in the next five years.

The following items were considered:-

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 12TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 17, 1995.

AC 13.1.1 It was stated that no comments were received from any member. The Minutes of the 12th meeting of the Academic Council held on April 17, 1995 were confirmed.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF A MEMBER TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER CLAUSE 9(1)(vi).

AC 13.2.1 The Academic Council noted that Prof T.N. Dhar's term of membership will expire on 15-11-1995. After some discussion, the Council co-opted Prof Sharma, Director (NCERT) as a member of the Academic Council w.e.f. 16-11-1995. The Council placed on record its appreciation for the contributions made by Prof T.N. Dhar to its deliberations.

ITEM NO. 3 TO REPORT THE PERSPECTIVE PLAN OF PROGRAMMES AND COURSES FOR THE PERIOD 1995-98.

AC 13.3.1 The Vice-Chancellor informed that the Planning Board, at its meeting held on 15-9-1995 considered the Perspective Plan for programmes and courses for the period 1995 to 1998. It was stated that the Co-ordination Committee had considered these proposals earlier. The Council also took note of the process of programme approval at various stages which was tabled at the meeting. The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the salient features of both the proposals.

AC 13.3.2 The Academic Council approved the Perspective Plan of programmes and courses for the period 1995-98. The Council also approved the procedures and processes to be followed by IGNOU for programme approval at various stages.

ITEM NO. 4

TO CONSIDER THE FORMULATION OF THE RESEARCH POLICY OF THE UNIVERSITY.

AC 13.4.1

On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (Planning & Development), briefly outlined the salient features of the Research Policy. It was stated that the proposal on Research Policy was considered and approved in principle by the Board of Management and the Planning Board at their meetings held on July 18, 1995 and September 15, 1995. The areas of research would include discipline areas, inter-disciplinary areas and system areas. The Policy envisages M.Phil, Ph.D programmes, Research fellowships, publication of research papers and a management structure to process the research matters. The bodies which manage research activity are: the School Boards, Area Committee, Research Council with the Academic Council at the top laying down the general policy. The Research Council deals with the management of research, allocation of resources, administration of research projects/fellowships, and monitoring of progress and evaluating the performance, etc. The Area Committees will deal with matters relating to administration of inter-disciplinary research programmes. The School Boards deal with single disciplines based research programmes and those involving collaboration with other discipline within the Schools. The Policy provides for Research Fellowship Scheme and provision for publication of research work.

AC 13.4.2

In the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

- (i) The Research Policy was welcomed generally.
- (ii) A view was expressed that the management of the Research Policy may provide for a three tier system; School Board, Research Council and the Academic Council in place of the four-tier system proposed in the Policy paper.
- (iii) It would have been appropriate if wide consultations with teachers were held in the formulation of the Research Policy.
- (iv) There should be provision for collaboration with other institutions and M.Tech Programme be added in addition to M.Phil and Ph.D Programmes.

(v) University should also encourage taking up of sponsored research programmes.

(vi) Lectures should also be recognised as Research Supervisors.

AC 13.4.3 Responding to the discussion, the Vice-Chancellor clarified that:

(i) The Policy does not prohibit discipline based research but thrust areas specified in the policy document would be the areas of specialisation of IGNOU.

(ii) Discussion with Schools will be no bar but organisational management structure provided may be accepted.

(iii) It would be essential to maintain quality and for this purpose identification of check points is necessary so as to maintain quality.

AC 13.4.4 The Academic Council accepted the Research Policy in principle and suggested that a copy of the Policy Statement is sent to every School Board for its comments.

ITEM NO. 5 TO REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRE FOR EXTENSION EDUCATION.

AC 13.5.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that in a University system extension is considered a third-dimension and that IGNOU should also enter this area. IGNOU should liaise with non-governmental organisations and other such similar institutes in developing packages in development. It was also stated that the Centre for Extension Education has recently been established.

AC 13.5.2 The Academic Council noted the setting up of the Centre for Extension Education.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE METHODOLOGY FOR PROCESSING THE RESULT OF DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN NUTRITION & HEALTH EDUCATION AND DIPLOMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION.

AC 13.6.1 On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Shri D.C. Pant, Director (Evaluation) explained in brief the salient features of the proposal. The Academic Council approved the adoption of the methodology proposed in the Agenda Note. While accepting the

proposal, the Council desired that the methodology should not deviate from the guidelines adopted by the DEC for all the open universities in regard to matters of grading, marks, classes, etc.

ITEM NO. 7 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE BENEFIT OF GRACE MARKS IN TERM-END EXAMINATION SCORE.**

AC 13.7.1 Shri D.C. Pant explained the proposal in brief. The Academic Council considered the proposal and decided that:

(1) the University may extend the benefit of grace marks upto 2 percent of the maximum marks prescribed in a term end examination paper in all the programmes where numerical marking has been prescribed (as was done by the Academic Council at its 10th Meeting held on 28 March, 1994);

(2) there will be no moderation of the term-end examination result; and

(3) the decision shall be applicable from June 1995 term-end examination.

AC 13.7.2 While accepting the above proposal it was decided that Advisory Committee of the Student Registration and Evaluation may examine all the issues and submit a report to the Vice-Chancellor based on which the Vice-Chancellor may take a decision in future in regard to awarding grace marks.

ITEM NO. 8 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR AWARDING OF DEGREE/DIPLOMA BEFORE THE ANNUAL CONVOCATION.**

AC 13.8.1 The Academic Council considered the proposal for awarding of degree/diploma before the Annual Convocation. While approving the proposal in principle, the Academic Council suggested that a proposal to amend the appropriate provision in the Ordinances be brought before the Academic Council for its consideration.

ITEM NO. 9 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE COURSE STRUCTURE FOR DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH FOR MEDICAL OFFICERS.**

AC 13.9.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the course structure for the Diploma Programme in

Maternal and Child Health for Medical Officers which is placed at Appendix-1.

ITEM NO.10 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MODIFIED PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND THE COURSE TITLE OF THE DIPLOMA IN PRIMARY EDUCATION.

AC 13.10.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the modified programme structure and the course titles of the Diploma in Primary Education. The programme structure is placed at Appendix-2.

ITEM NO. 11 TO CONSIDER THE SPECIALISATION (MAJOR IN A PARTICULAR DISCIPLINE) OF B.SC. PROGRAMME & THE NATURE OF THE CERTIFICATE (DIPLOMA) TO BE ISSUED.

AC 13.11.1 The Academic Council considered the proposal on Specialisation (Major in a particular discipline) of B.Sc. Programme and the nature of the certificate/diploma to be issued.

AC 13.11.2 After detailed discussion, the following proposals were approved:

- 1) For the first two batches to complete B.Sc. Programme, the major should be awarded to the students if they have completed the sets of courses mentioned in the letter of Feb., 1994.
- 2) For subsequent batches major should be awarded according to the proposal passed in the 11th meeting of the School Board.
- 3) The certificates have been suggested - one for major in a particular discipline and one for B.Sc. Programme Annexure A).
- 4) Since Mathematics courses are offered to students of B.A., B.Com and B.Sc programme, the majoring scheme that will be adopted will be valid for B.A. students also.
- 5) A student who passes B.Sc. general, may be permitted to take additional courses for obtaining major in a particular discipline. On successful completion of these courses he/she may be given the degree certificate indicating the major.

AC 13.11.3 While approving the proposal, it was decided that, taking into account of what is stated above, suitable amendments in the Ordinance may be brought before the Academic Council.

EM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ISSUE OF PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE TO THE STUDENTS OF B.A./B.COM./B.SC. ON QUALIFYING 32/64 CREDITS.

AC.13.12.1 The Academic Council noted the recommendations made by the School Boards with regard to the issue of provisional certificates to the students of B.A., B.Com. and B.Sc. on qualifying 32/64 credits and decided as below:

- 1) A mention may be made in the Grade Card of all the students that they have qualified 1st Year and 2nd Year after qualifying 32/64 credit courses prescribed and opted by the students in the 1st/2nd Year respectively for B.A/B.Com/B.Sc programmes.
- 2) Provisional certificates may be issued to such students on their demand on their having qualified 32/64 credit courses in 1st/2nd year respectively.

ITEM NO. 13 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE COURSE STRUCTURE FOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN GERIATRIC MEDICINE.

AC 13.13.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the course structure for Certificate Programme in Geriatric Medicine which is placed at Appendix-3.

ITEM NO. 14 TO CONSIDER THE EVALUATION METHODOLOGY OF CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN TOURISM.

AC 13.14.1 The Council, after careful consideration, approved the conversion formula of marks percentage range as indicated below:

Marks percentage Range	Grade	Point Grade
80% and above	A - Excellent	5
60% but below 80%	B - Very Good	4
50% but below 60%	C - Good	3
40% but below 50%	D - Satisfactory	2
Below 40%	E - Unsatisfactory	1

Note: The Grade Card may also indicate the division awarded.

AC 13.14.2 While the Academic Council approved the above formula for the present, it was decided that the Advisory Committee of the Student Registration and

Evaluation Division (SRED) may examine the issues involved in depth and bring the matter before the Academic Council for consideration.

- ITEM NO. 15 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN TOURISM STUDIES.
- AC 13.15.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal on Programme Structure for the Bachelor's Degree in Tourism Studies. Details relating to Programme Structure and Courses to be offered and other relevant details are given in Appendix-4.
- ITEM NO. 16 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE LAUNCH OF A BRIDGE COURSE FOR NON 10 + 2 LEARNERS OF THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN FOOD AND NUTRITION (CFN) TO ENABLE THEM TO ENROLL FOR THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN NUTRITION AND HEALTH EDUCATION (DNHE).
- AC 13.16.1 The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained the salient features of the proposal. After some discussion, the Academic Council approved the proposals made in the Agenda Note.
- ITEM NO. 17 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING GTWO PROPOSALS LINKED TO THE COURSES "NUTRITION FOR THE COMMUNITY" AND "ORGANISING CHILD CARE SERVICES":
- a) Proposal for Certification for 8 credit independent packages
- Nutrition for the Community
 - Organising Child Care Services
- b) Proposal for launch of a Certificate Programme in Nutrition and Child Care (16 Credits) consisting of the two courses in combination.
- AC 13.17.1 The proposal was considered. It was noted that the students opting for the above courses as independent packages (non-credit) have repeatedly requested for certification. Arrangement for providing counselling, processing assignments and permission for appearing for the term-end examination is frequently requested. Since, these courses are of general interest and have potential for job as well as self-employment, the Academic Council accepted the proposals that these courses be offered with the following options:
- a) Students may enrol for either of the two courses and the University may award a Certificate of Completion to all those who

successfully complete a course (i.e. Certification of 8 credits).

- b) Students may enrol for both the courses and on completion accumulate 16 credits, in which case the university may award a Certificate in Nutrition and Child Care to all candidates who successfully complete the programme.

ITEM NO. 18 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL REGARDINGG THE TRANSLATION OF CERTIFICATE IN GUIDANCE COURSE MATERIALS INTO TWO INDIAN LANGUAGES, NAMELY, ASSAMESE AND MARATHI.

AC 13.18.1 The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal.

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



(R.G. TAKWALE)
VICE-CHANCELLOR