

**UNIVERSITYGRANTS COMMISSION  
BAHADURSHAH ZAFAR MARG  
NEW DELHI-110 002**

Minutes of the 434<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2007.

The following were present:-

- |                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat           | Chairman         |
| 2. Prof. Mool Chand Sharma         | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Prof. Suranjan Das              | Member           |
| 4. Prof. K. Ramamurthy Naidu       | Member           |
| 5. Dr. Shivajirao Shripatrao Kadam | Member           |
| 6. Dr. (Mrs.) Shashi Rai           | Member           |
| 7. Prof. Xavier Alphonse, S.J.     | Member           |
| 8. Prof. Jalees Ahmed Khan Tareen  | Member           |
| 9. Prof. D. Singh Chauhan          | Member           |

Shri R.P. Aggarwal, Dr. Sanjeev Mishra and Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar could not attend the meeting. Leave of absence was granted to them.

Shri K.M. Acharya, Additional Secretary and Shri S.K. Ray, Financial Advisor, Ministry of Human Resource Development attended the meeting as special invitees.

Following officers of the UGC also attended the meeting:

**Secretary**

Dr. Tilak R. Kem

**Additional Secretary**

Dr. R.K. Chauhan

**Joint Secretary**

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal

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### SECTION-1

- 1.01(a): To receive the minutes of the meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2006.

*The minutes of the 433<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 27.12.2006 were examined and confirmed.*

- 1.01(b): To receive the action taken on the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2006.

*There was no item. It will be placed in the next meeting of the Commission.*

- 1.02(a): To ratify the action taken on certain matters.

*There was no item.*

- 1.02(b): To receive the items of information.

*There was no item.*

- 1.03: To receive the position of funds of UGC and Related Issues.

*There was no item.*

### SECTION-2

#### (MATTERS RELATING TO STANDARDS)

*There was no item in this Section.*

### SECTION-3

#### (REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)

*There was no item in this Section.*

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## SECTION-4

(SPECIAL PROGRAMMES, QUALITY PROGRAMMES ETC.)

*There was no item in this Section.*

## SECTION-5

(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

5.01: To consider the draft report of the UGC XI Five Year Plan.

*The Chairman, UGC gave a brief outline of the UGC's approach towards XI Plan. He mentioned briefly about the goals and objectives of the higher education, current scenario, emerging issues & challenges and policies & programmes recommended for the XI Plan alongwith projected financial outlay.*

*The members deliberated at length on the various issues involved. The views expressed by the members are summarized below:-*

*Professor Suranjan Das, Member, UGC*

- 1. He congratulated the Chairman and his team for producing XI Plan document with a strong data base which helps to evolve plan policies based on the facts and figures.*
- 2. He was of the opinion that UGC should give more emphasis on the funding of State Universities and Colleges. He mentioned that most of the State Governments are giving 100% maintenance grant to the State Universities and Colleges, however, when it comes to plan grants, the funding is dismally low. He was of the view that UGC should develop state-wise plan for giving plan funds to Universities and Colleges in the states since the policy of plan funding by State Government varies from State to State.*

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3. *He was of the view that giving too much emphasis on the market signals while deciding career orientation courses may go against the very philosophy of education. The need of the social scientists shall be kept in mind while formulating policies with regard to career orientation.*
4. *He was of the view that implementation of scheme of career orientated courses is difficult to administer in large universities where there is a tendency to give full autonomy to the colleges with regard to implementations of the scheme of career orientation courses. The XI Plan should give a proper Governance mechanism for implementing the scheme.*
5. *The importance of granting autonomy to the departments can not be denied but the universities should also be given full autonomy with regard to flexibility to implement the UGC's schemes.*
6. *There is a lot of dichotomy between State Universities and Central Universities wherein most of the benefits like getting staff positions are taken by the Central Universities whereas State Universities can not make use of these benefits due to constaint of concurrence from the State Government. The UGC should fund State Universities for staff positions on plan to plan basis.*
7. *The XI Plan document is relying too much on the NAAC score whereas the NAAC process itself is under study. We should wait for the NAAC review report before relying too much on NAAC rating. In addition, NAAC rating should be made mandatory for all Universities and Colleges. He also mentioned that the Government of West Bengal is coming out with its own procedure of accreditation in near future.*

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8. *He emphasized on the need for having central legislation for the entry and operation of private and foreign education providers in India.*
9. *He also cautioned that there should be clearly demarked short term and long term objectives for ensuring inclusive growth.*

*Prof.K.Ramamurthy Naidu, Member, UGC*

1. *As per the past experience, it has been noticed that out of the UGC Plan budget, 80% goes to Central Universities and only 10% is allocated to State Universities. There is an urgent need to change this trend.*
2. *A percentage of grant required for appointment of staff in State Universities should come from the Central Government.*
3. *Efforts should be made to explore the possibility of converting College with Potential and Excellence and Autonomous Colleges in degree awarding institutions by conferring the status of deemed to be universities.*
4. *Private and self-financing colleges should also be funded by the UGC, for faculty development programmes.*

*Prof. (Dr.) Jalees Ahmed Khan Tareen, Member, UGC*

1. *Every plan document must have a theme. Therefore, a clearly defined theme should be indicated for the XI Plan document of the UGC. This should be followed by the strategies to achieve the targets in keeping with the theme based on which policies and programmes should be formulated.*

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2. *There is a strong need to strengthen science education which has also been expressed by none other than Hon'ble Prime Minister a number of times. The XI Plan document should lay emphasis on this issue.*
3. *National networking of the Universities is required. He stated that only 10% capacity of EDUSAT is being utilized at present. The UGC can adopt strategy to make use of EDUSAT for Universities & Colleges.*
4. *Sports and Physical Education is left out in the XI Plan document which should be covered.*
5. *Although there is a lot of data on minorities in the document, no specific scheme has been laid down for them. The minorities have been mixed up with SC/ST/OBC/Poor etc. which is diluting the very purpose of framing a specific scheme for minorities. He emphasized that the recommendations of the Committee on minorities education should be kept in mind while framing policies and programmes for minorities.*

*Dr. (Mrs.) Shashi Rai, Member, UGC*

1. *There is a clear mandate required for recruitment of teachers to discourage contractual appointments and to encourage appointment of permanent teachers.*
2. *State Governments are neglecting higher education. State Governments should be impressed upon to ear-mark more funding for higher education.*

*Prof. (Dr.) Xavier Alphonse S.J., Member, UGC*

1. *He was of the view that although community colleges find a mention in the XI Plan document, no budget has been allocated for funding the scheme of community colleges. He wanted to have a detailed discussion on community colleges. The Commission agreed to appoint a committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Xavier Alphonse S.J. to discuss the concept and methodology for establishment and funding of community colleges. The Chairman, UGC was authorized to nominate other members of the Committee.*

*Shri S. K. Ray, F.A., M/HRD*

1. *He was of the view that the primary responsibility of the Central Government is of Central Universities and of State Governments is State Universities. UGC only supplements the grant to State Universities and Colleges for quality programme by giving additional funding to State Universities and Colleges. The State Government should not abdicate their responsibility of funding the universities and colleges. Rather UGC should create more pressure on the State Governments to fund State Universities and Colleges.*

*Dr. K.M. Acharya, Addl. Secretary, M/HRD*

1. *Shri Acharya complimented the Chairman and his team for the excellent document, which is fully supported with extensive data on various issues confronting higher education today.*
2. *He mentioned that the document contains invaluable data which can be published as a separate compendium for the use of academia.*

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3. *The document contains two gaps with regard to disadvantaged sections of the society which have not been addressed to:*
  - a. *People living in tribal and scheduled areas which are different from ST population have specific problems which needs to be addressed.*
  - b. *The document does not lay emphasis on inclusive policy for disabled population.*
4. *The document does not provide specific target for XI Plan. There is a need to separately articulate the goals and targets for the XI Plan. For example, if the general goal is to increase the GER by the 5% the document should indicate the extent to which gap in GER would be bridged for different categories of disadvantaged sections.*
5. *After the heading “Goals and Targets”, a section should come on “Strategy” which should give the approach of the UGC towards XI Plan, out of which the schemes and programmes should be emanate.*
6. *The present document lists 102 schemes which is too large a number. The number of schemes should be reduced and clubbed and there should not be more than 20 large comprehensive schemes during the XI Plan which are easier to implement and monitor.*
7. *The schemes should be restructured to avoid duplication. For example, we can have broad schemes like “Assistance based on disadvantage” or “Assistance based on merit” etc.*

8. *For estimating the finances required during XI Plan, we should draw force from the recommendations of sub-committee of CAGE Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof.Mungekar which has indicated that 1% of GDP should be allocated to higher education, 0.5% to technical education, 1.5% to secondary education and 3% to elementary education.*
9. *The XI<sup>th</sup> plan document should set the target of financial requirement in term of ratio of public expenditure to GDP.*
10. *Physical Education and Sports are neglected in the document which needs to be strengthened.*
11. *The value education needs to be given more emphasis in the XI Plan document.*
12. *We are producing unemployed graduates in the field of higher education as well as professional education. The greater emphasis should be given to this area and 20-30 new courses shall be identified by UGC which have a higher potential for employment.*
13. *The document indicates 3 sources of data and there is wide variation between the estimates based on these 3 sources. Since variation in data has a direct implication on planning process, UGC should take a specific exercise during XI Plan to collect hard data and give a sound data base on higher education to the country.*
14. *The document should also address the role of central government, State Government and private sector in the field of higher education.*

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15. *Higher Education should be more accountable to the present stake holders as well as potential stake holders i.e. parents and students of disadvantaged sections of the society.*
16. *The document should also indicate the interventions required to enhance quality through various methodologies which do not have financial implications.*
17. *For opening new IUCs, a transparented exhaustive policy should be adopted indicating policy parameters on the basis on which a new IUC should be established. For example, there is an urgent need to have an IUC in Indian languages which should be addressed to.*
18. *The discipline of education per se is not receiving much attention. There is a need to create centres of excellence in the discipline of education to look into this discipline in totality.*

*The Chairman, UGC was authorized to make revised draft based on the comments received from the members. The revised draft may be circulated to the members through e-mail.*

5.02: To consider the compliance report of the observations made by the Expert Committee which visited Ganpat University 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2005 for its inclusion of under Section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956.

*The Commission examined the report of the inspection committee as well as the compliance report on the observation of the Expert Committee which visited Ganpat University and decided that the University may be included in the list of Universities under Section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956.*

*Action: JS(CPP-I)*

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## SECTION-6 (MISCELLANEOUS)

6.01: To consider certain establishment matters of the University Grants Commission.

*Recorded Separately.*

6.02: To receive the status notes on UGC Programmes/Scheme.

*There was no item.*

6.03: To note the date and place of the next meeting of the Commission.

*The next meeting of the Commission will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 at UGC Headquarters, New Delhi.*

*Action: JS(Meeting)*

**(TILAK R. KEM)**  
Secretary

**(SUKHADEO THORAT)**  
Chairman