

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADURSHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI-110 002**

**MINUTES OF THE 539TH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY, 2019.**

The 539th Meeting of the Commission was held on 26th February, 2019 in which the following were present:

1. Prof. Dharendra Pal Singh	Chairman
2. Dr. Bhushan Keshav Patwardhan	Vice Chairman
3. Shri R. Subrahmanyam	Member
4. Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar	Member
5. Dr. G. Gopal Reddy	Member
6. Prof. (Ms.) Sushma Yadav	Member
7. Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari	Member
8. Dr. Uma Chandrashekhar Vaidya,	Member
9. Dr. Kiran Hazarika	Member

Shri Pramod Kumar Das and Prof. (Dr.) Ramesh Chander Kuhad could not attend the Meeting due to their pre-occupations and were granted leave of absence. However, Shri Thanglemlian, Director, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance attended the Meeting in place of Shri Pramod Kumar Das.

The following officer of the UGC also attended the meeting.

Secretary

Prof. Rajnish Jain

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SECTION-1

- 1.01(a)** To confirm the minutes of the 538th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 29th January, 2019.

The Minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

- 1.01(b)** To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 538th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 29th January, 2019.

Noted.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

- 1.02** a) To ratify the action taken on certain matter.

- (i) To report the recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the Commission in its 497th meeting held on 10.01.2014 with regard to approval of institutions under Sections 2(f), 12 (B) and compliance under Section 13 of the UGC Act, 1956.

Ratified.

[Action: JS(CPP-I/PU)]

- (ii) To consider and ratify the decisions of the Standing Committee on Autonomous Colleges for grant of fresh/extension of autonomous status to colleges.

Ratified.

The Commission further resolved that for all such 79 Colleges which are covered for consideration of Autonomous Status without visit a Workshop may be conducted to sensitize them to apply for Autonomous Status.

[Action: JS(AC)]

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- (iii) To report the budget allocated by CARE-Empowered Committee for UGC Cell for Journal analysis, SPPU, Pune and CARE-Universities

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(DU)]

- (iv) To report action taken by UGC on certain issues related to ODL Education/Programmes

The Commission noted the following actions:

1. Appeal Process –

(a) Recommendations of the SAC

(b) University of Mysore

(c) Reversal of earlier Commission decisions

Noted.

2. Grants Allocation

Point No.1: Settlement of Accounts of the grants released by 31.03.2019.

Point No.2: Inviting proposals from eligible SOUs for 2019-20 by 15.04.2019.

Point No.3: Funds from the Ministry of HRD for SOUs.

Point No. 1, 2 & 3 : Noted. The Commission decided that UGC shall write to the MHRD to release the grants in the Head “Assistance to SOUs” directly to UGC instead of funds being released through IGNOU.

3. Reply to the queries related to validity of degrees

The Commission noted the following reply given on regular basis, as applicable, by the UGC based on the approval of the Competent Authority:

“Admission taken in the approved Open and Distance Learning (ODL) program during the recognition period stands recognized till the completion of course even if the University does not have

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recognition for further years provided the programme is offered as per the UGC norms of territorial jurisdiction and in conformity with the extant guidelines and/or UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and Regulations of respective Regulatory Bodies.”

4. Working Group – Request from JS(DL), MHRD to excuse him from the Membership of the DEB Working Group.

The Commission accepted the request from JS(DL), MHRD, New Delhi that he may be excused from the Membership of the DEB Working Group constituted by the Commission. The Commission decided that in his place, an ODL Expert can be nominated as member by the Vice Chairman, UGC and Chairman of the DEB Working Group.

In addition to the Reporting Items, issue related to misplacing of Appeal alongwith fee of Yashwant Rao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU), Nasik was discussed. The Commission was briefed that YCMOU had forwarded Appeal for 24 programmes, alongwith DD dated 23.10.2018 for Rs. 2,40,000/-, in the month of October, 2018. However, YCMOU was not invited in any of the Appellate meetings as the said Appeal alongwith original DD has not been received in the DEB Office. Based on the telephonic calls and personal visit of YCMOU authorities and the “Speed Post Tracking Record”, it has been observed that the said Appeal was, in fact, received in the UGC Head Office on October 29, 2018 and R&I Section of UGC Head Office had forwarded this to DEB on 01.11.2018. But the fact remains that Appeal alongwith fee has not been received in the DEB Office. Based on discussion with the YCMOU authorities, it was also informed to the Commission that YCMOU has made the admissions in the “not recognised programmes”. After detailed deliberations, the Commission decided the following:

- (i) *As the Appeal alongwith fee was submitted by the YCMOU within the cut-off date which got misplaced in UGC; as such, there is no fault of YCMOU and an opportunity of Appeal process should be provided to it.*

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YCMOU shall submit prescribed fee alongwith Appeal immediately. Due to the genuine reasons, the Commission decided that for YCMOU only, the Appeal process should be completed at the earliest and decision with the approval of the Chairman, UGC shall be communicated/uploaded on UGC Website by 11th March, 2019 with admission cut-off date of 18th March, 2019 for the academic session that has begun in January, 2019. For all other HEIs, the last date of admission for the academic session begun in January, 2019 shall remain 28th February, 2019.

- (ii) Show Cause Notice should be issued to YCMOU to explain why admissions have been made in the “not recognized programmes” and based on the reply, necessary action including punitive ones, as per the provisions of the Regulations, shall be taken with the approval of the Chairman, UGC. The same shall also be reported to the Commission.*
- (iii) The Commission decided that a strong mechanism at DEB Office shall be put into place that all the recognized HEIs are monitored on continuance basis; semester after semester; to ensure compliance to the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its Amendments and take punitive actions, in case of any violations, as per provisions of the Regulations. The Commission directed that this issue should be discussed in DEB Working Group and based on its recommendations, necessary action should be taken with the approval of the Chairman, UGC and later on reported to the Commission.*

[Action: JS(DEB)]

- (v) To report the recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the Commission in its 497th meeting held on 10.01.2014 with regard to approval of institutions under Sections 2(f), 12 (B) and compliance under Section 13 of the UGC Act, 1956.

Noted and approved.

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

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1.02 (b) To receive the items for information. **(No item)**

1.03 To receive the position of funds of UGC and related issues. **(No item)**

SECTION-2 (MATTERS RELATING TO STANDARDS)

2.01 To consider the advice of UGC to the Ministry of HRD on the extension of status of Deemed to be University to various Institutions – Reference Ministry of HRD letter No. F. 9-2/2002-U.3(Pt.1) dated 21.01.2019.

The commission Considered the compliance submitted by the Deemed to be Universities and resolved as under:

- (i) Recommended the extension of Deemed to be University status in respect of those Institutions which have complied with the conditions stipulated in the MHRD notification.**
- (ii) The MHRD may consider extension of Deemed to be University status in respect of those Institutions which have partially complied with the conditions stipulated in the MHRD notification, subject to condition that these Institutions submit full compliance.**
- (iii) Seek compliance from those Deemed to be Universities which have not yet submitted compliance in respect of the conditions stipulated in the MHRD notification.**

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.02 To consider revision of scholarships/fellowships under various schemes implemented by UGC.

The Commission considered and approved the revisions of Fellowships w.e.f. 01.01.2019 as under:

	Name of Fellowship	Existing Fellowship (Rs. per month)	Revised Fellowship (Rs. per month)	Remarks
1.	JRF and SRF in Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (NET)	25,000/- 28,000/-	31,000/- 35,000/-	Rate of revised fellowship and guidelines will be applicable as per MHRD notification.

For the following fellowships, which are funded by other Ministries, it was decided to refer the matter of revision of fellowship for concurrence to the respective Ministries.

	Name of the Doctoral Fellowship	Funding Ministry	Existing Fellowship (Rs. per month)	Revised Fellowship (Rs. per month)
1	Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority students	Ministry of Minority Affairs	25,000/- for initial two years (JRF)	31,000/- for initial two years (JRF)
2	National Fellowship for SC students	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	28,000/- for remaining tenure (SRF)	35,000/- for remaining tenure (SRF)
3	National Fellowship for students with Disabilities			
4	National Fellowship for OBC students			
			Maximum Period of fellowship- Five years	Maximum Period of fellowship- Five years

For other scholarships/fellowships of UGC, the matter be referred to 'Fellowships Rationalization Committee'.

[Action: JS(SA)]

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- 2.03 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS), (Deemed to be University), Vasant Kunj, New Delhi to review its functioning as required under the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016.

The Commission Considered the report of the UGC Expert Committee and resolved to recommend to MHRD for continuation of status of Deemed to be University to Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences (ILBS), (Deemed to be University), Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The suggestions by the visiting Expert Committee, if any, will be addressed by the Deemed to be University within a period of 6 months and the compliance report would be submitted alongwith documentary proof to UGC.

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

- 2.04 To consider framework for Teacher Induction Programme (TIP)

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(DU/ARC)]

- 2.05 To consider the revised guidelines for Human Resource Development Centres (HRDCs)

The revised guidelines for Human Resource Development Centres (HRDCs) were considered and approved by the Commission, except for the appointments on the posts of the Academic Staff i.e. Director cum Professor, Deputy Director cum Associate Professor, Assistant Director cum Assistant Professor etc. alongwith issues related to their service conditions. It was decided that the guidelines for these positions may be issued separately.

[Action: JS(HRDC)]

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2.06 To consider creation of teaching positions in Central Universities.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(CU)]

2.07 To consider the recommendation of the Committee examining the proposals of Centrally funded Deemed to be Universities for creation of new teaching positions

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(DU)]

2.08 To consider and approve renaming along with minor revisions in the UGC Quality Mandate.

Considered and approved.

[Action: (AS-II)]

2.09 To consider Legal opinion given by Sh. Vikramjit Banerjee, Additional Solicitor General of India regarding affiliation granted by Smt. Nathibal Damodar Thackersey Women's University (State University) Mumbai to Satyam Fashion Institute, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh and similar other institutes.

Deferred.

[Action: JS(CPP-I/PU)]

SECTION-3

(REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)

3.01 To consider a reference received from Rajya Sabha Secretariat regarding the issue of salary and perquisites to the teachers who are elected/nominated as Members of Parliament.

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The Commission agreed with the recommendations of the Committee and approved as follows:

1. “As per UGC Circular of 1987 and as stated in the Programme of Action of National Policy on Education, the teachers who wish to take the leave of absence during their term as Members of the Parliament/State Legislature may be allowed to do so while ensuring that they do not lose their seniority or increments in the process. In this case they will draw their salary from the Parliament/State Legislature Secretariat.
2. The teachers who wish to continue teaching in the university departments/colleges after being elected/nominated as Members of Parliament/State Legislation, may be allowed to continue with the teaching and research work in the universities/colleges with the provision that they may be treated as “on duty” when the Parliament/State Legislature is in session for attending the session and when such teachers undertake any other Parliamentary/State Legislative assignments. To ensure that the teaching work does not suffer, the university may consider assigning appropriate work load to such teachers. However, such teachers should not hold any administrative positions/responsibilities in the university/college during the period they are Members of Parliament/State Legislature.

Such teachers may draw their salary from the concerned university/college. However, the admissible allowances may be drawn from the Parliament/State Legislature Secretariat.

The Commission further recommended that the issue relating to holding of Office of Profit by the Members of the Parliament/State Legislature may be looked into by the respective Secretariat.”

[Action: (AS-I)]

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SECTION-4

(SPECIAL PROGRAMMES, QUALITY PROGRAMMES ETC)

- 4.01** To consider the proposal of INFLIBNET for Development and Management of e-Governance Project of UGC.

Considered and approved.

[Action: AS-I]

- 4.02** To consider draft National Curriculum Framework Guidelines on Fostering Social Responsibility & Community Engagement in Higher Education Institution in India under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA 2.0).

Considered and approved.

[Action: AS-I]

- 4.03** To consider the recommendations of the Search Committee regarding the appointment of Director, Inter University Centre for Yogic Sciences, Bengaluru

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS (IUC)]

SECTION-5

(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

There is no item in this section.

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SECTION-6 (MISCELLANEOUS)

6.01 To consider certain establishment matters of UGC

Recorded Separately.

(Prof. Rajnish Jain)
Secretary

(Prof. Dharendra Pal Singh)
Chairman