
The 506th Meeting of the Commission was held on 3rd February, 2015 in which the following were present:

1. Prof. Ved Prakash Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj Vice Chairman
3. Sh. Satya N. Mohanty Member
4. Prof. V.S. Chauhan Member
5. Prof. D. Narasimha Reddy Member
6. Prof. M.M. Ansari Member
7. Prof. Sanjay Govind Dhande Member
8. Prof. Mohammad Miyan Member
9. Dr. K.N. Shanti Member
10. Prof. Inder Mohan Kapahy Member

Mr. Patanjali (Patu) G. Keswani could not attend the meeting due to his pre-occupation and was granted leave of absence.

The following officers also attended the meeting.

Shri A.N. Jha, Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Prof. (Dr.) Jaspal Singh Sandhu, Secretary, UGC

At the outset, the Chairman, UGC extended New Year greetings to the Members. He further welcomed, the newly appointed Members, Prof. Inder Mohan Kapahy, Shri A.N. Jha. He also welcomed Prof. V.S. Chauhan, on his being renominated to the UGC for a second term. The Chairman expressed hope that their contributions as Members will further strengthen the Commission in its transactions.
SECTION-1

1.01(a) To confirm the minutes of the 505th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 22nd December, 2014.

Before confirming the Minutes, the Commission was apprised that the National Innovation Scholarships which were to be introduced by the Universities have been kept in abeyance. It also noted that the UGC, on the advice of the MHRD, had given Rs.300 crore to AICTE, of which some of the funds have been disbursed to certain universities / institutes and the AICTE would be requested to refund the unspent balance of this amount so given along with the interest.

[Action : JS (Admn.) ]

1.01(b) To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 505th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 22nd December, 2014.

Noted and Approved.

[Action : JS (Admn.) ]

1.02(a) To ratify the action taken on certain matter
(i) To report the inclusion of 49 Colleges (as approved by the Chairman, UGC) under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 between 01.12.2014 to 31.12.2014 as per authorization given by the Commission at its meeting held on 24.08.2011

Noted and Approved.

[Action : DS (CPP-I) ]
(ii) To report the recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the Commission in its 479th 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: DS (CPP-I) ]

(iii) To report the matter regarding Separate Audit Report (SAR) on Annual Accounts of UGC for the year 2013-14.

Noted and Approved.  

[Action: JS (Finance) ]

1.02 (b) To receive the items of information (no item)

1.03 To consider the University Grants Commission’s Annual Report for the year 2013-14 (English & Hindi) for placing before the Parliament through MHRD.

Considered and Approved.  

[Action: JS (Annual Report) ]

SECTION–2
(MATTERS RELATING TO STANDARDS)

2.01 To consider the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Specification of Degrees to be notified as the First Amendment in UGC Notification dated 5th July, 2014.

Considered and Approved.  

[Action: JS (CPP-II) ]
2.02 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee constituted by the Commission to physically inspect 7 Institutions Deemed to be Universities which had filed Interlocutory Applications before Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Commission examined the Reports of the UGC Expert Committee and observed number of deficiencies in these Institutions Deemed to be Universities inspected by the Committee. The Commission also noted the observations of Joint Secretary (Higher Education), MHRD. The Commission noted that despite the lapse of several years these institutions have not yet rectified their shortcomings. The Commission after due deliberations resolved that the Reports of the Expert Committee should be examined by the Bureau in order to identify the major deficiencies which shall subsequently be communicated to the MHRD, seven Institutions Deemed to be Universities and also to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

After detailed deliberations, the Commission decided to give them the final opportunity to rectify their deficiencies within a maximum period of one year and submit the compliance report to the UGC within this period, failing which recommendation will be made to the MHRD for denotification of Deemed to be University status.

[Action: DS (CPP-I)]

2.03 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya (Deemed to be University), Haridwar, Uttarakhand for physical inspection on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Considered and Approved that the Report of Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar be sent to the MHRD and to the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India.

[Action: DS (CPP-I)]

2.04 To consider UGC (Furnishing of Information by Universities) Regulations, 2015.

Considered and Approved.

[Action: JS (CPP-II)]
2.05 To consider the Guidelines for ensuring Safety of Students on Excursion / Study Tours.

Considered and Approved.

[Action: JS (CPP-II)]

SECTION-3
(REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)
(There was no item in this section)

SECTION-4
(SPECIAL PROGRAMMES, QUALITY PROGRAMMES ETC)

4.01 To consider and approve the Cadre Recruitment Rules of NAAC.

Considered and Approved.

[Action: JS (IUC)]

4.02 To approve the transfer and release of Rs 20 crores to INFLIBNET (an IUC of UGC) on the recommendations of the Standing Committee constituted for the Production of e-Content Courseware on PG Subjects.

Considered and Approved.

[Action: JS (E-content)]

4.03 To consider (i) recommendations of the Standing Committees on UPE and (ii) recommendations of the Expert Committee which visited University of Hyderabad on 13th – 15th January, 2015.

Considered and Approved and also decided to set up a sub-committee to decide on parameters and guidelines for conferment of Potential for Excellence Status for Deemed to be Universities.

[Action: JS (UPE)]
4.04 To consider the recommendations of the NET review Committee.

The Commission decided to continue with the existing pattern of NET, however, a sub-committee may be constituted to look into the feasibility of the recommendations of the Committee.

[Action: JS (NET)]

4.05 To consider the UGC (Gender Sensitization, Prevention and Prohibition of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students and Redressal of Grievances in Higher Educational Institutions) regulations, 2015

Considered and Approved.

[Action: DS(TFGS)]

4.06 To consider the guidelines for empanelment of Adjunct Faculty in universities and colleges.

Considered and Approved.

[Action: JS (NSQF)]

4.07 To consider the matter regarding shifting of host institution of Educational Multi-Media Research Centre (EMMRC), Bhubaneswar from NISWASS to the Central University of Orissa or any other institution which is eligible to receive UGC’s grants.

While taking the serious view of the procedure followed in issuing earlier grants and setting up of EMMRC at NISWASS, the Commission reiterated its earlier decision taken in its meeting held on 11th March, 2013 wherein the Commission had resolved:

“that the NIWASS be asked to submit the Utilization Certificates of the grants already given to it and that no further grant of any kind be given to NISWASS”.

In addition, the Commission also took cognizance of the two Enquiry Committees which were set up to enquire into the irregularities of the Institute, one headed by Shri S. Sathyam, IAS (Retd.) former Secretary, Government of India, set up by the UGC in August, 2012 and the another one headed by Shri M. Gopalakrishnan, IAS (Retd.) set up by the MHRD in November, 2013 for examining the irregularities committed by the Institute.

Having regard to the above, the Commission decided that the EMMRC in NISWASS be closed down with immediate effect and assets so acquired there be taken over by the Central University of Orissa.

[Action: JS (IUC) ]

SECTION-5
(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

5.01 To consider the revised pattern of assistance for release of grant for Construction of Women’s Hostel for Central, State and Deemed Universities during the XII Plan Period.

It was decided to release 40% as the first installment followed by 40% as second installment and 20% as the final installment.

[Action: DS (SU) ]

SECTION–6
(MISCELLNEOUS)

6.01 To consider certain establishment matter of University Grants Commission

Recorded separately.

(JASPAL SINGH SANDHU) (VED PRAKASH)
SECRETARY CHAIRMAN