MINUTES OF THE 536TH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER, 2018.

The 536th Meeting of the Commission was held on 14th November, 2018 in which the following were present:

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

Shri Pramod Kumar Das, member could not attend the Meeting due to his pre-occupation and was granted leave of absence.

The following officer of the UGC also attended the meeting.

Secretary

Prof. Rajnish Jain
SECTION-1

1.01(a) To confirm the minutes of the 535th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 27th September, 2018.

The minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.])

1.01(b) To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 535th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 27th September, 2018.

Noted

[Action: JS(Admn.])

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

(i) To report the inclusion of 130 Colleges (as approved by the Chairman, UGC) under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 between 01.07.2018 to 30.09.2018 as per authorization given by the Commission at its meeting held on 24.08.2011.

Ratified

Further, it was resolved that under the scheme:

(i) The time of processing of the application for the inclusion of the colleges under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the Act, 1956 be reduced by adopting the online process.

(ii) Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) shall put all the details on their websites before applying for 12(B) status.
(iii) The Commission resolved that the UGC Regulation for the inclusion of colleges under section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 be revised.

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

(ii) To report the review status of Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA), Deemed to be University, Titumalai Samudram, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu as required in the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016

Ratified

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

(iii) 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 decided that comments on the report of Expert Committee be invited from the following colleges for the:

(a) Grant of Autonomous Status to (i) Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu affiliated to Anna University, Chennai and (ii) PES College of Science, Arts & Commerce, Mandya, Karnataka affiliated to University of Mysore, Mysore, and

(b) Extension of Autonomous Status of Institute of Advanced Study in Education, Saidapet, Chennai, Tamilnadu affiliated to Tamilnadu Teachers’ Education University, Karapakkam, Chennai.

[Action: JS(AC)]

(iv) 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)]

(v) 1. To report action taken by UGC based on Commission’s decision regarding programmes to be offered through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode from 2018-19 and onwards.

2. To report additional actions taken after the Commission’s decision.

3. To report policy decisions taken related to recognition of ODL programmes.

1. The Commission considered and ratified the decisions communicated with regard to the following with the approval of the Competent Authority, UGC:

(i) Four Deemed to be Universities (JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Karnataka; Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra; Jain Vishwa Bharati Institute, Ladnun and Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Mumbai)

(ii) North Orissa University

(iii) MBA programmes found deficient in Jain University and Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra.

(iv) Merging of MBAs in respect of University of Madras

(v) Recognition of BA and 13 MA programmes to L.N. Mithila University.

(vi) Not mentioning four programmes in the ‘not recognised’ programmes list in case of YMCA.

(vii) To put recognition on hold for programmes of technical nature in cases of Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (5
programmes) and Tamil Nadu Open University (one programme) and decision to conduct the visit of the Expert Committees to examine the appropriateness and adequacy of the lab facilities to take further necessary action in the matter.

2. The Commission noted the Government decision based on Justice Narasimha Reddy Committee recommendations for compliance by the UGC.

3. The Commission noted the status of actions taken on fresh applications based on the UGC (ODL) 3rd Amendment Regulations, 2018.

4. The Commission deliberated on the approach to be followed in case of Category-I Higher Educational Institutions shown willingness to start ODL programmes as per UGC (Categorisation of Universities (Only) for grant of Graded Autonomy) Regulations, 2018 and decided that Category-I HEIs shall not be visited by the Expert Committees. However, all the Category-I HEIs shall be invited for an Interface Meeting with the duly constituted Expert Committee by the Competent Authority to ensure compliance to the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments.

5. Considering the fact that UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments are being implemented for the first time, teething issues in understanding and implementing various provisions and to ensure effective implementation, the Commission decided that a Working Group shall be constituted. The Working Group will also make recommendations on the teething issues related to effective implementation of UGC (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018. The composition of the Working Group shall be as follows:

   Chairman : Vice Chairman, UGC
   Members :
   1. Vice Chancellor, IGNOU
   2. Vice Chancellor, Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad(Telangana)
   3. Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai, Mumbai.
   4. Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), MHRD, GoI
   Member Coordinator : JS(DEB), UGC.
The terms of reference of the Working Group will broadly include (a) The matters relating to effective implementation of UGC’s ‘Open and Distance Learning’ and ‘Online’ Regulations (b) matters relating to quality assurance in ODL and Online Education systems in HEIs and (c) Any other relevant matter.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

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 issue of extension of gap period between M. Phil and Ph.D. to maximum of three years.

Deferred

The Commission decided that this issue be referred to the Expert Committee for Review of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degrees) Regulation,2016.

[Action: JS(SA)]

2.02 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) (Deemed to be University), 17-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi to review its functioning as required under the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]
2.03 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Vignan’s Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (Deemed to be University), Vadlamudi, Guntur Dist. – 522213, Andhra Pradesh during 27-29th September, 2018 to review its functioning as required under the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.04 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee constituted to assess the proposal submitted by Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) for inclusion of Raja Rajeswari Medical College and Hospital, Bengaluru under its ambit.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.05 To consider the matter regarding admissibility of non-compounded advance increments for possessing Ph.D. Degree and benefit of number of years required for promotion under CAS to candidates enrolled / registered / completed Ph.D. degree before 11th July, 2009 under UGC Regulations, 2010 and its 4th amendment 2016.

Considered and approved

[Action: AS-I]

2.06 To revisit UGC (Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012.

Considered and approved

[Action: AS-I]
2.07 To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee constituted to assess the proposal submitted by Manav Rachna International Institute of Research Studies (Deemed to be University), Faridabad (Haryana) for inclusion of Manav Rachna Dental College, Faridabad (Haryana) under its ambit

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.08 To consider the Categorization of JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, (Deemed to be University), Mysore (Karnataka) under Category –I of the University Grants Commission [Categorization of Universities (only) for Grant of Graded Autonomy] Regulations, 2018.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.09 To consider the Categorization of Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation (Deemed to be University), Green Fields, Vaddeswaram, Guntur District – 522502, Andhra Pradesh under Category–I of the University Grants Commission [Categorization of Universities (only) for Grant of Graded Autonomy] Regulations, 2018.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]
2.10 To consider draft UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2018.

The Commission, after indepth discussions, decided that the draft Regulations be finalized keeping in view the suggestions of the members and the legal opinion and authorized the Chairman for its approval.

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.11 To consider the matter regarding granting of fresh autonomous status to the


Considered and approved

[Action: JS(AC)]

SECTION-3
(REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)

(There was no item)
4.01 To consider the review of UGC list of Approved Journals.

Considered and approved the constitution of the CARE (Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics) for preparation of a new list of credible quality journals for disciplines such as Social Sciences, Humanities Languages, Arts, Culture, Indian knowledge system etc.

The CARE should involve relevant Statutory Councils/Academic Bodies. It will prepare and maintain lists of quality journals in various disciplines within a defined time-frame with the help of INFLIBNET and entrusted institutions to analyze journals suggested by the CARE members. It was also proposed to issue advisories to create awareness amongst the students, academia and other stakeholders about the issue of predatory/sub-standard journals.

[Action: JS(DU/ARC)]

4.02 Mentoring of Non Accredited Institutions by a well performing Institution (PARAMARSH).

Considered and approved the scheme of PARAMARSH. However, the scheme guidelines be modified suitably in the light of the suggestions of the Members. The Commission authorised the Chairman, UGC to approve the modified guidelines.

[Action: JS(IC)]
To consider the administrative matter related to NAAC, Bengaluru.

Considered and resolved that NAAC should assess its complete requirement of manpower in view of the future expansion and submit a comprehensive proposal. The proposal should include justification for additional manpower requirement in existing positions and creation of new positions along with their CRRs duly approved by the Finance Committee and Executive Committee.

[Action: JS(IUC)]

SECTION-5
(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

To release the balance grant to the Universities which have completed the projects approved under the scheme of “One time catch up grant to uncovered (Non 12 B) State Universities”.

Considered and approved

[Action: AS-II]

SECTION–6
(MISCELLANEOUS)

To consider certain establishment matters of UGC

Recorded Separately.

(Prof. Rajnish Jain)  (Prof. Dhirendra Pal Singh)
Secretary  Chairman