

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

**MINUTES OF THE 544TH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
HELD ON 16TH OCTOBER, 2019.**

The 544th Meeting of the Commission was held on 16th October, 2019 in which the following were present:

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

The following officer of the UGC also attended the meeting.

Secretary

Prof. Rajnish Jain

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SECTION-1

1.01(a)(i) To confirm the minutes of the 543rd meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 09th August, 2019.

The Minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

1.01(a)(ii) To confirm the partial modification in the minutes of the 543rd meeting of the University Grants Commission (by circulation).

The Minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

1.01(a)(iii) To confirm the minutes of the meeting (by circulation) of the University Grants Commission dated 9th September, 2019.

The Minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

1.01(b)(i) To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 543rd meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 9th August, 2019.

Noted.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

1.01(b)(ii) To receive the action taken on the partial modification in the minutes of the 543rd meeting of the University Grants Commission (by circulation)

Noted.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

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1.01(b)(iii) To receive the action taken on the minutes of the meeting (by circulation) of the University Grants Commission.

Noted.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

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

- (i) To report actions taken for ratification by UGC on certain matters related to recognition of programmes / implementation of ODL and Online Regulations.

The Commission ratified the following actions taken by the UGC based on the approval by the Chairman, UGC:

- 1. The recognition/deficiencies/rejection decisions related to ODL programmes**
 - i. Consideration of 384 programmes of 23 HEIs. Recognition of 9 HEIs for 65 programmes and rejection for 94 programmes. In addition, rejection of 14 HEIs for 225 programmes.**
 - ii. Withdrawal of recognition of BBA (Hotel & Tourism Management) of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Gujarat.**
 - iii. Permission to VMOU to offer recognized science based ODL programmes M.Sc. (Botany, Zoology, Physics, Chemistry, Geography) only in those LSCs which meet the eligibility criteria as per UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 and its amendments and which are offering the same programmes in the conventional mode.**
- 2. The recognition/deficiencies/rejection decisions related to Online programmes**
 - i. Issue of Letter of Intent (LoI) to University of Delhi, Delhi for 5 online programmes.**

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- ii. **Recognition to Amity University, Noida, U.P. for 22 online programmes with additional 5 programmes under consideration and 7 rejected programmes.**
- iii. **Issue of Commission Order refusing recognition to Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation University, Andhra Pradesh.**
- iv. **Change of Learning Platform from Non-SWAYAM to SWAYAM in case of 4 HEIs, with this total 11 HEIs have opted for SWAYAM Learning Platform.**

[Action: JS(DEB)]

- (ii) To report actions taken by UGC on certain matters related to recognition of programmes/ implementation of ODL and Online Regulations.

The Commission noted the following actions taken by the UGC:

1. **Implementation of 100 days Action Plan pertaining to Distance Education Bureau.**
2. **Implementation of UGC (ODL) Fourth Amendment Regulations, 2019.**
3. **Extension of last date for completion of admission process for the academic session 2019-20 beginning July 2019.**
4. **Consultative Meeting with Regulatory Authorities.**
5. **Admission details of Academic Session 2019-20, beginning July 2019.**
6. **Responses provided to the CBI Queries.**

The Commission in respect of points 3 & 5 above decided the following:

3. **Considering the reasons for extension of last date of admission this year and of the facts that in India rainy season generally continues till August/September every year and admissions in**

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conventional programmes ends in August, the schedule for admissions in ODL programmes henceforth shall be as follows:

- a) Academic session beginning January - admission last date February end
- b) Academic session beginning July - admission last date September end

The Commission also decided that the HEIs shall upload the admission details within fifteen days from the last date of the admissions in the respective academic session i.e. 15th October for July academic session and 15th March for January academic session.

5. The Commission noted that very few HEIs have uploaded students admissions details in prescribed format by the last date i.e. 10th October, 2019 and decided that HEIs shall be given last time opportunity to upload admission details for academic session July, 2019 by 31st October, 2019 failing which punitive actions as per the provisions of the Regulations to be initiated. This decision shall be intimated to the HEIs and DEB web-portal admission link to remain active till extended cut-off date, i.e. 31st October, 2019.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

- (iii) To report the inclusion of 120 Colleges (as approved by the Chairman, UGC) under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 between 01.06.2019 to 30.09.2019 as per authorization given by the Commission at its meeting held on 24.08.2011.

Noted.

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

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

Ratified.

[Action: AS-II]

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

The Commission considered and ratified the decisions of the Standing Committee on Autonomous Colleges. Further, the Commission resolved to grant Extension to Maharajah's College (A) Yelugobanti Vari Street Near, Clock Tower Vizianagaram – 535001 affiliated to Andhra University, Visakhapatnam for the period from 2017-18 to 2018-19 (ex-post-facto) and 2019-20 to 2021-22.

[Action: AS-II]

- (vi) To report the recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the Commission with regard to approval of institutions under Sections 2(f), 12 (B) and compliance under Section 13 of the UGC Act, 1956.

Noted.

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

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)**

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SECTION-2 (MATTERS RELATING TO STANDARDS)

- 2.01** To consider the categorization of Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University), Patiala (Punjab) under Category – II of the University Grants Commission [Categorization of Universities (only) for Grant of Graded Autonomy] Regulations, 2018.

Considered and approved.

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

- 2.02** To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Sri Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education (Deemed to be University), Agalakote, B.H. Road, Tumkur – 572107 (Karnataka) during 08-10th August, 2019 to review its functioning.

The Commission considered the Report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Sri Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education (Deemed to be University), Agalakote, B.H. Road, Tumkur – 572107 (Karnataka) and resolved that the case to be reconsidered after obtaining the action plan and compliance report from the Institution about improving the quality of research & publications, and innovations, and (ii) the performance and academic outcomes of the Deemed to be University in accordance with clause 9.0 of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2019.

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

- 2.03** To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University), Dulhera Marg, Roorkee Road, Meerut (Uttar Pradesh) during 31st August & 01st September, 2019 to verify the compliance reported in respect of the observations/suggestions given by the earlier UGC Expert Committee.

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The Commission considered the report of the UGC Expert Committee and resolved NOT to recommend the case of Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University), Dulhera Marg, Roorkee Road, Meerut (Uttar Pradesh) to MHRD for continuation of Deemed to be University status. Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University) may be asked to get affiliated with a University within one year i.e. till next academic session. However, the presently admitted students will continue to get their degree from Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University). From next academic session, the students should be admitted only after the Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology gets affiliation.

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

2.04

To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited LNM Institute of Information Technology, (Deemed to be University), Village – Rupa Ki Nangal, Post – Sumel, Via-Jamdoli, Jaipur – 302031 (Rajasthan) during 05-07th August, 2019 to review its functioning.

The Commission considered the Report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited LNM Institute of Information Technology (Deemed to be University), Village – Rupa Ki Nangal, Post – Sumel, Via-Jamdoli, Jaipur – 302031 (Rajasthan) and resolved that the case to be reconsidered after obtaining the action plan and compliance report from the Institution about improving the quality of research & publications, and innovations, and (ii) the performance and academic outcomes of the Deemed to be University in accordance with clause 9.0 of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2019.

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

2.05

To consider the report of the UGC Expert Committee which visited Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University), No. 12, Vembuliamman Koil Street, West K.K. Nagar, Chennai-600078 (Tamil Nadu) during 30-31st August, 2019 to validate the reply submitted by the Deemed to be University in respect of the Show Cause Notice issued by the UGC.

The Commission considered the report of the UGC Expert Committee and resolved NOT to recommend the case of Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University), No. 12, Vembuliamman Koil Street, West K.K. Nagar, Chennai-600078 (Tamil Nadu) to MHRD for continuation of Deemed to be University status. Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University) may be asked to get affiliated with a University within one year i.e. till next academic session. However, the presently admitted students will continue to get their degree from Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University). From next academic session, the students should be admitted only after the Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research gets affiliation.

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

- 2.06 To consider the representation received from Dr. Padmakar Mishra for counting of previous services rendered by him as a Reader for award of higher placement in Grade Pay of Rs.8700/- as Deputy Registrar in University of Delhi.

Deferred.

[Action: JS(CU)]

- 2.07 To consider the report of the Committee constituted by the UGC for examination of the Comments/ATR on the report of the expert committees on the teaching, research, financial and infrastructural audit of the universities and suggesting course of action thereon.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(CU)]

- 2.08 To consider the approval of courses and manpower for establishment/strengthening of School of Education/Faculty of Education in Central Universities.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(CU)]

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- 2.09** To consider the Report of the UGC Expert Committee constituted to assess the proposal submitted by Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education (Deemed to be University), Anand Nagar, Krishnankoil, Virdhunagar, Dt., Tamil Nadu for starting off-campus centres at Chennai (Tamil Nadu).

Considered and approved.

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

- 2.10** To consider creation of teaching positions in Central Universities.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(CU)]

- 2.11** To consider on MHRD letter regarding exemption to IGNOU from the UGC (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018.

The Commission considered and approved the following amendment:

In the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018, - in regulation 2, in sub-regulation (2), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely: -

“Provided that the University Grants Commission may, by order, exempt the Indira Gandhi National Open University, a university established under the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 (50 of 1985), from the application of these regulations, considering the objectives of the said Act.”

The Commission also decided that after the notification of the above amendment in the Gazette, the Commission may issue an order exempting IGNOU from academic session beginning January 2020 till further orders.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

- 2.12 To consider the recommendations of the UGC Expert Standing Committee constituted to examine the performance and academic outcomes of the Deemed to be Universities.

The Commission considered the report of the UGC Expert Standing Committee and resolved to continue/extend Deemed to be University status for those institutions who were rated excellent, very good and good for academic performance by the Expert Committee. However, those Deemed to be Universities which were rated poor and average for academic performance will not be granted continuation/extension.

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

- 2.13 To consider the report of the High-Level Committee constituted by the Chairman, UGC to enquire into the alleged sale of degrees by State/Private Universities.

Considered and approved.

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

- 2.14 To consider the report of the committee – “SATAT – A Framework for Sustainable University Campuses of India”

Considered and approved.

[Action: AS-I]

- 2.15 To consider the Report of the UGC Expert Committee, AICTE advice and Report of the AICTE Expert Committee constituted to assess the proposal submitted by NITTE (Deemed to be University), Mangalore (Karnataka) for inclusion of (i) Dr. Nitte Shankara Adyanthaya Memorial First Grade College, Nitte, Udupi Dt. Karnataka and (ii) Nitte Mahalinga Adyanthaya Memorial Institute of Technology, Nitte, Udupi Dt. Karnataka under its ambit.

Considered and approved.

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

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- 2.16 To consider the guidelines “Mulya Pravah” – Inculcation of Human Values and Professional Ethics in Higher Education.

Considered and approved.

[Action: AS-I]

- 2.17 To consider the draft University Grants Commission (Fees in professional education imparted by private aided and unaided institutions deemed to be universities) Regulations, 2019.

The Commission considered the draft University Grants Commission (Fees in professional education imparted by private aided and unaided institutions deemed to be universities) Regulations, 2019 and resolved to place the draft Regulations on UGC website to solicit comments from all stakeholders.

The Commission further resolved that the comments from MCI, DCI and other statutory bodies involved in the Regulations may also be invited.

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

- 2.18 To consider the amendment in the Ordinance XX (8) of the School of Open Learning, University of Delhi.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(CU)]

- 2.19 To consider the request of the Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar to extend the benefits of Pay and allowances at par with other such employees of the University

Deferred.

[Action: JS(CU)]

- 2.20 To consider the minutes of the meeting of Anomaly Redressal Committee held on 11/10/2019 in the office of UGC, upon the receipt of the minutes of the meeting

held in MHRD to discuss the report of UGC Anomaly Redressal Committee, on 28th August, 2019.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(Pay Scale)]

2.21 To consider and decide on the various referred issues related to implementation of Online (Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018

The Commission considered the various referred issues vis-a-vis various provisions of UGC Online (Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018. The Commission also observed that the present regulations have been formulated with emphasis on high quality standards and to ensure that Online programmes in the Country starts on right note to start with as HEIs are expected to enroll students globally. The Commission appreciated its effective implementation and also noticed that the HEIs need mentoring and time to prepare themselves to be able to deliver a world class online programme. However, the Commission also observed that the present eligibility conditions in the regulations are extremely restrictive as only around 40 universities out of present 997 universities are eligible and also some other provisions such as admission timelines etc. also limit the scope/flexibility of online education.

Considering the observations made above and also to ensure that facilitative cum student centric regulatory framework is put into place, the Commission decided the following:

- 1. DEB Working Group shall deliberate on the above mentioned points, various referred issues, programme-wise recognition, content validation, e-content preparedness levels for different programmes (certificate/diploma/PG diploma/UG degree and PG degree) and other related points including having one Regulations both for ODL and Online education.**

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2. The DEB Working Group shall submit its recommendations within one month.

The Commission authorised the Vice-Chairman, UGC, Chairman of the Working Group to co-opt any other Expert(s) for the purpose.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

SECTION-3

(REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)

(There is no item in this section)

SECTION-4

(SPECIAL PROGRAMMES, QUALITY PROGRAMMES ETC)

- 4.01 To consider creation of additional positions/post/revival of vacant positions in various cadres in Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), Gandhinagar.

Considered and approved.

[Action: JS(IUC)]

- 4.02 To consider to constitute an Accreditation Advisory Council (AAC) for Recognition and Monitoring of Assessment and Accreditation Agencies (AAAs).

The Commission considered the recommendations of the Committee constituted by the MHRD and approved the constitution of Accreditation Advisory Council as under:

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|------|---|-----------------|
| (i) | Prof. S.K. Joshi
Former Director General, CSIR
New Delhi | Chairman |
| (ii) | Dr. Hari Gautam
Former Chairman
UGC, New Delhi | Member |

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| (iii) | Dr. Panjab Singh
Fellow, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences
Former Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University
Former Director, IARI & DG, ICAR
Presently Chancellor
Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University
Jhansi (UP) | Member |
| (iv) | Prof. Surendra Prasad
Former Director, IITD, Delhi &
Chairman, NBA
Emeritus Professor
Department of Electrical Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology of Delhi, Delhi | Member |
| (v) | Prof. R.C. Deka
Former Director of AIIMS
New Delhi | Member |
| (vi) | Dr. Snehlata Deshmukh
Former Vice-Chancellor
Mumbai University
Mumbai (MS) | Member |
| (vii) | Prof. Vasudha Kamat
Former Vice-Chancellor
SNDT Women's University
Mumbai (MS) | Member |
| (viii) | Prof. Dharmendra S Sengar
Former Director, Indian Law Institute
Professor of Law, IIM, Lucknow (Noida) (UP) | Member |
| (ix) | Prof. Girijesh Pant
Professor of West Asia Department, JNU &
Former Vice-Chancellor
Doon University, Dehradun (Uttarakhand) | Member |
| (x) | Prof. Gautam Sen
Former Professor and Head
in Defence Studies
University of Pune, Pune (MS) | Member |

AAC shall discharge its duties till further orders.

[Action: JS(IUC)]

4.03

To consider Working Group Report on 'Enabling and Enhancing University and Industry Linkages'.

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The Commission considered the Working Group Report on ‘Enabling and Enhancing University and Industry Linkages’ and resolved to seek the comments from the stakeholders.

[Action: AS-I]

4.04 To consider the policy document on “Student Career Progression and Alumni Network”

The Commission considered the policy document on “Student Career Progression and Alumni Network” and resolved to seek the comments from the stakeholders.

[Action: AS-I]

4.05 To consider the Status of implementation of Quality Mandate.

The Commission noted the status of implementation of Quality Mandate in UGC. The Chairman, UGC was joined by all the Members in putting on record appreciation for the Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Additional Secretary-I, external experts and other Team members for the same.

[Action: AS-I]

4.06 To consider Semester Outreach Programme (SOP) for students at Undergraduate level.

The Commission authorised the Chairman, UGC to constitute a Working Group to conceptualize Semester Outreach Programmes as a pilot project.

[Action: AS-I]

SECTION-5

(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

(There is no item in this section)

**SECTION-6
(MISCELLANEOUS)**

6.01 To consider certain establishment matters of UGC

Recorded Separately.

**(Prof. Rajnish Jain)
Secretary**

**(Prof. Dhirendra Pal Singh)
Chairman**