

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

**MINUTES OF THE 498TH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
HELD ON 27TH FEBRUARY, 2014.**

The 498th Meeting of the Commission was held on 27th February, 2014 in which the following were present:

1. Prof. Ved Prakash	Chairman
2. Dr. H. Devaraj	Vice Chairman
3. Sh. Ashok Thakur	Member
4. Dr. Indu Shahani	Member
5. Prof. V. S. Chauhan	Member
6. Prof. D. Narasimha Reddy	Member
7. Prof. M.M. Ansari	Member
8. Prof. Sanjay Govind Dhande	Member

Smt Anjuly Chhib Duggal who could not attend the meeting due to pre-occupation was granted leave of absence.

The following officers of the UGC also attended the meeting.

Secretary

Shri Upamanyu Basu

Director

Shri Vikram Sahay

Prof Ved Prakash, Chairman, UGC welcomed the Members and mentioned that three Members of the Commission namely – Prof Achutyananda Samanta, Prof Syed E Hasnain and Prof Meenakshi Gopinath have completed their term. The Commission placed on record its appreciation of the contribution made by these members.

SECTION-1

- 1.01(a)** To confirm the minutes of the 497th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on **10th January, 2014.**

The Commission confirmed the Minutes of the 497th meeting with the following modification :

On Agenda No. 6.01 (b) relating to construction of UGC Building it was decided that the UGC may make a reference to the Ministry of HRD for convening a meeting of the EFC to consider the proposal for revision in cost of the UGC Building Project by the DRDO.

[Action: Director (Admn.)]

- 1.01 (b)** To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 497th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 10th January, 2014.

Noted. The Commission also took note of the Minutes of the Meeting convened by Additional Secretary (Expenditure) on Item No. 2.02, relating to utilization of internal receipts generated by Central Universities for meeting the shortfall in non-plan non-salary expenses, and Item No. 2.03, relating to creation of Reserve Funds by Universities.

On Item No. 2.06, relating to UGC Regulations on ODL, it was felt that the Ministry may take a view with regard to the status and future of the standalone institutions (which were earlier granted permission by the erstwhile DEC to undertake programmes in ODL), and on offering of BE/B.Tech programmes in ODL mode. The Commission also authorized the Chairman, UGC to constitute two Committees for taking action under the proposed Regulations – a Committee to decide on grant of recognition, and a Committee to serve as the appellate body.

[Action: Director (Admn.)]

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- 1.02(a)** To ratify the action taken on certain matters.
- (i) To report the inclusion of 97 Colleges (as approved by the Chairman, UGC) under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 between 01.12.2013 to 31.01.2014 as per authorization given by the Commission at its meeting held on 24.08.2011.

Approved

[Action : JS (CPP I)]

- 1.02(b)** To receive the items of 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 Detailed Project Report and guidelines for implementation of norms based funding during XIIth five year plan. **(P.1-195)**

The Commission, while giving in-principle approval to the proposal, decided that a Committee be constituted to study the feasibility and financial implications of the proposal, and authorized the Chairman, UGC to constitute the Committee which should also have FA, MHRD as a Member.

[JS (CPP II)]

- 2.02** To decide further course of action subsequent to the orders dated 21.01.2014 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directing UGC to examine (i) UGC Expert Committee Report (ii) MHRD Review Committee Report (Tandon Committee) and (iii) Report of the Committee of Officers appointed by the MHRD in respect of the Institutions Deemed to be Universities placed in category 'C' by MHRD Review Committee.

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The Commission, after discussion, decided as under :

- i. The UGC should make a request to the Supreme Court for extension of time for a period of one month for furnishing its advice to the Ministry of HRD;**
- ii. A copy of each of the earlier three Reports should be sent to all the members of the Commission; and**
- iii. Reports of the three Committees along with the response received from the 44 Institutions be placed before the Commission for its consideration.**

The Commission further decided that it would meet on 11th-12th March, 2014 to take a view on the subject.

[Action : JS (CPP I)]

2.03

To consider University Grants Commission (Establishment of Standards, and Maintenance thereof, in Private Universities) Regulations, 2014 as prepared by an Expert Committee.

The Commission approved the Regulations with the following modifications:

- (i) The requirement of physical infrastructure to be followed by the private Universities should be specified in the Regulations;**
- (ii) Permission granted earlier by the MHRD/UGC for setting up off-shore campus should not be rescinded;**
- (iii) The Heading of Regulation 4 may be re-phrased as ‘Maintenance of standards by Private Universities’**
- (iv) A sub-clause (ix) may be added to clause (a) to provide for compliance with provisions of RTI Act 2005.**
- (v) Regulation 8 (c) should be amended to provide that a Private University may commence its academic programmes only after undergoing the process of assessment laid down under the UGC Regulations on mandatory Accreditation;**

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(vi) Regulation 8(d) may be modified to mention that if the Commission is 'satisfied that there is deficiency regarding compliance with the provisions of these regulations' instead of 'comes to the conclusion that approval should not be granted to the private university to commence academic operations'.

[Action: JS (CPP I)]

2.04 To consider suggestions received for amendments to the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010.

Deferred.

2.05 To consider giving relaxation of 5% (i.e. from 55% to 50%) in the qualifying marks to OBC (Other Backward caste) candidates for direct recruitment to teaching positions as well as granting similar relaxation to OBC candidates to undertake the NET examination held by the UGC.

Approved

[Action : JS (PS)]

2.06 To consider the guidelines for introduction of Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc.) programme in universities and colleges under the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF).

Approved

[Action : JS (CC/NSQF)]

2.07 To consider UGC (RECOGNITION AND MONITORING OF ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION AGENCIES) REGULATIONS, 2014.

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Approved. It was also decided that a Plan of Action be prepared for implementing the Regulations which may be placed before the Commission for information.

[Action : JS (CPP II)/Secretary]

- 2.08** To Consider amendment in (Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012.

Approved.

[Action : JS (CPP II)]

SECTION-3

(REFERENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AND OTHER NATIONAL BODIES)

- 3.01** To consider the recommendations on setting up the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) platform by the UGC.

The Commission considered the recommendations of the Committee consisting of Prof VS Chauhan and Prof Sanjay Dhande. The Commission felt that the Ministry may consider preparing a Detailed Project Report under its NMEICT Scheme.

[Action : Director (Admn.)]

SECTION-4

(SPECIAL PROGRAMMES, QUALITY PROGRAMMES ETC)

- 4.01** To consider amendments in the Guidelines for Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE)/Universities of Excellence (UE) for XII Plan period (2012-2017).

Approved.

[Action : JS (CPP II)]

- 4.02** To consider the revised Guidelines for the UGC Chairs in Universities during the XII Plan (2012-2017).

The Commission approved the proposal with the following modifications:

- (i) The consideration age may be modified to 55-70 years**
- (ii) Chairs may also be created under the names of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Sir Syed Ahmad Khan**

[Action : JS (CPP II)]

- 4.03** To consider establishment of Inter-University Centre(s) (IUC) for promotion of Indigenous Languages.

The Commission decided that possibilities be explored for strengthening the Bhasha Research and Publication Centre by networking it either with MS University, Baroda or with the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak.

[Action : JS (CPP II)]

- 4.04** To consider the Report of the Expert Committee which visited the Institute of Integrated Himalayan Studies under the Scheme of Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Area (CPEPA) at Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.

The Commission approved the proposal to extend the status of the Institute as Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Area (CPEPA) till March, 2017 and for financial assistance of Rs 7 crore.

[Action : JS (NS/PE)]

4.05 To consider the review of the resolution of the commission regarding discontinuation of the scheme during 12th Plan : UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium.

Approved.

[Action : JS (IUC)]

4.06 To consider the recommendations of the Search-cum-Selection Committee for the appointment of Director, Inter University Centre for Teacher Education (IUC-TE), Kakinada (AP).

The Commission approved the Minutes of the Meeting of the Search Committee held on 19th February, 2014 and its recommendations of the following 3 candidates for the post of Director, IUC-TE in order of priority.

- 1. Dr Sitanshu Sekhar Jena, NIOS**
- 2. Dr C Naseema, Professor of Education, University of Calicut**
- 3. Dr G Lokanadha Reddy, Professor of Education, Dravidian University**

It was decided by the Commission to send the offer of appointment to Dr Sitanshu Sekhar Jena, NIOS who was listed at S. No. 1 by the Search Committee.

[Action : JS (IUC)]

SECTION-5 (GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

5.01 To consider the recommendations of the 5th & 6th Meeting of Standing Committee on Autonomous Colleges for grant of 16 Fresh and 16 Extension cases of autonomous status to the colleges and amendments in the guidelines.

Approved. The Commission also decided that henceforth proposals relating to grant of Autonomous status to Colleges and extension of such status be decided by a Committee consisting of Dr V S Chauhan, Dr M M Ansari and Dr Indu Shahani, and the decision may be reported subsequently to the Commission. It

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was also decided this Committee would also undertake review of the present Guidelines on Autonomous Colleges.

[Action : JS (AC)]

SECTION-6 (MISCELLANEOUS)

6.01(a): To ratify certain establishment matters of UGC

Recorded Separately.

6.01(b): To consider certain establishment matters of the University Grants Commission

Recorded Separately.

Any other item:

- a. To consider re-implementing PG scholarship in all Universities and Colleges for ME / M. Tech for GATE qualified candidates

Approved for re-implementing the PG Scholarship in Universities and Colleges for ME/M.Tech for GATE qualified candidates. Further, the Commission decided that in respect of other courses a view may be taken later.

[Action : DS (SA)]

**(UPAMANYU BASU)
SECRETARY**

**(VED PRAKASH)
CHAIRMAN**