MINUTES OF THE 537TH MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
HELD ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2018.

The 537th Meeting of the Commission was held on 10th December, 2018 in which the following were present:

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

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
1.01(a) To confirm the minutes of the 536th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 14th November, 2018.

The minutes were confirmed.

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

1.01(b) To receive the action taken on the minutes of the 536th meeting of the University Grants Commission held on 14th November, 2018.

Noted

[Action: JS(Admn.)]

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

(i) To report equivalence of ARPIT (Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching) programme to Refresher course to be eligible for the purposes of Career Advancement Scheme of teachers.

Ratified

Further, the Commission resolved that UGC should write to the Vice-Chancellors of all the Universities informing that the successful completion of the MOOCS courses offered under the ARPIT programme, consisting of 40 hrs. of instruction with proctored examination leading to e-certification be treated as equivalent to a Refresher Course for the purposes of Career Advancement. For wider promotion of the programme, the UGC Regional Offices should be involved.

[Action: AS-I]
(ii) 1. To report processing of applications received from HEIs as per UGC (ODL) Third Amendment, 2018

The Commission noted the progress made in terms of the processing of applications received from the HEIs under UGC (ODL) Third Amendment Regulations, 2018. The Commission authorized the Chairman, UGC to take decisions on the recommendations of the Expert Committees and the same shall be communicated to the HEIs. The decisions so taken shall be reported to the Commission in its next meeting.

2. To report action taken by UGC based on Commission decision on Appeal process.

The Commission noted the information related to appeal disposal process, constitution of Standing Appellate Committee with Terms of Reference and the opinion of ASG, Shri Vikramjit Banerjee that new evidence may be considered by the UGC at the appellate stage.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

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

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(AC)]

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 enhancement of the age of superannuation to 65 years in the case of Dr. S.N Ojha, Senior System Programmer-Cum-Reader (re-designated post) on the Judgment/order and directions to UGC by Hon’ble Court of Calcutta.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(JCRC)]

2.02 To consider the Report of the UGC Expert Committee constituted to assess the proposal submitted by Christ (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru (Karnataka) for starting off-campus centres at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) and Lavasa (Pune).

Considered and approved.

It was decided to recommend to MHRD that Letter of Intent(LoI) be issued to the Christ (Institution Deemed to be University), Bengaluru for starting Off Campus Centres at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) and Lavasa(Pune) subject to the compliance of the suggestions given by UGC and AICTE Expert Committee.

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.03 To consider the compliance report submitted by Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Maduravoyal, Chennai, Tamil Nadu for continuation of Deemed to be University status beyond 30.06.2019.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]
2.04 To consider the extension/continuation of Deemed to be University status to Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (Deemed to be University), Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi from 07.05.2012 onwards.

Considered and approved

[Action: JS(CPP-I)]

2.05 To consider recommendations of the Interface Expert Committee on representations of Deemed to be Universities (DTBUs) and Private Universities for recognition of programmes to be offered through Open and Distance (ODL) Mode from 2018-19 onwards; session beginning from January, 2019.

The Commission considered and approved the recommendations of the Interface Expert Committee in respect of the following HEIs:

(i) Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Dayalbagh, Agra (UP)
(ii) Jain University, Bengaluru, Karnataka
(iii) Jamia Hamdard, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi.
(iv) Padmashree Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidyapeeth, Sector-7, Nerul, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Commission directed that HEIs shall be informed that admissions for the programmes being recognized now can only be done from the academic session beginning January, 2019 and onwards.

In the cases of Sikkim Manipal University and MATs University, the Commission observed that the Interface Expert Committee has strongly recommended that Expert Committee visit should be conducted before taking the admissions in the 2019-20 academic session so as to ensure compliance with UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017. This means that the concerned HEI has only January, 2019 academic session for admissions. Considering this and also the fact that the earlier Committee gave conditional recommendations, the Commission resolved that an Expert
Committee visit should be conducted and further necessary actions as per UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 shall be taken.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

2.06 To consider the time limit for completion of admission process for the academic session for January and July for offering ODL programmes by HEIs.

Considered and approved
The Commission also directed that HEIs shall be asked to upload the admission details within ten days from the last date of the admissions in the respective academic session i.e. 10th September for July academic session and 10th March for January academic session.

[Action: JS(DEB)]

2.07 To submit the 2nd report of the Empowered Experts Committee constituted for the purpose of identifying Institutions of Eminence.
Deferred

[Action: JS(IoE)]

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 the recommendations of the Search Committee regarding the appointment of Director, INFLIBNET, Gandhinagar.

Considered and approved.
Prof. J.P. Singh Joorel be appointed as Director, Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET), Gandhinagar.

[Action: JS(IUC)]

4.02 To consider revision of, “Guidelines for establishment of Chairs in Universities and establishment of new Chairs.”

The Commission decided that the scheme guidelines be revisited.

[Action: JS(Chairs)]

SECTION-5
(GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

(There is no item in this section)
6.01 To consider certain establishment matters of UGC

(i) to (vii)

Recorded Separately.

(viii) To consider and approve enhancement of the Rates of Honorarium of Guest Faculty in Universities and Colleges.

The Commission decided the matter and approved as follows:

1. The honorarium for Guest Faculty be enhanced to Rs. 1,500/- per lecture subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000/- per month.

2. The Guest Faculty be appointed only against sanctioned post. However, for the universities where the sanctioned posts are not adequate as per the teaching work load, the number of Guest Faculty to be appointed can be up to 20% over and above the sanctioned posts.

3. The qualifications for Guest Faculty shall be the same as those prescribed for the regular Assistant Professors of Universities/Colleges in the UGC Regulations.

4. The selection procedure for appointing Guest Faculty should be the same as those of a regularly appointed Assistant Professor. However, the composition of the Selection Committee shall be as follows:

   (i) The Vice-Chancellor or his/her nominee shall be the Chairperson of the Selection Committee.

   (ii) One Expert in the concerned subject nominated by the Vice Chancellor

   (iii) Dean of the concerned Faculty; wherever applicable

   (iv) Head/Chairperson of the Department/School
(v) An academician representing SC / ST / OBC / Minority / Women/Differently-abled categories to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor or Acting Vice Chancellor, if any of the candidates representing these categories is the applicant and if any of the above members of the selection committee do not belong to that category.

At least four members, including one outside subject expert shall constitute the quorum.

5. The Guest Faculty will not be treated like regular teachers for the purpose of voting rights or for becoming the members of the various statutory bodies of the university.

6. The superannuated teachers may also be considered for engagement as Guest Faculty subject to a maximum age limit of 70 years.

7. The Guest Faculty will not be given the benefit of allowances, pension, gratuity and leave etc. as admissible to the regular teachers.

[Action: AS-I]

(ix) To consider and approve University Grants Commission’s Annual Report for the year 2017-18.

Considered and approved

[Action: AS-I]

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