NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

(An Institute of National Importance, MoE, Govt. of India)

Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 21st Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on 11th December 2020 at 3:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director & Chairman (I/c) through VC. The following members were present in the meeting:

Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil Director & Chairman (I/c), NIT Sikkim	**Chairperson**
Shri G. P. Upadhyaya Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim	**Member**
Shri Madan Mohan Additional Director General (HE), MHRD, GOI	**Member**
Mrs. Darshana M. Dabral Joint Secretary, FA, MHRD, GOI	**Member**
Shri Ugyen Chopel State Nominee, Sikkim	**Member**
Prof. Chandan Mahanta Professor & Dean Students Affairs, IIT Guwahati (Representative of Director, IIT Guwahati)	**Member**
Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	**Member**
Dr. Ranjan Basak Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	**Member**
Dr. Achintesh N. Biswas Registrar (I/c), NIT Sikkim	**Secretary**

At the outset, the Chairperson extended heartiest welcome to the members present in the 21st Meeting of the Board of Governors for sparing their valuable time and contributions made towards the development of NIT Sikkim. The Director also apprised the Board of Governors with the progress and issues of the Institute. The members appreciated the sincere efforts made by the Director towards the progress of the Institute. Thereafter, with the permission of the Chair, the agenda items were presented and the following decisions were taken after due deliberations:

Item No.21.01: To confirm the Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 9th October 2020 through VC.

The minutes were confirmed.

Item No.21.02: To report the action taken on agenda/decisions taken in the 20th Meeting of the Board of Governors.

The actions taken are noted by the members and the report is given below:

Item No.	Subject	Action Taken
20.03	To consider and approve the recommendation of the Senate regarding admission of PWD candidates.	Implemented as per the directions of the BoG.
20.04	To consider and adopt the Ministry's guidelines vide Letter No. F.No.35-5/2020-TS.III, Date: 28th July 2020 related to the amendment in guidelines for utilization of Cumulative Professional Development Allowance (CPDA).	Implemented
20.05	To consider and approve the recruitment of Executive Engineer on deputation in the light of possible allocation of land for the permanent campus.	In process
20.06	To consider and review the Performance Evaluation Report of the Institute for the Academic year 2019-20.	Noted
20.07	To consider and approve the procurement plan for equipment for various laboratories under TEQIP-III.	Implemented
20.08	To consider and approve the proposal to increase of the existing 512 Mbps Internet Connection of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. to 1 Gbps.	In process
20.09	To discuss and decide on the requests made by the students to relax certain components from the total semester fee of the Institute for the current odd semester (July-Dec 2020) due to COVID-19 Pandemic.	Implemented as per the directions of the BoG
20.15	To consider and approve the proposal to fill the vacant reserved category seats in M.Tech. and M.Sc. Programs.	Implemented as per the directions of the BoG
20.16	To consider and approve the admission of the Service Officers (Army, Navy and Air Force) to the M.Tech. programs offered by the Institute from Academic Session 2021-22 onwards.	Implemented

It was also advised to report the items in progress till their completion/implementation.

Item No.21.03: To consider and approve the award of degrees to all the graduating students (B.Tech./M.Tech./M.Sc./Ph.D.) on successful completion of their respective course/research work in 2020.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.21.04: To consider and adopt the order (File No. 1/20(1)2020-LS-II to File No. 1/20(7)/2020-LS-II dated 12-10-2020) issued by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India related to the payment of revised/higher wages to manpower hired through Manpower Agencies.

The board adopted the order (File No. 1/20(1)2020-LS-II to File No. 1/20(7)/2020-LS-II dated 12-10-2020) issued by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India related to the payment of revised/higher wages to manpower hired through Manpower Agencies.

Item No.21.05: To consider and approve the extension of tenure(s) of Assistant Professors on contract recruited in regular Pay-band-3 (Pay level 10 as per 7th CPC) by one year.

The agenda related to the extension of tenure(s) of Assistant Professors appointed on contract for 5 years in regular Pay-band-3 (Pay level 10 as per 7th CPC) was discussed in length. The members acknowledged the contributions made by the faculty members towards the academics as well as administration of this newly established Institute during its formative stage. After thorough deliberation, the tenure(s) of the following faculty members were extended for six (06) months:

S. No.	Name of the Faculty	Dept.	Date of Joining	Tenure extended up to	Pay-Band/ Pay-Level
1	Md. Sarfaraj Alam Ansari	CSE	23.12.2015 (Afternoon)	22-06-2021	Pay Band-3/ Level-10 (as per 7th CPC)
2	Mrs. Gopa Bhaumik	CSE	23.12.2015 (Afternoon)	22-06-2021	
3	Mr. Banavath Balaji Naik	CSE	28.12.015 (Forenoon)	27-06-2021	
4	Mr. Pankaj Kumar Keserwani	CSE	28.12.2015 (Afternoon)	27-06-2021	
5	Dr.Tarun Biswas	CSE	28.12.2015 (Forenoon)	27-06-2021	
6	Mrs. Reshmi Dhara	ECE	28.12.2015 (Forenoon)	27-06-2021	

The BOG further recommended the Institute to monitor the progress of the faculty members on regular basis and ensure timely completion of their doctoral works. Further extension of their tenure(s), if needed, will be put up before the board along with their comprehensive evaluation reports.

Item No.21.06: To consider and approve the confirmation of services of Assistant Professors Grade-I recruited during the 2nd Recruitment drive (2019)

After due deliberations, the BOG approved the confirmation of services of the following Assistant Professors Grade-I (Pay-Level 12 as per 7th CPC) recruited in March 2019 under flexible 4-Tier faculty structure after completion of their one-year probation period and satisfactory Police Verification Reports (PVR):

S. No.	Name of the faculty	Designation Pay - Level	Dept	Joining Date	Date of Completion of Probation Period
1	Dr. Sangram Ray	Assistant Professor Grade-I/ Pay-Level 12	CSE	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
2	Dr. PratyayKuila		CSE	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
3	Dr. Sourav Mallick		EEE	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
4	Dr. Sanjay K. Jana		ECE	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
5	Dr. Ranjan Basak		ME	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
6	Dr. Shambhunath Barman		ME	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20
7	Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi		HSS	8-Mar-19	7-Mar-20

Item No.21.07: To consider and approve the Annual Accounts for the Financial year 2019-20.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.21.08: To note the expenditure of the Institute as on 25th November 2020.

The expenditure incurred by the Institute were noted and the members advised to ensure compliance with GFR-17.

Item No.21.09: To discuss and deliberate on the difficulties faced by the Institute due to non-availability of adequate number of sanctioned teaching and non-teaching positions

The BOG was apprised of difficulties faced by the Institute due to non-availability of adequate number of sanctioned teaching and non-teaching positions. Chairman informed the members that total sanctioned intake considering all UG & PG programs of the Institute is 960, and therefore, considering the students-faculty ratio of 12:1 prescribed by MoE, number of faculty posts required is eighty (80). However, the sanctioned faculty strength is only 38. The students-faculty ratio at the Institute is 37:1, which is not reflective of an Institute of National Importance. He further added that inadequate number of sanctioned faculty positions is one of the main reasons behind the dismal ranking of the Institute in NIRF-2020. Moreover, due to the shortage of faculty, the Institute is yet to initiate the accreditation process as per NBA and real attainment of NEP-2020 objectives. Mrs. Darshana M. Dabral, Joint Secretary, FA, MHRD, GOI informed the board that the process for sanctioning faculty in NITs has been initiated at the Ministry. The members requested to expedite the sanction of additional faculty positions for the Institute.

Item No.21.10: To report the nomination of Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi as a member on the BoG of the Institute as approved by the Senate in its 13th Meeting.

The BOG noted the nomination of Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi as a member on the BoG of the Institute as approved by the Senate in its 13th Meeting.

Item No.21.11: To ratify the adoption of the clause-wise amendments in the First Statutes of NITs in accordance with the decisions taken by the Council of NITSER.

Ratified.

Item No.21.12: To report the admission status in the B.Tech./M.Tech. /M.Sc. courses in the academic session 2020-21.

The members noted the admission status and appreciated the efforts of the Institute.

Item No.21.13: To report the present status of the allocation of land for the permanent campus.

Shri G.P. Upadhyaya, Additional Chief Secretary of Education Department, Govt. of Sikkim apprised the members of the present status of the allocation of land at Khamdong and the initiatives made by the Govt. of Sikkim in this regard. He informed that the State Govt. is committed to this cause and ensured early handover of the allocated land to the Institute.

Item No.20.14: To report the minutes of 13th Senate meeting held on 17th October 2020.

Noted

Item No.20.15: To report the Minutes of 13th Meeting of BWC held on 28th November 2020.

The members noted the minutes of the BWC and advised to follow the GFR and BoG directions.

Item No.20.16: To report the Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Finance Committee.

Noted

Item No.20.17: To report the successful organization of the 3rd Convocation.

Chairman informed the members about successful organization of 3rd convocation of NIT Sikkim on 7th December 2020. A total of 242 students who had graduated in the years 2018 and 2019 were awarded the degrees. It included 187 students of Bachelor of Technology, 37 students of Master of Technology, 15 students of Master of Science and 3 students of Doctor of Philosophy. The meritorious students from each discipline were awarded Gold Medals. The Best Student of the batch was awarded with Director Gold Medal and Institute Gold Medal. Total 21 Gold Medals were awarded in this convocation.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Governor of Sikkim, Shri Ganga Prasad, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State of Sikkim, Shri Prem Singh Tamang, and Hon'ble Minister of State in the Ministries of Education, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India, Shri Sanjay Dhotre sent heartwarming messages congratulating the students for their academic accomplishments and urged them to work towards the realization of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. Shri S.C. Gupta, IAS, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim graced the occasion on behalf of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim.

The board congratulated the Institute for making this event a resounding success and placed on record, their appreciation for the Director, faculty and staff members of the Institute. The members congratulated students for their academic accomplishments despite facing many obstacles due to temporary nature of the campus, geographical location, etc.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

Registrar (I/c)

Registrar In-charge
National Institute of Technology Sikkim
Ravangla Campus, South Sikkim-737139

Director & Chairperson (I/c)