

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान सिक्किम
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM
(An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

Minutes of the 41st Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 41st Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on 24th June 2024 from 11:30 AM onwards under the Chairmanship of Shri Ramesh Kumar Saraogi, Chairperson-Board of Governors, NIT Sikkim in Hybrid Mode. The following members were present in the meeting:

Shri Ramesh Kumar Saraogi Director, SUPL, Kolkata, West Bengal	Chairperson
Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil Director, NIT Sikkim	Ex-officio Member
Shri G. P. Upadhyaya Advisor, Mines & Geology Dept., Govt. of Sikkim	Member
Prof. Devendra Jalihal Director, IIT Guwahati	Member (Present Online)
Smt. Saumya Gupta Joint Secretary (TE), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India	Member (Online)
Shri Mukesh Kumar Deputy Secretary (IFD), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India	Member (Online)
Dr. Aurobinda Panda Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	Member
Shri Abhishek Singh AGM (Engg), NBCC (India) Ltd.	Special Invitee (Online)
Shri Ankit Bansal Design Consultant, M/s M/s Confluence Consultancy Services	Special Invitee (Online)
Shri Sahil Minda Assistant Registrar (Finance), NIT Sikkim	Special Invitee
Shri Rewa Nath Sharma Executive Engineer, NIT Sikkim	Special Invitee
Dr. Ranjan Basak Registrar (I/c), NIT Sikkim	Secretary

Dr. Anindya Biswas, Associate Professor was granted leave of absence due to his prior engagement.

At the outset, the Director extended heartiest welcome to the Chairperson, BoG and to other members present in the 41st Meeting of the Board of Governors for sparing their valuable time and contributions made towards the development of NIT Sikkim. With the permission of the Chairperson, the Agenda items were presented, and the following decisions were taken after due deliberations:

Item No.41.01: To confirm the Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 07th March 2024.

The Minutes were confirmed.

Item No.41.02: To report the action taken on the decisions taken in the 40th Meeting of the Board of Governors.

The BoG noted and appreciated the action taken by the Institute.

Item No.41.03: To place the Director's Report to apprise of the development and progress of the Institute.

The Director presented the report of the Institute and apprised the members of the recent achievements, academic activities, placement statistics, R&D activities, progress and pending issues related to the construction of the permanent campus, etc.

The BoG appreciated the efforts towards the overall development of the Institute. However, the Chairperson BoG and other members raised a concern over the decline in the percentage of Placement in the Institute and urged the Director to take necessary steps to improve the placement statistics. To improve the Placement percentage, it was suggested that the Institute should also focus on emerging small and medium business houses apart from the large corporate/industries.

The Hon'ble Chairperson, BoG advised the Institute to motivate the faculty and staff to take up R&D problems addressing local needs and think out of box to provide solutions to some local problems.

The Institute should support the students for setting up of their startups/enterprises by extending technology and other necessary support. It is also advised that moral and ethical values should be at the forefront of the education and the Institute must imbibe these values in the students.

Item No.41.04: To consider and approve the confirmation of service of the faculty member after the completion of one-year probation period.

The Board confirmed the services of Dr. Jai Gopal Gupta, Assistant Professor (Grade-I, Pay Level-12), Dept. of Mechanical Engineering on successful completion of one-year probation period and satisfactory Police Verification Report (PVR) w.e.f. 17.03.2024.

Item No.41.05: To consider the recommendations of Committee constituted to study and recommend the measures to increase faculty retention at NIT Sikkim within the applicable service rules.

The BoG discussed the issue of faculty retention in the Institute and deliberated on the recommendations submitted by the Committee constituted by the BoG in its 39th Meeting held on 15th Dec. 2023 vide



Office Order No.: NITS/RO/136, Dated: 03.03.2024. The committee consists of the following members:

- 1) Shri G. P. Upadhyaya (IAS), Advisor, Mines & Geology Dept. Govt. of Sikkim.
- 2) Prof. S. Ravi, Dean Faculty Affair, IIT Guwahati
- 3) Dr. Achintesh N. Biswas, Dean Administration, NIT Sikkim
- 4) Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi, Dean Faculty Welfare, NIT Sikkim.

After due deliberations the following decisions were made:

- (i) At present the Institute is operating from its temporary campus at Ravangla and the educational facilities for the children at Ravangla are inadequate. Keeping this in view, it is advised to provide shuttle service for the children between DAV School, NHPC and the Institute with the available resources.
- (ii) Recognizing the deficiency and poor healthcare facilities in the proximity of Ravangla and to extend the CGHS facility to the employees, it is suggested to take up this matter with the Ministry for the enrolment in the CGHS.
- (iii) The Institute does not have proper accommodation facilities for the faculty members. However, the members are of the opinion that the adherence to the HRA rules and regulations is necessary.
- (iv) Considering the Institute being a Central Govt. Institution with open recruitment system, the proposal is not admissible.
- (v) The seed grant facility to regular faculty members may be extended. Further, the BoG asked to prepare detailed guidelines for Seed Grant facility and place the same in the BoG for approval.
- (vi) The BoG suggested to provide the facility under the applicable rules of the Govt. of India for LTC.
- (vii) The newly appointed faculty members will be entitled for one time Joining Travelling Allowance as per eligibility. It will be extended within the rules applicable for Travelling Allowance.
- (viii) The CPDA facility shall be continued to the faculty members adhering to the guidelines issued by the Ministry in this regard.

The Chairperson BoG suggested that the focus for faculty retention should be more on providing job satisfaction and adding value to their intellectual and spiritual levels. The faculty should have facilities for socializing and creating an environment of brotherhood and camaraderie. The Institute should also work on these areas apart from only extending facilities.

Item No.41.06: To consider and approve the procurement of a new bus for students commuting between Outside Hostel and the Institute.

On the recommendation of the FC, the agenda was approved as proposed. Further, the BoG advised to follow the GFR 2017 rules for same.

Item No.41.07: To consider and adopt the order File No. 1/7(3)/ 2023-LS-II, Dated: 01.04.2024 issued by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India related to the revision of minimum wages due to change of VDA payable to manpower hired through Manpower Agencies.

On the recommendation of the FC, the agenda was approved as proposed. The increased VDA/revised rate will be applicable from 01st July 2024.

Item No.41.08: To consider the allocation of grant from Ministry of Education for the FY 2024-2025.

The recommendations of the FC are approved.

Item No.41.09: To consider and approve the Annual Accounts for the FY 2023-2024.

On the recommendation of the FC, the agenda was approved as proposed. The BoG also advised for timely submission of the Annual Report to the Ministry as per time schedule prescribed in the GFR.

Item No.41.10: To consider and approve the relaxation of rules for admissibility of Hostel subsidy for employees of NIT Sikkim.

The BoG deliberated on the issue and approved the recommendations of the FC – to refer the matter to the Ministry for consideration.

Item No.41.11: To report the present status of establishment of permanent campus.

The BoG noted the progress of the construction work of the Permanent Campus of NIT Sikkim at Dungdung, Khamdong. The presentation of Layout Plan of various buildings, boundary wall and walkthrough were made and the suggestions given by the Hon'ble members were noted by the Institute and the representative of the PMC (NBCC – Shri Abhishek Singh, AGM). Shri Rewa Nath Sharma, Executive Engineer, NIT Sikkim was directed to incorporate the suggestions in future planning and ensure the compliance by the Design Consultant and PMC.

Item No.41.12: To report the promotion/Financial Upgradation of the non-teaching staff.

The BoG noted and approved the same.



Item No.41.13: To report the sad and sudden demise of a Faculty Member in the Dept. of Electronics and Communication Engineering.

The Chairperson and members of the BoG extended their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and offered prayers for the departed soul.

May the departed soul attain मोक्ष – ॐ शान्ति

Item No.41.14: To report the joining of Dr. Varun Gupta as Assistant Professor (Grade-II, Level-10) in the Dept. of Electronics and Communication Engineering.

The BoG noted the same.

Item No.41.15: To report the Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the Building and Works Committee held on 27th May 2024.

The BoG noted the same.

Item No.41.16: To report the nomination of Shri B. B. Sharma, Additional Chief Engineer (East/Topa), Govt. of Sikkim as an expert from Electrical wing as per clause (vi) of 12(1) of First Statutes of NITs.

The BoG noted the same.

Item No.41.17: To report the Minutes of the 28th Meeting of the Senate.

The BoG noted the same.

Item No.41.18: To report the Minutes of the 30th Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The BoG noted the same.

The Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Director

mgl
26/6/24

Chairperson

26.6.24

Registrar (I/c)