

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

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

## Minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 3:30 PM under the Chairmanship of Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director & Chairman (I/C) at NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The following members were present in the meeting:

<b>Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil</b> Director & Chairman (I/C), NIT Sikkim	<b>Chairperson</b>
<b>Shri Madan Mohan</b> Additional Director General (HE), MHRD, GOI	<b>Member</b>
<b>Shri D. K. Singh</b> Deputy Secretary (IFD), MHRD, GOI	<b>Member</b>
<b>Shri G. P. Upadhyaya</b> Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim	<b>Member</b>
<b>Shri Ugyen Chopel,</b> State Nominee, Sikkim	<b>Member</b>
<b>Prof. Chandan Mahanta</b> Professor & Dean Students Affairs, IIT Guwahati (Representative of Director, IIT Guwahati)	<b>Member</b>
<b>Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi</b> Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	<b>Member</b>
<b>Dr. Ranjan Basak</b> Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	<b>Member</b>
<b>Dr. Sangram Ray</b> Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	<b>Invitee Member</b>
<b>Shri Sahil Minda</b> Internal Auditor, NIT Sikkim	<b>Invitee Member</b>
<b>Dr. Achintesh N. Biswas</b> Registrar (I/C), NIT Sikkim	<b>Secretary</b>

At the outset, the Chairperson extended heartiest welcome to the members present in the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 of 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:



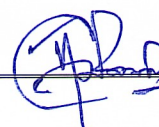
**Item No.22.01: To confirm the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Board of Governors held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020.**

The minutes were confirmed.

**Item No.22.02: To report the action taken on agenda/decisions taken in the previous Meetings of the Board of Governors.**

The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the meeting is as follows:

Item No.	Subject	Action
17.06	To approve the eligibility criteria and recruitment procedure/rules for recruitment of Nurse(s) in the Institute	Referred to MoE; reply awaited
17.09	To report the status of construction of Shed-II & Shed-III under construction by CPWD.	Not completed
19.11	To deliberate on the preparation of DPR for the establishment of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim	In process. Noted
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..	Implemented. Noted
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.	Adopted and implemented. Noted
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 7 <sup>th</sup> CPC) by one year.	Implemented. Noted
21.06	To consider and approve the confirmation of services of Assistant Professors Garde-I recruited during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Recruitment drive (2019)	Implemented. Noted
21.07	To discuss and decide the methodology to start the next semester and the procedures to be adopted for students' entry to the Institute during this Corona Pandemic	Implemented as per the directions and decisions of the Senate/ Chairperson Senate





**Item No.22.03: To consider and approve the initiation of 3<sup>rd</sup> Recruitment Drive of the Institute in March 2021.**

The members were apprised of the problems faced by the Institute due to inadequate number of sanctioned faculty and non-teaching positions. The present sanctioned faculty strength of the Institute is only thirty-eight (38) and the total sanctioned students' intake is 960. As per the MoE prescribed students-teacher ratio of 12:1, the number of faculty posts should be eighty (80). The matter has been communicated to the Ministry several times, but the sanction of additional faculty positions is still pending. At present, only twenty-six (26) regular faculty members are there at the Institute. Moreover, out of thirty-seven (37) sanctioned non-teaching positions, twenty-four (24) non-teaching staffs could be recruited during the last two recruitment drives. Considering the present scenario, the BoG approved the initiation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Recruitment Drive of the institute to fill twelve (12) faculty and thirteen (13) non-teaching positions following the MoE prescribed Recruitment Rules, related orders/O.M. and reservation roster.

*The agenda was approved as proposed.*

**Item No.22.04: To consider and approve the constitution of 'Advisory Committee on Faculty Recruitment (ACoFAR)' in line of the Model Recruitment Rule for Faculty of NITs**

Chairperson informed the members about the non-availability of senior faculty members required to constitute 'Advisory Committee on Faculty Recruitment (ACoFAR)' as per the Model Recruitment Rule for Faculty of NITs (Appendix- A1, Ministry letter no. F.No.33-9/2011 TS.III dated 30th November 2017). Moreover, most of the existing regular faculty members will be applying for the various faculty positions (movement into higher cadres/AGPs). Considering these facts, the BoG approved the proposal of ACoFAR formation by inducting suitable senior faculty members from sister NITs/IITs. The BoG empowered the Director to constitute the ACoFAR and other committees as necessary for fair and transparent recruitment process.

*The agenda was approved as proposed.*

**Item No.22.05: To consider and adopt the Ministry Letter No.: F.No. 35-1/2020-TS.III, Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 regarding Ministry's nominees on the Selection Committees for recruitment of non-teaching staffs in NITs & IEST.**

The letter F.No.35-1/2020-TS.III, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 regarding Ministry's nominees on the Selection Committees for recruitment of non-teaching staffs in NITs & IEST, was placed before the BoG for adoption. As per the new guidelines, only regular Registrars of NITs/IITs/IEST/IITs located in the respective zone shall be MoE's nominee in case of appointments to Technical, Administrative and Ministerial nonteaching posts. Considering the limited availability of regular Registrars in NITs/IITs/IEST/IITs located in the North-East region, it was proposed to relax the rule (b) of Point 2, so that regular Registrars from old NITs/IITs/IEST/IITs may be



invited as the nominee. The BoG deliberated on this issue and approved the same.

**Item No.22.06: To approve the eligibility criteria and recruitment procedure/rules for the recruitment of Nurse(s) in the Institute against regular sanctioned post.**

The BoG asked to refer the same to the Ministry for further appropriate action(s).

**Item No.22.07: To consider and approve the exemption of registration fee for the Ph.D. scholars after submission of the thesis.**

The recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved by the BOG

**Item No.22.08: To consider and approve the proposal for providing financial assistance to students for their visit to National War Memorial and Police Memorial vide OM No.: F.No. C.30019/01/2021-CDN, Dated: 03<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 issued by the Ministry of Education.**

The recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved by the BOG.

**Item No.22.09: To consider and approve the creation of a 'Centre of Excellence' to foster innovation and R&D activities of the Institute to fulfil the objectives of NEP-2020.**

On the recommendations of the FC, the BoG approved the creation of the centre of excellence in the areas mentioned in the table below and procurement of necessary equipment/instruments, etc.

S. No.	Area	State-of-the-art equipment	Cost (in Lakhs)
1	Artificial Intelligence & Data Science	High-end computational facilities	Rs. 200.00
2	Interdisciplinary Research in energy, health, and environment	(i) High Resolution Electron Spray Ionization Mass Spectrometer (ESI-MS)	Rs. 200.00
		(ii) 400 MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer	Rs. 300.00
TOTAL COST			Rs. 700.00

**Item No.22.10: To consider and approve the dispose/write off old/fully depreciated laptops of the Institute.**

The recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved by the BOG.



- Item No.22.11: To consider and approve the monthly emoluments of experienced Temporary/Ad-hoc/Guest Faculty members based on their academic performance.**

The agenda was discussed at length and on the recommendations of the FC, the BoG approved the monthly emolument/remuneration upto ₹1.10 Lakh (Rupees One Lakh Ten Thousand Only) to deserving candidates having at least Five years post-PhD teaching/ research experience.

- Item No.22.12: To consider and approve the Budget Estimate of the Institute for the FY 2021-22.**

On the recommendations of the FC, the budget estimate for the FY 2021-22 is approved as proposed. The final approved budget estimate is enclosed at Annexure – I.

- Item No.22.13: To consider the Audited Accounts for the FY 2019-20 and SAR of FY 2019-20.**

The BoG noted the same. The point wise discussion on SAR was made and necessary clarification were given to the members on the audit observations. The para regarding refund of interest to the Central Govt. was discussed and it was decided that the interest on grant must be refunded to the Ministry as per the established procedure. The BoG approved the audited annual account and SAR for the FY 2019-20.

- Item No.22.14: To consider and approve the purchase of a Utility Vehicle for NIT Sikkim.**

On recommendations of the FC, the BoG approved the purchase of the vehicle costing upto ₹10.00 Lakhs (exclusive of taxes/registration charges) from Government e-Marketplace (GeM) following GFR-2017 guidelines.

- Item No.22.15: To consider and approve the delegation of financial powers up to ₹1.00 Crore per item in favour of the Director for grant of financial approval.**

The recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved by the BoG.

*“The FC recommended, delegation of financial powers in favour of the Director to grant administrative and financial approvals to the extent of Rupees Fifty Lakhs per item/equipment. Beyond Rupees Fifty Lakhs, the administrative approval and financial sanction shall be granted by the FC/BoG and thereafter the Institute shall follow all the formalities as per the GFR related to the procedure for procurement of goods/services/ testing/commissioning etc.”*

- Item No.22.16: To report the signing of MoU with AICTE for organizing various Faculty Development Programs (FDPs).**

Noted and appreciated.





**Item No.22.17: To report the Stanford research report for NIT Sikkim under TEQIP-III project.**

Noted and advised to take necessary steps to improve the performance of the Institute by providing necessary infrastructure, facilities and support.

**Item No.22.18: To report the present status of the online academic activities.**

Noted and appreciated.

**Item No.22.19: To report the present status of the allocation of land for the permanent campus.**

Shri G.P. Upadhyaya, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim informed the members that the 100 acres land at Upper Khamdong, previously approved by the State Govt. for the construction of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim, will be handed over to the Institute in March/April 2021.

**Item No.22.20: To report the progress of the Construction work of Prefabricated Shed-II and Shed-III and to consider the completion of the remaining work at the institute level.**

The members expressed their displeasure over the considerable delay of the works by CPWD and instructed the institute to report the grievances to appropriate authorities. The BOG further approved the proposal of completing the remaining work of the shed-II at the institute level following due procedures.

**Item No.22.21: To report Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2020.**

Noted.

**Item No.22.22: To report Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of BWC held on 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2021.**

Noted.

**Item No.22.23: To report Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Finance Committee.**

Noted.

*The Meeting ended with vote of thanks.*

**Director & Chairperson (I/C)**

**Registrar (I/C)**