

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

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

Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 25th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held online on 7th December 2021 at 3:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director & Chairman (I/C). The following members were present in the meeting:

Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil Director & Chairman (I/C), NIT Sikkim	Chairperson
Prof. T. D. Sitharam Director, IIT Guwahati	Member
Shri G. P. Upadhyaya Additional Chief Secretary, HRDD, Govt. of Sikkim	Member
Mrs. Anil Kumar Director (Finance), MoE, GOI	Member
Mrs. Veena Dunga Under Secretary (NIT-I), MoE, GOI	Member
Shri Ugyen Chopel, State Nominee, Sikkim	Member
Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	Member
Dr. Ranjan Basak Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	Member
Shri Sahil Minda Internal Auditor, NIT Sikkim	Invitee 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 25th 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 Chairperson, the Agenda items were presented, and the following decisions were taken after due deliberations:

Item No.25.01: To confirm the minutes of the 24th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 20th September 2021.

The minutes were confirmed.



Item No.25.02: To report the action taken on agenda/decisions taken in the 24th meeting of the Board of Governors.

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

Agenda item	Decision	Action
24.04	To consider and approve the confirmation of services of regular non-teaching staff members who were appointed during the first and second recruitment drive(s).	Implemented
24.05	To deliberate and fix the criteria for defining "Industry of Repute" in regular faculty appointment.	Implemented
24.06	To adopt the amendment in non-teaching Recruitment Rules for the post of Superintending engineer.	Implemented
24.08	To consider and approve the implementation of 'Multiple entry and exit' option to the students as per the NEP-2020.	In process
25.09	To consider and approve the implementation of 'Academic Bank of Credit' option to the students as per the NEP-2020.	Implemented
25.10	To consider and approve the re-appropriation of the Post of Executive Engineer to Assistant Registrar and initiate the Recruitment accordingly.	Implemented as per the direction of the BOG
24.12	To consider and approve the fee structure for foreign students admitted through DASA/ICCR etc.	Implemented
24.13	To consider and approve the Preliminary Estimate (PE) submitted by CPWD for the work of construction of Boundary Wall of the permanent campus.	Placed at agenda no. 25.11
24.16	To report the distribution of posts at the level of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors as per the NIT flexi-cadre faculty structure.	Flexi cadre structure will be followed.
24.17	To report the distribution of posts at the level of Assistant Professor and preparation of pay-level wise reservation roster in accordance with the Central Education Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Act, 2019.	Flexi cadre structure will be followed.
24.18	To report the initiation of the 3 rd Recruitment Drive to fill backlog vacancies on a Mission Mode as per the direction received from the Ministry of Education.	The 3 rd Recruitment Drive is in progress.



Item No.25.03: To place the Director's Report to apprise of the development and progress of the Institute.

The BoG was apprised of the various academic and administrative activities of the Institute and the status of the allocation of land for the permanent campus. The Director highlighted the issue of inadequate number of faculty and staff members of the Institute affecting the growth of the Institute. The members of the Board appreciated the efforts made despite the constraints faced in the temporary campus and inadequate faculty/staff members.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.25.04: To consider and approve the list of candidates to be conferred with the Ph.D. degree of the Institute.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.25.05: To consider and approve the names of medal recipient students of B.Tech., M.Tech. and M. Sc. who will be honored in the 4th Convocation.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.25.06: To consider and approve the list of candidates of B.Tech., M.Tech. and M. Sc. who will be honored in the 4th Convocation.

The agenda was approved as proposed.

Item No.25.07: To consider and approve the resignation of Dr. Tarun Biswas, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

The resignation tendered by Dr. Tarun Biswas, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering was accepted by the BoG. He shall be relieved as per the Institute norms.

Item No.25.08: To consider and approve the recruitment Procedure, criteria, and syllabi for the Screening Test/ Written Test/ Trade Test for the recruitment against various non-teaching positions on regular basis.

After due deliberation, the recruitment Procedure, criteria, and syllabi for the Screening Test/ Written Test/ Trade Test for the recruitment against various non-teaching positions on regular basis were approved by the BoG with minor modification in the distribution of marks (weightage of Trade Test - 70%; and Interview – 30%) for the selection of Group A positions.

Item No.25.09: To consider and approve the "Panel of Experts" for the recruitment of non-teaching positions.

The "Panel of Experts" for the completion of selection process for various non-teaching positions was approved by the BoG. The Director was authorized to draw experts from the panel as external experts, MoE nominee, nominee of the Board and Head of the Department. If required, the observer for various categories will also be included in the Selection Committee and the Director is empowered to appoint the suitable members. If the panel gets exhausted, the Director is also authorized to invite experts from IITs/NITs/IIITs/CUs and other reputed institutions.

Item No.25.10: To consider and approve the “Panel of Experts” for faculty selection.

The “Panel of Experts” for the completion of selection process for various faculty positions was approved by the BoG. The Director was authorized to draw experts from the panel as two nominees of the Board, one expert nominee of the Senate and Head of the Department. If required, the observer for various categories will also be included in the Selection Committee and the Director is empowered to appoint the suitable members. If the panel gets exhausted, the Director is also authorized to invite experts from IITs/NITs/IIITs/CUs and other reputed institutions.

Item No.25.11: To consider and approve the proposal of considering the teaching experience of faculty members appointed under the TEQIP-III project and faculty members serving as ad-hoc/temporary faculty at NIT Sikkim.

After thorough deliberation, it was resolved to refer the proposal to the Ministry of Education.

Item No.25.12: To deliberate on the pending issue of sanctioning adequate number of faculty and non-teaching positions as per the Students’/Teacher ratio of 12:1 and the problems faced by the Institute due to shortage of faculty and staffs.

The Director apprised the BoG members of the problems faced by the Institute due to inadequate number of sanctioned faculty and staff positions. In 2012, the Ministry sanctioned **thirty-eight (38)** faculty positions for the Institute. Since then, no faculty positions have been sanctioned. Total sanctioned students’ intake (considering all UG & PG programs) is 960. Considering the MoE prescribed Students’-teacher ratio of 12:1, the number of faculty positions should be at least eighty (80). Presently, there are only twenty-six (26) faculty members at the Institute and hence, the students’-teacher ratio at the Institute is 37:1, which is unreflective of an Institute of National Importance. Inadequate number of sanctioned faculty positions is one of the main reasons behind the dismal ranking of the Institute in NIRF. Moreover, the students’-teacher ratio as required to get NBA accreditation is 15:1. The board members were informed that NIT Sikkim is yet to initiate the process of NBA accreditation because as per the NBA norms, the Institute does not even qualify for the same.

The BoG members unanimously agreed towards the need to sanction adequate faculty and staff positions for the Institute to fillip the academic activities, research outcomes, innovation of NIT Sikkim. The BoG members also asked to pursue the same in IFD and MoE aggressively. The members representing the MoE were requested to expedite the matter of sanctioning posts as per prescribed Students’-teacher ratio at the earliest.

Item No.25.13: To adopt the order (F.No.1/26(3)/2021-LS-II dated 28-10-2021) issued by the Ministry of Labour & employment, Govt. of India regarding the revised rates of Variable Dearness Allowance.

Adopted.



Item No.25.14 To consider the claim for Medical Reimbursement for treatment undertaken on emergency basis from Non-Government - Non CGHS empaneled Private Hospital from employees of NIT Sikkim.

Recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved by the BoG.

Item No.25.15 To consider and approve the Preliminary Estimate (PE) submitted by CPWD for the work of Construction of Boundary Wall in the permanent campus of the Institute.

The board corroborated the observations made by the FC in this regard.

Item No.25.16 To report the submission of Annual Report for the Financial Year 2020-21 to the Ministry of Education

Noted and appreciated the timely preparation and submission of annual report.

Item No.24.17 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 soon. He informed the BoG that almost 90% of the proposed land has already been acquired by the State Govt. and the mutation of the land in the name of NIT Sikkim will be done at the earliest. The members appreciated the relentless efforts of Shri Upadhyaya in this regard and requested to expedite the final land allotment. However, the members representing the MoE raised concerns for inordinate delay in this regard and requested Shri Upadhyaya to ensure early handover of the complete land free from all encumbrances.

The two cases reported in the agenda were also discussed along with the one court case by one of the land-owner. The Hon'ble court has made NIT Sikkim as the party and therefore, advocate is to be engaged for early disposal of the case. The Director is authorized to appoint the advocate and pay the remuneration. The representative from the MoE desired that the remuneration payable in the State Govt. may be taken into consideration and Shri Upadhyaya, Additional Chief Secretary, HRDD, Govt. of Sikkim is requested to help the Institute in this regard.

Item No.25.18 To report the status of vacant posts in faculty and non-teaching cadres and action taken.

Noted.

Item No.25.19 To report the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Senate.

Noted.


Item No.25.20 To report the minutes of the 17th meeting of BWC.

Noted.



Item No.25.21 To report the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee.

Noted.


Registrar (I/C)

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

Director & Chairperson (I/C)