

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

(An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

Minutes of the 32nd Meeting of the Board of Governors

The 32nd Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on 01st February 2023 at 01:00 PM under the chairmanship of Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director & Chairman (I/c) in the NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The following members were present in the meeting:

Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil Director & Chairman (I/c), NIT Sikkim	Chairperson
Shri G. P. Upadhyaya Cabinet Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim	Member
Prof. V. K. Paul SPA, New Delhi	Special Invitee
Shri Indrajit Kuri Under Secretary (NITs), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India	Member
Shri Anil Kumar Director (Finance), IFD, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India	Member
Shri Ugyen Chopel Director, Yuksom Breweries Ltd., Sikkim	Member
Prof. S. K. Kakoty Deputy Director, IIT Guwahati	Member
Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi Associate Professor, NIT Sikkim	Member
Dr. Sourav Mallick Associate Professor, NIT Sikkim	Member
Dr. Ranjan Basak Registrar (I/c), NIT Sikkim	Secretary
Shri Sahil Minda Assistant Registrar, NIT Sikkim	Special Invitee
Shri Rewa Nath Sharma Executive Engineer, NIT Sikkim	Special Invitee

At the outset, the Chairperson extended heartiest welcome to the members present in the 32nd Meeting of the Board of Governors for sparing their valuable time and contributions made towards the development of NIT Sikkim. The Director also appraised 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.32.01: To confirm the Minutes of the 31st Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 20th December 2022.

The Minutes were confirmed.

Item No. 32.02: To report the action taken on the decisions taken in the 31st Meetings of the Board of Governors.

The BoG noted the actions taken by the Institute.

Item No.32.03: To place the Director's Report to apprise of the development and progress of the Institute.

The Director presented the report on the Institute and apprised the members about the recent achievements, academic activities, placement statistics, pending issues such as non-availability of the permanent campus, inadequate number of sanctioned faculty and non-teaching positions, etc. The members appreciated the efforts of the Institute towards the overall development of the stakeholders despite being forced to operate from a temporary campus with limited resources.

Item No.32.04: To consider and approve the Budget Estimate of the Institute for the FY 2023-24.

On the recommendation of the FC, the BoG approved the same.

Item No.32.05: To consider and approve the proposed DPR and the preliminary estimate for the establishment of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim at Dung Dung, Khamdong, East Sikkim.

On the recommendations of the FC, the In-principal approval of the DPR is accorded by the BoG. The estimated cost of construction of the permanent campus along with the revised cost estimates as prepared by the Institute under different heads in consultation with the NBCC (India) Ltd. is given in the table below:

(Rupees in Crore)

Capital Cost of Construction (OH 35)	Lab Equipment and Furniture (OH 35)	Salary Head (OH 36)	General Head (OH 31)	Cost Incurred till 30.01.2023	Total Revised Cost Estimates
590.13	76.19	91.02	54.48	165.48	977.30

Item No.32.06: To consider and approve the draft bid document for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) cum Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection/ appointment of the Project Management Consultancy (PMC) for construction of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim at Dung Dung, Khamdong, East Sikkim.

The recommendations of the FC were approved.

Item No.32.07: To adopt the OM No. 1(16)/EV/2017, dated 02.12.2021 (Issued by The Department of Expenditure) and OM NO. R-13011/02/2022-SS. II dated 23.11.2022 (Issued by Ministry of Labour and Employment) Regarding applicability of payment of Gratuity Act 1972 to the Educational Institutions under the Ministry of Education.

On the recommendations of the FC, the BoG adopted the same.

Item No.32.08: To consider and approve the expenditure against the remuneration of the visiting doctors.

The recommendations of the FC in this regard were approved.

Item No.32.09: To report the present status of land allocation for the permanent campus.

The Director, NIT Sikkim apprised the BoG about the following facts and the pending issues with the Govt. of Sikkim regarding the land for the permanent campus:

As per the letter issued by ADC East (Memo No-908/716/G/I/ADC/DCE Dated:11/01/2022) 89.81 Acres of the land out of nearly 100 Acres has been mutated in the name of NIT Sikkim. For the speedy resolution of the long pending issues with Government of Sikkim concerning the site for the permanent campus, a high-level meeting was held on 14th December 2022 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Education, Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Law Department, Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Govt. of Sikkim. Further, to apprise the progress of the project and resolution of the pending issues, the Director along with the other NIT officials also met the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Education Dept., Secretary Power Dept., Secretary Road and Bridges Dept. and District Collector – East District, Govt. of Sikkim.

The pending issues and their progress:

- (i) 6 acres/2.934 hectare of land belongs to the Forest & Environment Dept., Govt. of Sikkim for which final stage approval of FCA is received. However, the possession & handover of land to NIT Sikkim from the Education Department is not completed. The ACS, Education Dept., Govt. of Sikkim discussed the matter with the PCCF, Govt. of Sikkim and requested him to hand over the land to NIT Sikkim. The PCCF informed that a joint inspection is required by the DFO, Forest & Environment Dept. and the Education Dept., Govt. of Sikkim to complete the handing/taking over the said land. The date for the inspection is expected to be fixed in this month and the issue resolved.
- (ii) Nearly, 4 Acres of land is under litigation Viz Plot Number- 465, 466, 467 and 485. The case has been pending in the Judicial Court of Gangtok District for a long time. The members discussed and opined that the partial judgment passed by the Hon'ble Court on 07/04/2022 may be

taken into cognizance which stated that the 'State defendant shall be at liberty to take possession of the acquired suit of land.'

In view of the above directions of the Hon'ble Court, Hon'ble Minister directed that a written communication should be made to the Director Higher & Technical Education (State Defendant, Govt. of Sikkim) to take necessary action for taking the possession of said land and subsequently hand over and complete the mutation in favour of NIT Sikkim.

Subsequently, Written Communication has been sent to Special Secretary cum Director, Technical & Higher Education, Education Dept. On 18th December 2022 to take necessary action for taking the possession of said land and subsequently hand over to NIT Sikkim.

Further, Secretary cum Director, Technical & Higher Education, Education Dept. wrote to District Collector, Gangtok District for handover of possession to Education Department on 5th January 2023. Further, the Director, NIT Sikkim met the DC, Gangtok and reminded for the same. The DC, Gangtok directed the officials to issue the necessary office orders for possession of land in the name of the Education Dept, Govt. of Sikkim as per the direction of the Hon'ble Court. It is expected that the said communication shall be received by the NIT Sikkim in this month.

- (iii) The registration of land (approx. 170 ft x 40 ft) to be used as an approach road to the campus from the main road is still pending. However, there exists alternative entrance to the campus.
- (iv) The existing PWD road connecting Khamdong to Ralap intersects the proposed NIT Sikkim campus and it splits the campus into three parts. The Institute campus should be contiguous with a common boundary to ensure the safety and security of the campus and avoid encroachment apart from other several difficulties. To mitigate this major issue the Institute has initiated following actions:
 - (a) Request letter for diversion was communicated to Hon'ble Minister Road and Bridge Department, GoS with copy to PCE-Cum Secretary, Road and Bridge Department, on 18th December 2022 by Director, NIT Sikkim.
 - (b) Follow up has been done by the NIT Officials continuously.
 - (c) Joint inspection was done on 12th January 2023.

However, the issue remains unresolved and needs an early resolution.

- (v) The matter related to the widening and improvisation of the existing link road connecting Singtam-Dikchu NH and Khamdong via Ralap was discussed in the meeting held on 14th December 2022 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Education, Land Revenue &

Disaster Management Department, Law Department, Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Govt. of Sikkim. As an outcome of the meeting, the Director has written a request letter on 18th December 2022 to Hon'ble Minister Road and Bridge Department, Govt of Sikkim with copy to PCE-Cum Secretary, Road and Bridge Department for the early resolution of the issue.

- (vi) The Letter No.: 232/NITS/Works/Water supply arrangement/ permanent campus/ 22-23/21, Dated: 03rd August 2022 was sent to the PCE Cum Secretary, PHED, Govt. of Sikkim for the requisition to provide the cost estimate for laying of pipeline from the nearest water source to the proposed overhead tank of NIT Sikkim Campus at Dung Dung, Khamdong, East Sikkim. The same is still pending. However, this issue was also discussed in the meeting held on 14th December 2022 and as a result a joint Inspection with PHE department was done on 7th January 2023. Further, PHE officials verbally assured that the, detailed report with the final estimate will be provided within January, 2023.
- (vii) The issue of existing three houses located within the vicinity of the proposed land which are yet to be shifted to some other place, was also discussed in the above meeting and the Hon'ble Minister assured to resolve the issue on priority. It is to be noted that the compensation of three house owner has not been released as on date.
- (viii) The issue of providing electric power substation within the proposed campus is still pending. The Director, NIT Sikkim met the Secretary, Power Dept., Govt. of Sikkim and apprised him with the details and requirement of sub-station within the campus of NIT Sikkim. The Secretary informed that they are likely to send the proposal to the Central Govt. for the same. The Director, NIT Sikkim requested him to expedite the matter.

On the request of the Director NIT Sikkim, a meeting was convened by the Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim on 30th January 2023 in his office to review and resolve the pending issues. The Director informed that the Institute has been constantly pursuing the above-mentioned matters, however, resolution of the aforementioned issues is still pending.

The BoG raised serious concern about the inordinate delay in resolution of the long pending issues and requested the State Nominees for pursuing the matters with the Govt. of Sikkim to resolve all the pending issues. The officials of the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India have communicated that unless the land is free from all and any kind of encumbrances, the DPR will not be approved by the Ministry.

It was also advised that intervention of the Ministry of Education, Govt of India may be sought in the matter of pending issues and a communication to be made in this regard to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim for the early resolution

of the same. The BoG also raised his concerned for the provision of the facilities/amenities such as electricity, Sanitation, Water Supply, Connectivity, basic health facilities etc. as committed by the Govt. of Sikkim in its earlier communication (Letter No: GOS/DTE/2002/VIII (9)/490, dated: 25.02.2010) to the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

Item No. 32.10: To report the status of faculty and staff positions at the Institute.

Noted.

Item No.32.11: To report the Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Building Works Committee held on 04th January 2023.

Noted.

Item No.32.12: To report the Minutes of the 24th Meeting of the Finance Committee.

Noted.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.



Registrar (I/c)

Director & Chairperson (I/c)

