

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

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

Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Finance Committee

The 17th Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute was held on 23rd June 2021 at 11:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil, Director & Chairman (I/c) in virtual mode. The following members were present in the meeting:

Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil Director & Chairperson (I/c), NIT Sikkim	Chairperson
Shri G. P. Upadhyaya Additional Chief Secretary, HRDD, Govt. of Sikkim	BoG Nominee
Mrs. Darshana M. Dabral Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoE, GOI	Member
Shri Mrutyunjay Behera Economic Advisor (HE), GOI	Member
Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim	BoG Nominee
Shri Sahil Minda Internal Auditor, NIT Sikkim	Invitee Member
Dr. Achintesh N. Biswas Registrar (I/c), NIT Sikkim	Secretary

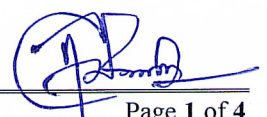
At the outset, the BoG paid heartfelt tribute to Late Shri Madan Mohan, Former Additional General (HE), MoE and Member of the Finance Committee of the Institute. The members fondly recollected their memories with him and prayed for the departed soul to receive eternal peace. Thereafter, the Chairperson extended a warm welcome to the members present and acknowledged the contributions made towards the development of NIT Sikkim and for sparing their invaluable time. The Director also apprised the Finance Committee of the progress and issues of the Institute. With the permission of the Chairperson, the Agenda items were presented, and the following decisions were taken after due deliberations:

Item No.17.01: To confirm the Minutes of the 16th Meeting of Finance Committee held on 16th March 2021.

The Minutes were confirmed.

Item No.17.02: To report the actions taken on the decisions taken in the 16th Meeting of the Finance Committee.

All the decisions taken in the 16th Meeting of the Finance Committee were compiled and implemented.



Item No.17.03: To consider and adopt the order (File No.:1/20(3)2021-LS-II, Dated: 23-04-2021 and File No.:1/16(1)/2021-LS-II to File No.:1/16(6)/2021-LS-II, Dated: 28-04-2021 including the corrigendum of File No.: 1/16(6)/ 2021-LS-II, Dated: 28-04-2021 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 FC recommended the adoption and implementation from July 1, 2021 of the order (File No.:1/20(3)2021-LS-II, Dated: 23-04-2021 and File No.: 1/16(1)/2021-LS-II to File No.: 1/16(6)/ 2021-LS-II, Dated: 28-04-2021 including the corrigendum of File No.: 1/16 (6)/2021-LS-II, Dated: 28-04-2021 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 FC recommended the same to the BoG for the approval.

Item No.17.04: To consider and approve the empanelment of the temporary teaching staff as Teaching Assistant/Trainee Teachers in various engineering departments.

The FC was apprised that the present sanctioned teaching positions at the Institute are only **thirty-eight (38)** while as per the rule prescribed by the Ministry based on Students' strength, **eighty (80) faculty positions** need to be created. The creation of the posts from the MoE are still awaited. The FC is also apprised with the fact that the Institute is presently offering five UG and three PG programs in different Engineering disciplines and one in chemistry. As per the present teaching load (considering both theoretical and laboratory subjects), on average at least twelve (12) faculty members are required per engineering department. In addition, the faculty is required for teaching basic sciences, humanities and mathematics subjects. Further, the problems are also faced by the Institute in faculty recruitment and retention due to the temporary nature of the campus, extreme climatic condition, lack of basic amenities, etc. as highlighted by the members representing the Institute. This has also resulted in the non-availability of suitable candidates for the sanctioned positions at Associate Professor & Professor levels, despite all possible efforts made by the Institute. The proposal for the sanction of additional faculty positions is pending at MoE from last three years. The adequate strength of the faculty in each department is necessary to ensure the teaching quality and to fulfill the requirement of NBA etc.

The members of the FC were apprised of the acute faculty shortage at the Institute and the urgent need of sanctioning additional faculty positions. The members acknowledged the facts and need of the faculty as requested by the Director to ensure regular quality teaching. However, it was decided not to designate the faculty members as Teaching Assistant/Trainee Teachers. The designation and recruitment of temporary faculty can be done as per the model recruitment rule and the NIT Statutes. Considering the present scenario, it was decided to recruit Temporary faculty to mitigate the problem and to impart quality education/training till the adequate regular faculty is

made available. Moreover, it was decided to limit the total number of faculty to approximately sixty to sixty-five in the Institute, it will include both regular and temporary faculty. The selection of such Temporary Faculty members is to be done as per the model recruitment rules (under flexible 4-tier system) and within the ambit of the statutes of the National Institutes of Technology and subsequent amendments. The empaneled temporary faculty members will be paid consolidated monthly emolument as approved by the BoG earlier based on their qualification, teaching and research experience.

The FC recommended the same to the BoG for approval.

Item No.17.05: To consider the budget allocation against the grant from Ministry of Education for the FY 2021-2022.

The members were apprised of the insufficient budget allocation for the Institute for FY 2021-22. The ministry has allocated a total of Rs.18.69 crore as grant in aid to NIT Sikkim for FY 2021-22. The Institute, till the Financial Year 2020-21 had TEQIP-III project to fund various academic and Infrastructural needs. Further, the IRG collection of the Institute has also gradually decreased over the years owing to fees waiver and remission scheme of the Ministry. The Institute is expected to achieve the objectives of NEP 2020 and accordingly, proper infrastructure needs to be developed. Keeping all these in consideration, the members representing the MoE were requested to kindly look into the matter and allocate more budget/grant to the Institute for its smooth functioning and implementation of the objectives of NEP 2020.

The FC recommended the same to the BoG for necessary actions.

Item No.17.06: To consider and approve the Annual Accounts for the FY 2020-2021.

The FC recommended the Annual Accounts for the FY 2020-2021 to the BoG for approval and subsequent submission to AG Sikkim for audit.

Item No.17.07: To consider and approve the enhancement of total student fee per semester for various UG, PG and Ph.D. programs.

The existing fee structure of various NITs and the Institute is compared and it was proposed in the Meeting of Deans and Heads that the students' fee needs revision to increase the IRG of the Institute. The FC deliberated on the proposed fee structure and it was agreed to increase the students' fee per semester for the UG programs by approximately 5% of the total fee, which comes out to be Rs.3,400.00 approx. Further, it was decided to increase the academic fee per semester for the PG and Ph.D. programs also by approximately same amount. The revised fee structure is placed at Annexure-I. The FC advised the Institute to revise fee structure periodically or annually.

The FC recommended the same to the BoG for approval.



Item No.17.08: To ratify the creation of sustainability funds as per the TEQIP-III guidelines of 8% of the annual revenue.

It was ratified and the FC agreed in principle for the creation of sustainability funds as per the TEQIP-III guidelines. However, the FC advised the Institute to place detailed TEQIP-III directives in this regard in the next FC/BoG meeting(s).

The FC recommended the same to the BoG for approval.

Director & Chairman (I/c)

Registrar (I/c)