NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SIKKIM

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

MINUTES OF THE 23rd MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The 23rd Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute was held on 08th December 2022 at 03:30 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:

Prof. Mahesh Chandra Govil

Chairperson

Director & Chairman (I/c), NIT Sikkim

Shri G. P. Upadhyaya

Member

Chief/Cabinet Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim

Mrs. Saumya Gupta

Present Online

Joint Secretary (NIT), MoE, Govt. of India

Mr. Anil Kumar

Present Online

Director Finance, (IFD) MoE, GoI

Dr. Dhananjay Tripathi

Member

Assistant Professor, NIT Sikkim

Shri Sahil Minda

Invitee Member

Assistant Registrar (Finance & Accounts), NIT Sikkim

Dr. Ranjan Basak

Secretary

Registrar (I/c), NIT Sikkim

At the outset, the Chairperson extended heartiest welcome to the members present in the 23rd Meeting of the Finance Committee for sparing their valuable time and contributions made towards the development of NIT Sikkim. The Director also apprised the Finance Committee with the progress and issues 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.23.01: To confirm the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 22nd June 2022.

The Minutes were confirmed.

Item No.23.02: To report the action taken on agenda/decisions taken in the 22nd Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The FC noted the action taken by the Institute.

Item No.23.03: To consider and approve the Audited Annual Accounts and Separate Audit Report for the FY 2021-22.

The audit report and the annual accounts were discussed in detail by the committee. The item wise suggestions/response to be furnished to the auditors suggested by the committee are detailed below.

a) Income and Expenditure (Schedule- 11 and 12)



Income from Investments – ₹ 0.43 crore Interest Earned – ₹ 0.04 crore

The committee was informed of the contention of the auditors that the interest on IRG is also to be refunded to the Ministry along with the Interest on grants in aid. The representative of the IFD, MoE, informed that the Institute is correct in not refunding the Interest on IRG to the Ministry as the same is the internal income of the Institute and the GFR 2017 mandates only the refund of Interest on Grant-in-Aid given by GoI.

Hence, a renewed response is to be submitted to the Auditors to drop the para as there has been no contravention of the GFR on the part of the Institute.

b) Income and Expenditure Account Expenditure Prior Period Expenses (Schedule- 22) - ₹ 0.15 crore

The FC was informed that as per the directions of the 19th BoG, the Institute carry forward the Interest on Grants till the Financial year 2019-20 and the interest for the FY 2020-21 and 2021-22 was remitted to the Ministry.

The committee deliberated on the matter and it was suggested that the Interest for Grants in Aid for FY 2017-18, 18-19 and 19-20 may also be remitted to the ministry as mandated by the GFR. After compliance the CAG to be requested to drop the para. However, the Interest on IRG is not to be refunded for any of the years.

c) Adequacy of Internal Audit System

The Director apprised the FC of the acute shortage of manpower at NIT Sikkim at different functional levels due to which multiple roles are being handled by the available manpower. The sanction of additional positions is still awaited as a result independent role cannot be assigned with the available number of positions. The matter was discussed in detail and it was suggested by the representative of the IFD that an external Chartered Accountant Firm may be engaged to conduct periodic Internal Audit along with the existing system in place. The same would ensure an independent audit along with the submission of report to the office of the CAG in compliance the audit observation.

The FC recommended the above measures to the BoG for approval.

Item No.23.04: To consider and approve the lodging/boarding charges for the BoG/ Senate members for attending various statutory meetings.

The FC advised the Institute to follow the guidelines issued by the Finance Ministry, GOI (F.No.:19047/1/2016-E.IV, Dated:14.09.2017) and the amendment, if any.

The FC recommended the same to the BoG for approval.

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Item No.23.05: To consider and approve the provision of group medical insurance to employees and their dependents.

The agenda was deferred.

Item No.23.06: To adopt the order F.No.1/16(3)/2022-LS-II Dated: 28-09-2022 issued by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India regarding the revised rates of Variable Dearness Allowance.

The FC recommended to the BoG to adopt the order (F.No.1/16(3)/2022-LS-II, Dated: 28-09-2022) issued by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India regarding the revised rates of Variable Dearness Allowance.

Item No.23.07: To deliberate and discuss the proposed DPR and proposed estimate prepared by CPWD for the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim at Khamdong.

The DPR for the construction of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim at Dung Dung, Khamdong, East Sikkim has been prepared and submitted by CPWD. The copy of the DPR along with preliminary estimate amounting to ₹1064.17 Crore and soil investigation report submitted by CPWD along with other necessary documents were placed before the FC for the approval. After thorough discussion, the members of the FC were of the opinion that the estimate prepared by the CPWD is on higher side and need revision. Owing to the delay and difficulty faced by the Institute as apprised by the Director in preparation of the DPR by the CPWD, the FC advised that Institute may approach the National Building Corporation Limited, NBCC (India) Limited to prepare the DPR along with preliminary estimate. The FC also advised that the DPR estimate should be kept below Rs. 1,000 Crore. The FC also requested to expedite the DPR preparation as well as take necessary step to resolve the pending issues of the land allocated for the establishment of the permanent campus of NIT Sikkim.

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The FC recommended the same to the BoG for Approval.

The Meeting ended with vote of thanks.

Registrar (I/c)

Director & Chairperson (I/c)