

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NIRJULI :: ITANAGAR :: ARUNACHAL PRADESH

(Deemed University)

MINUTES

of

***79th Meeting of the Board of Management HELD ON 22.01.2014 AT 1.30
P.M IN THE Board Meeting Room, NERIST***

The following were present:

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| 1) Shri Pranab Kumar Barbora, Air Marshal (Retd.) | - | Chairman |
| 2) Shri Praveen Prakash, IAS,
Joint Secretary (TEL),
MHRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi | - | Member |
| 3) Shri Alex P. Thomas, AFA
for Joint Secretary & FA,
IFD, MHRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi | - | Member(Nominee) |
| 4) Dr.T.Padu,
for Commissioner Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh) | - | Member(Nominee) |
| 5) Prof.Dipankar Pal, Director, NERIST | - | Member |
| 6) Prof.M.Muralidhar, Dean (P&D) , NERIST | - | Member |
| 7) Prof.P.R.Alapati, Dean (SA), NERIST | - | Member |
| 8) Prof.Mubarak Hussain, NERIST | - | Member |
| 9) Dr.A.S.Rai,Associate Professor | - | Member(Invitee) |
| 10)Dr.B.K.Singh, Assistant Professor | - | Member |
| 11)Dr.R.P.Bhattacharjee, Registrar | - | Non-member |
- Secretary, BOM

The following members could not attend the meeting and they were granted leave by the Chairman, BOM. They are:-

- 1.The Commissioner/ Secretary, Higher and Technical Education ,Govt. of Mizoram.

2. The Commissioner /Secretary, Higher and Technical Education ,Govt. of Sikkim.
- 3.The Principal Commissioner/ Secretary, Higher and Technical Education ,Govt. of Meghalaya.
4. The Commissioner/ Secretary, Higher and Technical Education ,Govt. of Nagaland.
5. The Commissioner /Secretary Higher and Technical Education ,Govt. of Manipur.
6. The Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Tripura.
7. The Commissioner / Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Assam.
8. Lt. Gen(Dr.) D.D.S.Sandhu, Vice Chancellor, Kurukshetra University.
9. Mr. Prasanta Bora .
10. Prof R.M.Pant.
11. Dr.P.R.Parida

At the *outset*, Air Marshal (Retd.) Shri, Pranab Kumar Barbora, Chairman, Board of Management welcomed all the members. Then Agenda items were taken up for discussion one by one and following were resolved:

Item No.79.01:: To confirm the Minutes of the 78th Meeting of the Board of Management held on 30.09.2013.

Resolution : The minutes of the 78th meeting of the Board of Management was confirmed with the following change: “ to exonerate all the three faculty members” in item 78.06 was replaced by “to drop charges against all the three faculty members”. The Director presented the documents he received from a group of potential beneficiaries on reported CAS-anomalies hours before the meeting was to start. He also read out some of the departmental noting and emails (from the former Chairman) on the issue of re-examination. He informed Why the Institute observed it legally and administratively appropriate to withhold the release finical benefits till the re-examination is completed. The

Chairman noted them, consulted the Member from IFD (MHRD) and allowed with names proposed by P.R Alapati to Director, formation of a second committee by him, to help expedite the re-checking of the financial implications vis a vis resolution made in the 59th meeting of the BoM so that the final report from the existing committee under Prof L.S. Yadav could be completed and sent to an external committee by current FY.

Item No.79.02 :: Action Taken Report (ATR)

[The action taken report was noted by the members]

Resolution:: Noted.

Item No.79.03: To consider the minutes of the 39th FC meeting held on 22.01.2014.

[The minutes of the 39th FC meeting were circulated to all members for their comments on the table. No comment was received from any member]

Resolution: The minutes of the 39th Finance Committee meeting was confirmed by the Board of Management.

Item No.79.04 : To consider conversion of employees engaged in Hand Receipt to appropriate status/enhancement of pay.

[Members noted the total number of hand receipt workers as on 31.05.2012. It also observed that they have been engaged by the earlier authority and are practically continuing. Now the NEA is demanding to give them temporary status or 1/30th status or increase the wages. Director constituted a committee to look into the issue. The committee (with members from NEA) had submitted its report which was included in the agenda. Director requested the Board to take a decision on this demand.

Chairman asked the Registrar to give the present wages of the hand receipt workers and their status. Registrar said that the Institute is following the A.P. State Govt. rates an enhancement benefit for the hand receipt workers As per the State Govt. norm, there are two categories – skilled and unskilled.

MHRD and IFD member noted that there would be huge financial burden if the recommendations of the committee are implemented. The members also observed that Hon'ble Supreme Court of India does not permit categories of SC, ST OBC PWD, women and minority to be treated preferentially to general category when the consideration is based on human rights].

Resolution:

A. The Board of Management, after taking into account both the humanitarian as well as the financial-burden aspects decided to enhance the wages of the hand receipt workers (both skilled and unskilled) as per the following rate w.e.f. the date of this meeting:

- 1) Up to first five years, the wage shall be Rs.6500/- per month.**
- 2) After completion of five years it shall be Rs.7500/- per month**
- 3) After completion of ten years it shall be Rs.9000/- per month.**

B. It was also resolved to book the wages under appropriate head of Plan (general) from next FY.

C. The BoM took a very serious view of making of this type of engagements after 31.05.2012, without permission of the competent authority and in violation of the decision taken by the 34th FC and the 72nd BoM and resolved to immediately discontinue them to stop further payment, and fix responsibility for their engagement on officials, if any.

D. The BoM once again reiterated that no such appointment should be made without approval of the Board henceforth.

Item No.79.05:: To consider Night Duty Allowance to the regular security guard in NERIST.

[The night duty allowance to the regular security was discontinued with effect from September, 2009 onwards as there was no special mention in the 6th CPC for extending the Night Duty Allowance to the regular security guards. He also said that presently only 12 regular security guards are on rolls.

It was noted that on demand of the UNEUA, this matter was placed in the 75th BoM and the 75th BoM rejected the proposal. As the UNEUA and its modified form, the NEA is continuously demanding it; a committee was constituted to examine the demand vis-à-vis the rule position .The report is placed included in the agenda.

Chairman asked the Director if any other institutions are extending this facility. Director said that as per the Committee's report Railways and IIT Kanpur are extending this facility.

With the consent of the MHRD and IFD members, it was resolved to extend this facility from the date of approval of these minutes and not from retrospective date subject to a ceiling of Rs.1 lac p.a. on total expenses on this head for all the security guards (on NERIST payroll) taken together.]

Resolution: The Board of Management approved to give Night Duty Allowance to the regular security guards of NERIST from the date of approval of this BoM Minutes and not from an earlier date. It was also resolved that a ceiling of expenses of Rs. 1.00 lac p.a. totally, on this head shall be maintained.

Item No.79.06:: To consider Draft new Recruitment Rule – 2014.

[Director said that a committee was constituted headed by Prof.P.K.Das vide no.RR-41/2011-12 dated 31.10.2012 for drafting the Recruitment Rules for Ministerial and non-teaching staff. The committee also had representation from NEA. It has submitted the RR few days back, which is now tabled on the floor of the house. Chairman observed that members have not got enough time to read it. He asked

all the members to meticulously read the RR and decided that this matter may be placed in a future meeting of the BoM.]

Resolution: It was resolved that the members would go through the proposed RR and send their comments in writing to the Director. After a reasonable time, the proposed RR shall again be placed in a future meeting of BoM.

Item No.79.07:: Reporting Items

Item No.79.07.01:: To give ex post facto approval to the minutes of the 37th Finance Committee meeting held on 03.07.2013.

Resolution: The Board of Management noted and accorded approval.

Item NO.79.07.02:: To report the appointment of 21 persons as per present RSS and as a measure to fill ST-back-log under special drive to fill ST-backlog and to seek ratification for minor age relaxation for 3 of them.

[The members took note of the observation of the team from MHRD consisting of Mr. R.C. Meena, the report of the expert committee and its identification of the supernumerary posts, the decision of the 78th BoM, the observance of codal procedure (advertisements, tests etc.) as directed by the 78th BoM and recommendation of the Selection Committee. The members also noted the rule position of grant 3 candidates' marginal age relaxation.]

Resolution:: The Board of Management noted the appointments and approved the age relaxation for the three candidates as sought.

Additional Items of Agenda:

Agenda Item No.79.08.01 :: Representation by Dr.H.S.Yadav, Professor, Department of Chemistry, NERIST for grant of one year EOL to join University of Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman.

[Director said that Dr.H.S.Yadav, Professor, Department of Chemistry, NERIST had applied for EOL for one year to join University of Nizwa Sultanate of Oman. His application was placed in the Study Leave Committee and the Study Leave Committee approved “subject to arranging academic responsibilities with the agreement of HoD (Chemistry)” HoD separately observed that “the comments/concerns of the HoD/Chemistry on the EOL application were wrongly attend by the then incharge Director, Dr. H.S. Yadav as the matter pertained to him only” (**English is kept unchanged**) which although not fully clear perhaps means that while Dr. Yadav was recently officiating of Director for a few days, he incorrectly interpreted his Hod and recorded some comments as it helped him. Further it was resolved in a departmental meeting on 11.9.13 that if Dr. H.S Yadav goes on EoL, there would be no other faculty with specialization of inorganic Chemistry to be taught to M.Sc students and the programme might have to be stopped. He HoD therefore could not recommend his application. Dr. H.S. Yadav urged the Director to overrule the HoD but the Director regretted his case.

Thereafter Dr. H.S. Yadav took it up first with the former (the then) Chairman, BoM, the with the MHRD and finally with the present Chairman. Accordingly at the behest of the MHRD, this was placed as an extra item in the agenda.]

After examining the rule position the Chairman, BoM wanted to hear from the Head and therefore invited HoD (Chemistry) to join the discussion for this issue only. HoD (Chemistry) said that there was no senior faculty like Dr. H.S. Yadav to teach M.Sc students and for conducting practical classes and laboratories. His departure for one year will affect the department adversely. Joining the discussion

Prof. Mubarak Husain (a senior faculty from the same department) added that Dr. H.S. Yadav has visited many times before for similar duration and the department had supported each time because the PG programme was not there then. However, this time PG course is introduced and the teaching load is heavy for each faculty.

It was observed by all that students' interest cannot be sacrificed and quality cannot be diluted.]

Resolution: After threadbare discussion, In the interest of the institute, the request of the Dr.H.S.Yadav, Professor, Department of Chemistry on EoL to join University of Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman was regretted by the BoM.

Agenda Item No.79.08.02 :: Special Recruitment Drive of filling up of backlog reserved vacancies for SC/ST/OBCs and backlog vacancies for visually impaired and other persons with disabilities in NERIST, Itanagar.

[Director informed the house of the one recent letter received from the Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, MHRD regarding Special Recruitment Drive of filling up of backlog reserved vacancies for SC/ST/OBCs and backlog vacancies for visually impaired and other persons with disabilities in NERIST, Itanagar in the ratio of 134 : 147 (i.e. faculty : non-faculty).

Director said that NERIST is growing under Deemed University status by introducing all PG courses (M.Tech and Ph.D) in all departments and faculty strength has not been increased since. To ensure quality more faculties are actually needed. He also informed that in view of the modular structure of NERIST, where one takes 6 years as opposed 4 years as in NITs and IITs to complete degree, a special approval was granted by the MHRD to NERIST vide the existing RSS approved by the MHRD in 2007. In the interest of the academics, the MHRD may continue to allow the present RSS status of 200:300 (i.e. faculty : non-faculty).

MHRD representative said that as per your student strength, the Ministry had fixed the ratio of faculty and non-teaching i.e. 134 : 147 as is done for all organizations. However noting the unique factors applicable in NERIST, they allowed the Institute to send details with full justification to the Ministry for approval.

Chairman instructed that a letter may be prepared by the Registrar, NERIST for sending the MHRD in this regard and himself volunteered to write one from his side.]

Resolution: The Board of Management decided that a letter shall be written by the Registrar and another by the Chairman, BoM to MHRD to consider the present approved ratio of 200 : 400 (i.e. faculty : non-faculty).

Agenda Item No.79.08.03: Approval of New Rationalization of Staff Structure (RSS)

[Director said that the proposed RSS had been recommended in the 72nd BoM and was sent to the MHRD for approval. Reminders were also sent to MHRD for approval of the new RSS. The NEA is pressing to conduct DPC as per the new RSS.

Resolution : The board resolved that the existing RSS would serve broader interest of the Institute.

Agenda Item No., 79.08.04 : Decision on lifting the abeyance order issued vide RR-19(75)/Bom?2013 dated 29th April 2013.

[Shri Praveen Prakash, IAS, Joint Secretary (TEL), MHRD, New Delhi informed that now that the MHRD has directly intervened, there is not much significance left to an order issued as per BoM-resolution. It should therefore be kept in abeyance as before.]

Resolution : The abeyance order shall be kept untouched.

Item No.79.09:: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Shri Praveen Prakash, IAS, Joint Secretary (TEL), MHRD said that he would like to seek to introduce two things at NERIST to improve the teaching and learning processes as is being used in many institutions.

1) Teaching through Video (using available e-resources)

Teaching students from video of lectures by well-known subject-experts to be stored in local server would boost. It will also help faculty in self-development. He assured he would give details of Prof. Mangal from IIT, Madras to Director and he himself would speak to him to this end.

2) Starting up of Community Colleges

This is a new scheme being prepared by the MHRD for Universities.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

(Sd/- Dr.R.P.Bhattacharjee)

Dated 11/2/2014

Registrar & Non member secretary, BOM

