

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
DURGAPUR-713209, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

Minutes of the 39th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 28th September, 2016 in the Seminar Room 2, United Service Institution of India, Rao Tula Ram Marg (Opposite Signals Enclave), Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110 057.

The following members attended the Meeting:

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| 1. Prof. A. B. Bhattacharyya,
Chairperson, Board of Governors,
National Institute of Technology,
Durgapur | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Asok De,
Director, (Additional Charge),
National Institute of Technology,
Durgapur | Member |
| 3. Shri S P Goyal
JS (NITs & DL)
Department of Higher Education
MHRD Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 015 | Member |
| 4. Shri A. Maheswary
Director, Finance,
MHRD, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 015 | Member |
| 5. Prof. S.P. Ghoshal
Professor,
Department of Electrical Engineering,
National Institute of Technology,
Durgapur. | Member |
| 6. Brig. A. S. Nijjar,
Registrar,
National institute of Technology,
Durgapur | Member Secretary |

The Chairperson, Finance Committee welcomed all members of the Finance Committee to the 39th meeting of the Finance Committee.

Item#: 39.01: To Confirm the Minutes of the 38th Finance Committee Meeting held on 25th May, 2016.

The Chairman raised the issue, that in one of the earlier meetings, one member had sought clarification whether transfer of liabilities of REC to NIT at the time of conversion in 2003- 04 had been included in the MoU signed between the State Government and the Central Government or not. The Finance Committee was informed that the MoU did not cover the above subject, upon which, the Finance Committee resolved that a detailed clarification on the above issue, be put up in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee confirmed the minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Finance Committee, incorporating the comments of the Chairperson therein.

Item#: 39.02: To note action taken on the Minutes of the 38th Finance Committee Meeting held on 25th May, 2016.

One of the members from MHRD raised certain queries regarding the progress on action taken on various points: -

38.02

Regarding ratification of payment as EPF of hostel employees (Item 37.03), it was enquired whether the matter had been referred to the MHRD and if so whether any reply had been received. It was confirmed that the matter has already been referred to MHRD, however no reply has been received so far.

Regarding allocation of funds for development of laboratories (Item 37.06), the member inquired whether 25% of plan grant was actually being utilised for that purpose. It was informed that it was endeavoured to allocate maximum funds to the laboratories within the budgetary constraints. It was decided that the quantum and the percentage of funds allocated to the laboratories out of the plan grants in the last two financial years be put up in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

38.03

To a query regarding procurement of furniture for the 'New Academic Block' the Finance Committee was informed that 'New Academic Block' was a clerical mistake and the point pertains to "New International Hostel" for which the furniture was being procured in phases.

One of the members from MHRD suggested that in future, either furniture should be a part of the overall project, otherwise, if it is being procured separately, the procurement should be strictly as per the GFRs and the CVC guidelines on transparency.

38.04

Regarding procurement of Bench Top FT NMR90 MHz, the Finance Committee was informed that the item was recommended only in principle and being a research related item, it has not been procured, as it was low on priority vis a vis teaching items.

38.05

Regarding streamlining the items, to be procured out of CPDA, under the head 'Contingent Expenses' the Finance Committee was informed that such streamlining had been resorted to, due to audit objections raised by the CAG.

38.06

It was decided that the status as to whether the loan(s) taken from IRG has/have been recouped/returned to the Corpus, be put up in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

38.10

A) Automation and provision of LAN: one member from MHRD inquired whether the Institute could directly hire the services of NIC on a nomination basis and without following the provisions of the GFRs. The Director informed that NIC is a Government Organisation and had provided very good services to NIT Patna and hence, a direct order could be placed. After detailed deliberations, it was decided and recommended that henceforth any work, should be allotted only as per the provisions contained in the GFRs and the CVC guidelines on transparency.

C) Shopping Complex: The Finance Committee suggested, that for allotment of shops, the GFRs should be followed. The Finance Committee also desired that the 'Shopping Complex' be made operational as soon as possible.

E) Scavenging and Cleaning Services: One member from MHRD suggested, that for any contract related to scavenging, cleaning etc. the agreement should not be based on the number of workers or equipment but should be based on the amount of work required and its quality based on measurable output parameters.

In the ensuing discussions, the Finance Committee recommended that intake of students should be rationalised and it should not under any circumstances exceed the capacity of the Institute, be it hostels, classrooms or other facilities.

The Board suggested that Institute should direct its effort to emphasize on quality education and necessary support system. Institute should focus on programs that it can handle with emphasis on establishing an identity for itself. Student intake should be so calibrated and rationalized that expected standards of education, support infrastructure, employability be ensured.

The endeavour should be on quality and optimum utilization of the resources and infrastructure without compromising at all, with the quality of teaching and research.

The Chairman wanted to know whether Rs. 5 to 10 Lakhs, as was decided in an earlier meeting, were being given to the Departments for maintenance of laboratories. He was informed that so far such allocation had not been made, however it being a very good idea should be implemented immediately.

The Members from MHRD informed that plan and non-plan system of allocation was likely to be done away with, from the financial year 2017-18 onwards.

Item#39.03: Procurement of 1 GBPS additional dedicated Internet Bandwidth (1:1)/ Internet Leased Line from Rail Tel Corporation (A Central PSU) with a tentative expenditure of INR 80 Lakhs per annum.

The Finance Committee recommended that the GFRs and the CVC guidelines on transparency be followed scrupulously while procuring the hardware and/or services in this matter. While procuring the services, service requirements should be explained in detail and there should be adequate penalty provisions for non-performance or under-performance. One member from MHRD advised that in case NKN was not providing satisfactory services, the matter be taken up with the Ministry of Information Technology through MHRD.

Item#39.04: Incubation centre for innovation and entrepreneurship; required area 10,000 sq feet.

The Finance Committee recommended the proposal in principle. It was further suggested that options of using existing unutilized infrastructure like the existing guest house (on account of the near completion of the new Guest House) be also explored so that the Incubation Centre could be in place as soon as possible. This, on one hand, would expedite the setting up of the Centre and on the other, would be more cost effective and require only refurbishing of existing unutilized infrastructure.

Item#39.05: Presentation by Dean Planning and Development on An integrated projection on Building Plans for NITDGP.

Dean (P&D) made a detailed presentation, on various projects under progress in NIT Durgapur. The Finance Committee observed and discussed various issues raised during the presentation.

One of the issues that came up was regarding the utilisation of the Guest House. The Finance Committee was informed, that a large number of guests, do visit the Institute on a regular basis for various purposes and as such, the requirement of such a reasonably sized Guest House was indeed justified. It was however resolved that once the new Guest House comes up, the old Guest House may be used for some other purpose, as deemed fit.

The Chairman highlighted his concern about the condition of lecture halls/class rooms and the workshop. He proposed a requirement of about Rs. 2.5 Crores for upliftment of class rooms, about Rs. 1.5 Crore for the workshop and approximately 7 crores (Rs. 50 Lakhs per Department) for the laboratories.

The Finance Committee recommended the proposal in principle.

It was debated, whether there was a requirement of a boundary wall for the Boys Hostels. Differing views were presented, though the discussion remained inconclusive. It was decided that the situation regarding boundary wall of Boys' Hostels may be sought from other similarly placed Institutes and put up in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The members suggested that since a large requirement of funds had been projected there was a need to priorities and the Boys' & Girls' Hostels are of top priority.

The Finance Committee recommended in principle the proposals of Dean (P&D), barring the boundary wall for Boys' Hostel (Serial-2), G + 12 building for various purposes (Serial - 7) and miscellaneous facilities (Serial - 10).

It was further proposed that there should be a five years roll on plan (master plan) and the proposals should be brought up through the B&WC.

Extract of important points is attached as annexure to the minutes.

Item#39.06: Proposal for compilation of organizational history including a Documentary Film as asked vide MHRD email dated 16th May, 2016 by Shri S P Goyal, Joint Secretary (NITs & DL) Department of Higher Education, MHRD, Govt. of India, and National Archives of India letter No. F.16-2/2016-R.M. Government of India, Ministry of Culture, dated 12th April, 2016.

The item was withdrawn.

Item # 39.07: Any other item with permission of the chair.

A) To consider the recommendations of the administrative reforms committee on delegation of financial powers for different functionaries of NIT Durgapur.

It was decided that recommendations with the opinion of the Director be referred to the IFD of MHRD for consideration.

The administrative reforms initiated should be expanded to develop a system so that there is a planned and gradual decentralization of power amongst the Functional Academic and Administrative Heads. Such a system be evolved under the guidance of Director.

The Chairman stated that assets of NIT if any deployed for the Geo-Thermal Projects must be retrieved.

Other issues could not be discussed and it was decided that any other items, if pending, be brought up in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

The meeting was declared closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



Brig. A. S. Nijjar
Registrar & Member Secretary,
Finance Committee,
National Institute of Technology
Durgapur - 713209

*Approved by Chairman BOG
vide e-mail dated 08 Nov 2016
3.17 PM*



Prof. A.B. Bhattacharyya
Chairman, Finance Committee,
National Institute of Technology
Durgapur - 713209

EXTRACT OF IMPORTANT POINTS OF THE PRESENTATION BY DEAN P & D

Presentation on 39th FC: a report from Dean (P & D)

1. The members were apprised on the progress of ten (10) major projects namely i) 1250 Boys' Hostel, ii) 500+ Girls' Hostel, iii) VIP Guest House, iv) Hostel Renovation, v) International Students' Hostel, vi) S.N. Ray Memorial Building, vii) Market Complex, viii) Furniture of New Academic Block, ix) Auditorium and x) Raising of Boundary Wall with Security Post. It was also pointed out that out of the total balance fund requirement (of Rs. 129.97 cr.), Rs. 88.4 cr. is required for the year 2016-17.
2. A list of ten (10) new projects was placed before the committee, out of which seven (7) projects namely i) renovation of underground sewer lines with the construction of two public toilets, ii) Augmentation of Audio-Visual Capacity of Lecture Halls and Galleries that includes improving ambience of the lecture hall such as light, fan, restructuring of floors, visibility of the board, audio system etc. with additional furniture for the Lecture Halls and UG laboratories iii) Internet System, laying of FOC etc. iv) Furniture of Hostels, v) Renovation of Hostels excluding Toilet Blocks, vi) Yearly Maintenance of Whole campus, and vii) Roof treatment and internal and external painting of all quarters are approved in principal. These are now to be placed to B&WC meeting. The committee doesn't approve the proposal of i) Raising of Hostel Boundary wall, ii) G+12 multi-facility tower, iii) Extra Academic Activity Complex for the time being.
3. It was suggested by the committee to explore the possibility of utilizing the existing guest house for incubation cum start-up center once the ongoing construction of VIP Guest House is complete.
4. It was felt that the space allotted to EES department at the premises of old BT Department was disproportionately allotted against their faculty strength. Looking into the need of the regular research scholar and new faculties, 50% of the above space where cubicles are made will be used by the PhD scholars and teachers. However EES department will use the remaining 50% of the space.