

INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar
(An IUC of University Grants Commission)

Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre
Tuesday, 7th January, 2014 at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar

Chairman

Prof. N Mukunda

Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre

Members

Dr. R K Chadha
Shri Kamlesh Joshipura
Prof. Karmeshu
Prof. Ajit Kembhavi
Dr. Jagdish Arora

Addl. Secretary, Lok Sabha, New Delhi
Vice-Chancellor, IITE, Gandhinagar
Dean, CS&S, JNU, New Delhi
Director, IUCAA, Pune
Director, INFLIBNET Centre & Member Secretary

Dr. Kuncheria P Issac, Member, Secretary, AICTE, New Delhi, Prof. Sunaina Singh, Vice-Chancellor, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, Dr. Rajan M Welukar, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mumbai, Mumbai, Prof. Shivaji Rao Kadam, Vice-Chancellor, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune and Dr. Nandini Mukherjee, Head, IT, Jadavpur University, Kolkata could not attend the meeting because of prior commitments.

1. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the Governing Board held on Tuesday, 9th July, 2013 at UGC Main Office, New Delhi**

The Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the Governing Board of the INFLIBNET Centre held on 9th July, 2013 at UGC Main Office, New Delhi were confirmed as circulated, since no comments were received from the members.

2. **Report on Action Taken and Progress Made since 26th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 9th July, 2013 at UGC Main Office, New Delhi**

Dr. Jagdish Arora presented a brief report on action taken on the decisions made during the 26th Meeting of the Governing Board. A gist of the report presented to the members is as follows:

- 2.1. "Deduction of TDS from subscription amount paid to the publishers" is being taken up as a separate agenda (26th GB, 3).
- 2.2. Request for release of Rs.152.25 crores required for renewal of subscription to e-resources for the year 2014 has been sent to the UGC. Response from the UGC is awaited. (26th GB, 4).
- 2.3. Two additional administrative staff approved by the GB were recruited for a period of one year on contractual basis for making Asset Register. The work of making asset register is nearing completion. (26th GB, 5).
- 2.4. Request for seeking specific approval for continuation of contractual positions of project officers sanctioned during XI Plan Period has been sent to UGC. Reply from the UGC is still awaited. (26th GB, 6).

- 2.5. Approval of the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Building Committee held on 16th April, 2013 will be placed for approval in the next meeting of the Finance Committee along with details of expenditure committed on construction of building. (26th GB, 7).
- 2.6. The term of Account Consultant was extended for a period of one year at a monthly payment of Rs. 45,000.00 (26th GB, 8)
- 2.7. Revised remuneration for the PS to the Director approved by the Governing Board was implemented (26th GB, 9).

3. Status of Important Schemes and Projects

Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Centre briefed the members about the status of important schemes and projects being executed by the INFLIBNET Centre. The gist of the presentation is as follows:

- 3.1. **UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium:** The scheme provides differential access to 8,500 peer-reviewed e-journals and 11 bibliographic databases from 28 publishers to 206 eligible universities including 14 law universities and 5 inter-university centres. Besides, 204 Associate Members have also enrolled themselves for this scheme to get access to e-resources on payment basis. It was noted that the scheme was inadvertently dropped during the meeting of the Commission held in June, 2013. It is reliably learnt that restoration of Scheme for the next plan period is being taken up during the next meeting of the Commission scheduled to be held on 10th January, 2014.

The Members expressed their concerns regarding discontinuation of this flagship programme of the INFLIBNET Centre considered the fact the scheme is highly important for researchers and faculty in universities. The members sincerely hoped that the scheme would continue during XII Plan period.

- 3.1.1. **Renewal of Subscription to E-resources for the Year 2014 using Unspent balance allocated during 2012-13:** Members were informed that some of the publishers, especially scholarly societies and non-profit making organizations, insist on renewal of subscription and release of payment within first month of every year failing which access to their resources is discontinued. After detailed discussions and deliberations, it was resolved that the INFLIBNET Centre may renew subscription to selected e-resources including Nature, J-STOR, ACS, AIP, APS, IOP, RSC and MathSciNet. It was also resolved that the UGC would be informed about utilization of funds allocated for 2012-2013 for renewal of subscription for the year 2014.

Dr. Jagdish Arora clarified that the Centre receives funds for renewal of subscription in December / January every year. Part of the funds is utilized for renewal of subscription in the subsequent financial year given the fact that several journals are subscribed for the financial year i.e. April to March.

- 3.2. **National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST):** The National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST) was being funded by the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NME-ICT) during XI Plan Period i.e. from 2009 to 2012. The project provides for access to more than 5,000 electronic journals and 97,000 electronic books to more than 3,200 colleges and Web of Science to 100 universities. The project did not get funding for the year 2012-2013. A proposal for continuation of the N-LIST project for the year 2013-2014 with funding from NME-ICT was considered during the meeting of Project Approval Board held on 21st November,

2013 wherein it was agreed that the project cannot get funding from the NME-ICT since it was taken up as a pilot project that has been completed successfully. As such, it was resolved that various components of N-LIST Project can be subsumed into INDEST-AICTE / UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium, as the case may be.

It is reliably learnt that the MHRD would be requesting UGC to provide additional funds to the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium to continue the N-LIST Programme. As such, the NLIST would become college component of the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium.

- 3.3. **e-PG-Pathshala:** Members noted that the progress made under e-PG-Pathshala is rather slow. However, it was also noted that the scope of work of INFLIBNET Centre is restricted to providing a platform for hosting the content generated under the project. Besides, the Centre has also been given the responsibility of allocating funds to PIs selected by the Standing Committee of e-PG-Pathshala for creation of content in different subjects. Dr. Jagdish Arora briefed the members about actions being taken by the INFLIBNET Centre to increase the pace of work under this project.
- 3.4. **UGC Website:** The members were briefed about the new developments in the UGC Website project executed by the INFLIBNET Centre. It was noted that website and e-Scholarship-Fellowship Award Registration Tracking System (E-SART) is being managed by the INFLIBNET Centre including invitation of online application, scrutiny of applications etc. The Centre has developed Interfaces for more than 12 major schemes that are being operated on a regular basis year after year.

4. **New Projects Applied for Financial Assistance from the NME-ICT and CUG**

Members were informed that the Centre has applied for financial assistance for execution of two projects entitled "Vidwan: A Database of Experts in Various Disciplines" and "Integrated e-Content Portal for Content developed under NME-ICT". Both the projects were successfully defended by their PIs in the Meeting of Standing Committee of National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology held on 6th Dec., 2013 in New Delhi. Both the project proposals have been recommended for funding by the Standing Committee of NME-ICT.

The Members also noted that a proposal for revamping and hosting of the website of Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar has also been approved at a total cost of ₹10.53 lakhs per annum.

5. **Visit of the IUC Review Committee to the INFLIBNET Centre**

Dr. Jagdish Arora presented a brief about the visit of IUC Evaluation Committee that visited the Centre on 17th July, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Goverdhan Mehta. Members noted were informed that the members of the Committee were highly satisfied with the functioning of INFLIBNET Centre. The Committee gave new ideas that are being implemented in a phased manner.

6. **Status of Institute Building at Infocity, Gandhinagar**

It was noted that the physical construction of all the three blocks of the Institute building has been completed. Both the contractors are now attending to the list of snags pointed out by the Centre, PMC and Architect. The members were informed that all the contractors have been asked to submit their final bills which would be scrutinized by the Internal Audit Wing of the UGC as well as by the Standing Purchase Committee of the INFLIBNET Centre.

Members also noted that request for release of ₹5.70 crores require for networking and furnishing of the Institute Building is still awaited from the UGC. Members also noted that the Institute Building is waiting for its formal inauguration for almost a year. After detailed discussions and deliberations, it was resolved that the Chairman, UGC may be requested to inaugurate the building on a date and time suitable to him.

7. Ratification of the Items Approved by the Chairman, Governing Board

The Members ratified and approved both the items.

7.1. House Allotment Rules: House Allotment Rules for INFLIBNET Centre, based on the House Allotment Rules of JNU, IIT Delhi and IIT Roorkee, was approved by the Governing Board.

7.2. Payment of Electricity Bills for the Director's Residence: The Members noted that the electricity bill of the Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Gujarat is being paid by the university. Moreover, draft model of Bye-Laws prepared by the UGC also provides for payment of electricity bill by the concerned institution.

8. Deduction of TDS from Subscription Amount Paid to the Publishers: Show Cause Notice Issued by the Income-Tax Department, International Taxation Wing, Ahmedabad: Current Status:

Members noted that the Writ Petition filed by the INFLIBNET Centre against the Show Cause Notice received for non-deduction of TDS was withdrawn on the ground that the Income Tax Department has its own remedial measures available with it. It was noted that Hon'ble Judges of the High Court in the case disposal order has advised the Assessing Officer that while passing the final order on show-cause notice the respondent is bound to consider and shall consider the reply / replies submitted by the INFLIBNET Centre and deal with all the decisions that may be cited and pass order in accordance with the law and on merits.

The Members noted that the INFLIBNET Centre has also requested the MHRD and UGC to intervene in this policy decision and approach the Finance Ministry for necessary instructions regarding withdrawing of taxes, if any on books and journals. Moreover, The INFLIBNET Centre itself would write appeal to the Finance Ministry for consideration during the next Budget session.

9. Presentation on Vidwan Database to Honourable Minister of Human Resource Development by INFLIBNET Centre, 17th September, 2013

The Members noted that the INFLIBNET Centre made a brief presentation on Vidwan Database as well as INFLIBNET Centre's activities to the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development. The Minister took great interest in the activities of the Centre. It was resolved during the presentation that the Centre may be given requisite funds for strengthening its Vidwan Database.

10. Filling up of the post of Administrative Assistant/UDC in place of Jr. Stenographer (PB-1, Pay Band – Rs.5200 – 20200/-, GP Rs.2400/-)

The proposal for filling-in the post of Assistant / UDC in place of Jr. Stenographer was approved by the Governing Board considering the fact that there is no financial implications involved. However, it was resolved that the UGC may be informed before filling-in the post.

11. Filling up of the post of the Scientist 'E' (PB-4, Pay Band Rs.37400 to 67000/-,GP Rs.8700/-)

Members noted that the Centre has received letter No. F.31-39/2007(IUC) dated 12th June, 2009 from the UGC wherein the UGC has asked to fill-in all scientific and technical positions available with the Centre urgently as per the recommendations of the Parliamentary Estimate Committee. As such, the Governing Board approved filling-in the post of Scientist 'E' under intimation to the UGC.

12. Licence Fee-free Accommodation to the Administrative Officer of the Centre


The proposal for providing license fee-free accommodation to the Administrative Officer of the Centre was approved considering the fact the Administrative Officer also manages the estate and its services. It was noted that the Government of India, Ministry of Urban Development Housing Rules provides for license-fee free accommodation to the employees whose duties are such that their presence is required on the office premises.


13. Provision for Visitorships / Summer Fellowships Programme

Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET informed that the IUC Review Committee that visited the Centre on 13th July, 2013 observed that the Centre has an enlarged portfolio with limited number of scientists and staff. The Committee recommended that the Centre should increase its staff strength and supplement it with introduction of Summer Fellowships, Short-term Fellowships, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships programmes to carry out the services and activities of the INFLIBNET Centre more effectively and efficiently.

The Director mentioned that the Plan Grant (2012-2017) being given to the INFLIBNET Centre provides for Fellowships / Scholarships, Visiting Fellows, etc. As such, it was proposed that the Centre may introduce up to 4 Visiting Fellowship Programme / Summer Fellowship programme wherein retired professors / librarians may be invited to spent time at the INFLIBNET Centre varying from one to three months. These Visiting Fellows / Summer Fellows would be working with the young scientists of the INFLIBNET Centre for on topics relevant to the Centre. Honorarium and local hospitality to be paid to these visiting Fellows / Summer Fellows would be worked out and approval of the Chairman, Governing Board would be taken before initiating these Fellowships.

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


Prof. N. Mukunda
Chairman, Governing Board


(Jagdish Arora)
Director, INFLIBNET Centre