

Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Governing Council of INFLIBNET Centre held on
Saturday, 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad

December 15, 2010

Members Present

Prof. S K Thorat President, INFLIBNET Society & Chairman, Governing
Council, INFLIBNET Centre
Prof. S K Khanna Chairman, GB, INFLIBNET Centre

Members, INFLIBNET Council / Governing Board

Dr. (Mrs.) Niloufer Adil Kazmi Secretary, UGC, Delhi
Dr. P. Prakash Additional Secretary, UGC, New Delhi (Special Invitee)
Dr. V G Talawar Vice-Chancellor, Mysore University
Dr. T R Kem Director, CEC, New Delhi
Prof. R K Kale Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat
Prof. J P Gupta Vice-Chancellor, JIITU Delhi
Prof. H A Ranganath Director, NAAC, Bengaluru
Dr. D P Kothari Advisor to Chancellor, VIT University, Vellore
Shri M K Hada Member Secretary, AICTE, Delhi
Dr. S Majumdar Librarian, University of Delhi
Dr. Jagdish Arora Director, INFLIBNET & Member Secretary

Dr. Ved Prakash, Vice-Chairman, UGC, Prof. S S Mantha, Chairman (Incharge), AICTE, Dr. Samir K Brahmachari, Director General, CSIR, Prof. Javeed Alam, Chairman, ICSSR, Prof. Parimal H Trivedi, Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat University and Dr. Swapan Chakravorty, Director, National Library, Kolkata could not attend the meeting because of prior commitments.

At the outset, Prof. S.K. Khanna, Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre felicitated Prof. Thorat, Chairman, UGC for receiving prestigious Mother Teresa Lifetime Achievement Award for the Year 2010. The Award, instituted in 2000-01 by the Mother Teresa International and Millennium Awards Committee under the banner of All-India Minority and Weaker Sections' Council, Kolkata. Notable winners of the coveted award includes late Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi (posthumously).

Prof. S K Thorat, Chairman, UGC and Chairman, Governing Council, INFLIBNET Centre extended a warm welcome to all the distinguished members of the Governing Council and Governing Board of the Centre. Prof. Thorat mentioned that since his term as Chairman, UGC would come to an end in February 2011, it might be the last meeting of the Governing Council that he would be attending in the capacity of Chairman, UGC and President, INFLIBNET Society. He thanked all the members for contributing to the activities of INFLIBNET Centre with their proactive participation and for their valuable suggestions. He mentioned that the INFLIBNET Centre has made tremendous progress under the leadership of its Chairman, Prof. S.K. Khanna as well as its Director, Dr. Jagdish Arora in all sphere of activities including ongoing programmes, new initiatives, physical infrastructure, etc. Dr. Jagdish Arora, on behalf of the Governing Board and Governing Council, thanked Prof. Thorat, Chairman, UGC as well as all other key functionaries of the UGC for their proactive help and assistance extended to the Centre in all its initiatives under the able leadership of Prof. S.K. Thorat, Chairman, UGC.

Prior to taking-up the agenda of the Meeting, Prof. S.K. Thorat, Chairman, UGC launched e-Education Portal, a product of collaborative endeavour between CEC and INFLIBNET. The e-Education portal is a web-based interface to the database of educational video programmes consisting of bibliographic information about videos produced by the CEC and its 17 EMMRCs. The Lucene-based search interface is designed to facilitate users to interact with CEC video database, browse, search and retrieve records from it. Prof. Thorat appreciated the fact that collaborative project taken by the CEC and INFLIBNET has resulted in a tangible product that would be useful for the higher education community in India.

Prof. Thorat also uploaded full-text of 1,111th theses into Shodhganga; a Reservoir of Indian Theses launched by the Chairman, UGC himself on 27th January, 2010. He emphasized that it would be desirable to publish an abstract of each thesis submitted to Shodhganga and abstracts of submissions in the repository may be published periodically as a separate publication for distribution in universities to spread awareness about current research being conducted in universities in India. Since, it would not be possible for INFLIBNET staff to make abstracts of theses in diverse and specialised subject fields, the Centre may hire services of panel of faculties / Ph.D. scholars to write these abstracts on payment basis. The Centre may set-up these panels of experts on annual basis and take decision on payment to be made for writing abstracts of theses and dissertations.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 10th Governing Council held on Saturday, 3rd October, 2009 in Ahmedabad

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 10th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 3rd October, 2009 were confirmed by the Chairman, UGC as the President of the INFLIBNET Society. No comments were received on the Minutes circulated to the members.

2. Action Taken and Progress Made since Last Meeting of the Governing Council

Dr. Jagdish Arora presented a gist of report on progress made and action taken as mentioned below:

i) Proposal on Implementation of Electronic Submission of Theses and Dissertations

Proposal on implementation of electronic submission of theses and dissertations have since been implemented as a project rechristened as Shodhganga. Director also made a presentation on Shodhganga. Dr. Praksh informed the members that UGC has allocated ₹ 5.50 crores for Shodhganga as per the recommendation of the National Committee on ETD.

ii) Items mentioned below were approved during the 9th Meeting of INFLIBNET Council held on 9th April, 2009. Members noted that specific approval to these items are still awaited from the UGC:

- a) Writing-off of obsolete and unserviceable items including computers, furniture and fixtures: 39 unserviceable items costing ₹95,45,722.00 (Rupees Ninety-five Lakhs Forty-five thousands seven hundred twenty-two only);
- b) Approval of Revised Purchase Procedures (in line with Government of India);
- c) Revised Qualification of Senior Technical Assistant (STA): reduction in requirement of working experience from 4 years to 2 years;

- d) Enhancing Power of the Director for Appointing Contractual Staff: from ₹4,000/- to ₹10,000/- for a specified period upto 6 months maximum;
 - e) Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for Scientist B in INFLIBNET Centre as Applicable to the Assistant Librarian / College Librarian; and
 - f) Upgradation of Entry-level post in Administration from Clerk-cum-Typist to Assistant.
- iii) **The following items were approved by the Governing Council in its 10th Meeting held on 3rd October, 2009. Members noted that specific approval to these items are still awaited from the UGC:**
- a) Funds for Construction of Institute Building: Proposal for release of ₹8.27 crores for construction of guest rooms, residential flats and Director's pent house, was sent to the UGC.
 - b) **Restoration of Position of Scientist E & F:** Proposal for restoration of Scientist E & F that were earlier downgraded to Scientist-D was sent to the UGC.
 - c) **Provision of Three Administrative Officers / SO at the INFLIBNET Centre:** Proposal for three Administrative Officers / Section Officer at the INFLIBNET Centre, approved by the Council, was sent to the UGC for approval.
 - d) **Empowering Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre to Writing-off and Disposal of Obsolete and Unserviceable Items:** Request for empowering Governing Board and Governing Council of the INFLIBNET Centre to write-off and approved disposal of obsolete and unserviceable items was sent to the UGC for its approval.

The Chairman, UGC took note of the fact that several items that are awaiting specific approval of the UGC for decisions that were made almost a year back, are of routine nature and are as per the provisions made in General Financial Rules of the Govt. of India. As such, it was resolved that the UGC would write a common letter to all IUCs stating that IUCs may implement provisions made in GFR soon after getting approval from their Governing Board / Governing Council without seeking specific approval of the UGC. The Chairman, UGC also desired that all items that are pending with the UGC should be cleared on priority.

3. Presentation of the Minutes of 21st Meeting of the Governing Board held on 24th July, 2010 and Proceedings of the 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board held on 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad

3.1. Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Governing Board of the INFLIBNET Centre held on Saturday, 24th July, 2010, Ahmedabad

Dr. Jagdish Arora highlighted the following major points of the Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Governing Board held on 24th July, 2010 to the members of the Governing Council:

- i) **Constitution of R&D Panel:** The Meetings of the R&D Panel on New Initiatives and R&D Panel on Existing Programmes of the INFLIBNET Centre was convened on 7th June, 2010 and 6th August, 2010 respectively at Ahmedabad. Presentations on new initiatives and existing

programmes were made to the respective panels. Suggestions and recommendations made during the meetings of two panels were taken note of and the Centre has started working on leads taken from the expert panellists.

- ii) **Purchase of Staff Vehicle under SOUL Support and Maintenance Project:** The request for purchase of staff vehicle for SOUL Support and Maintenance Unit was sent to the UGC on 9th Sept., 2010. Approval of the UGC is awaited.
- iii) **Constitution of Review Committee for Institute Building:** The meeting of the Review Committee approved by the Governing Board in its 21st Meeting held on 24th July, 2010 is being convened within this financial year.
- iv) **Increase in Honorarium Payable to Members of Various Committees / Visiting Experts at the INFLIBNET Centre:** Increase in honorarium payable to members of various Committees, as approved by the Governing Board in its 21st Meeting held on 24th July, 2010, has been implemented.
- v) **Enhancement of Remuneration being Paid to the Project / Contractual Staff:** Remuneration being paid to the project / contractual staff of the Centre has been enhanced and implemented with effect from August, 2010.
- vi) **Decision of the Honourable High Court of Gujarat Regarding Retention of Services of Shri C.K. Shah, Sr. Administrative Officer and Post-facto Approval for the Post of Sr. Administrative Officer at the INFLIBNET Centre:** The decision of the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat regarding regularisation of services of Shri C K Shah as Sr. Administrative Officer was conveyed to the UGC with a request that the post of Sr. Administrative officer should be sanctioned to the INFLIBNET Centre on regular basis considering the fact that the Centre is handling several new projects and its activities have expanded to a great extent. Approval of the UGC is awaited.

Meanwhile, Chairman, Governing Board appointed a Committee to examine and evaluate current status and continuing requirement of administrative manpower at officer level at the Centre. The Committee has submitted its report that was placed before the Governing Board under Agenda Item 7.

- vii) **INFLIBNET Access Management Federation:** A request was sent to all the publishers dealing with UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium and N-LIST Programme to recognise to the INFLIBNET Centre as an identity provider and as an Access Management Federation. The Centre is experimenting with a couple of publishers for implementation of Shibboleth-based access management system.

3.2. Proceedings of the 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board held on 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad

Dr. Jagdish Arora reported the following important decisions taken during the 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board held on 4th Dec., 2010 prior to the meeting of the INFLIBNET Governing Council:

- i) **UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme:** Internet connectivity ranging from 2 Mbps (36 universities) to 10 Mbps (130 universities) is being given to 180+ universities through BSNL that are covered under 12(B) and 2(F) Section of the UGC Act under the UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme. All universities are being upgraded to 10 Mbps (1:1) by the BSNL.

The Governing Board accorded its approval for placing of orders for Internet Bandwidth with BSNL for all eligible universities for the year 2011-2012 at the rate already approved by the CCMC and Governing Board in its previous meeting. The Governing Board also approved a total budget of ₹12.00 crores for the year 2011-2012 as per the recommendation of the CCMC in its meeting held on 19th November, 2010 at IUCAA, Pune. Members noted that universities are migrating to NKN / NME-ICT for availing higher Internet bandwidth. Gradually, all universities covered under UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme will migrate to NKN / NME-ICT and the UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme would get subsumed into NKN / NME-ICT. Given the fact that UGC has allocated approximately ₹20.00 crores for this Scheme, a new format for the UGC-Infonet programme may be drawn as recommended by the CCMC in its meeting held on 19th November, 2010 at IUCAA, Pune. The CCMC recommended setting-up of "UGC-Infonet Resource Centre" in universities and at INFLIBNET Centre consisting of: i) Data Centre at INFLIBNET Centre for hosting scholarly content from universities including lecture notes, class room lectures, teaching materials etc.; ii) UGC-Infonet Resource Centre at every university consisting of Institutional Repository and PCs to access electronic resource provided through the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium; and iii) Video conferencing facilities where adequate infrastructure is available. The Minutes of the Meeting of CCMC held on 19th November, 2010 at IUCAA, Pune were approved by the Governing Board.

- ii) **UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium: Current Status and Approval of Subscription to E-resources for Eligible Universities for the Year 2011:** The UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 5,500 journals and 10 bibliographic databases from 25 publishers, scholarly societies, university presses and aggregators to more than 180 universities covered under 12(B) / 2(F) Section of the UGC Act. Members noted that all new central universities are also being given the benefit of access to at least five e-resources of their choice as per the decision taken by the National Steering Committee. After detailed discussions and deliberations, members approved a total budget of ₹119.82 crores for the year 2011-2012. The members also approved renewal of subscription to e-resources for the existing resources for the year 2011 as well as renewal of Science Direct, Wiley-Blackwell expanded collection, additional subscription to existing resources and subscription to law resources to 14 national law schools at a total cost of ₹70.00 crores on the rates that have already negotiated by the Negotiation Committee. The Minutes of the Meeting of National Steering Committee held on 19th November, 2010 at IUCAA, Pune were approved by the Governing Board.

The Chairman, UGC commenting on the e-resources covered under the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium, suggested that well-established Indian journals in the field of social science such as Indian Economic Review, Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics, Indian Labour Journals, University News etc. may also be included in the Consortium.

- iii) **Current status of N-LIST Project and Renewal of Subscription to E-Resources under the N-LIST Programme for the Year 2011:** The N-LIST project funded by the MHRD under its National Mission on Education through ICT provides for cross-subscription to e-resources subscribed by the two consortia, i.e. subscription to INDEST-AICTE resources for the universities and UGC-Infonet resources for the technical institutions as well as access to selected e-resources for colleges. Members were informed that out of 6,000 colleges that are covered under 12(B) / 2(F) Section of the UGC Act, 989 colleges have already joined the programme. These colleges are being given access to 2,100 e-journals and 51,000 e-books. Login ID and passwords to more than 85,000 users from these 989 colleges have been issued. It

was noted that revised budget estimates of ₹36.50 crores have been submitted to MHRD for the financial year 2010-2011.

Chairman, UGC pointed out that according to new UGC Notification, several categories of colleges including un-aided colleges, self-financed colleges, private colleges receiving salary grants from the State Governments, are now eligible for 12 (B) status of the UGC Act as long as these colleges fulfil all other eligibility criteria. With redefined and expanded eligibility criteria for 12(B) status, it is expected that several colleges will now obtain 12(B) status and join N-LIST initiative taken by the MHRD under its National Mission on Education through ICT. As such, it was proposed that budget estimates for the project may be increased to make provision for providing access to e-resources to all the new colleges that would now be covered under 12 (B) / 2 (F) Section of the UGC Act.

- iv) **Current Status of Administrative Staff @ INFLIBNET: Recommendation of Committee set-up to Review the Positions:** Dr. T R Kem, Chairman of the Committee set-up to review the present status and assess the additional requirement of administrative staff at the INFLIBNET Centre, presented a gist of the report for the benefit of the members. While briefing the members, Dr. Kem emphasised that the Centre requires continuing services of at least three administrative officers to look after its different administrative activities including; Finance & Accounts, Stores and Purchase and Personnel & Administration. As such, three administrative officers that the Centre had since its inception should be made available to it on continuing basis. Dr. Kem also mentioned that the services of Shri C K Shah, Sr. Administrative Officer should be regularised with immediate effect by the UGC, as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat so that the Centre / UGC does not face the charges of contempt of court. The Committee further recommended that a comprehensive and holistic review of the requirement of additional administrative positions at all level be carried out by setting-up a Cadre Review Committee to be constituted by the Governing Board.

After detailed discussions and deliberations, the Governing Board recommended that the services of Shri C.K. Shah may be regularized as Sr. Administrative Officer as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat and one additional position of Sr. Administrative Officer may be sanctioned to the Centre on regular basis in light of the facts mentioned above.

- v) **Report on Status of Inquiry / Judgement with Regard to Staff Members Involved in Purchase of PCs and Servers from Hewlet & Packard on Proprietary Basis:** Dr. Jagdish Arora briefed the members about current status of inquiry with regard to staff members involved in purchase of PCs and servers from Hewlet & Packard. Members were informed that the Director, after receiving responses to charge sheets / memorandum issued to the staff members, had made a report with analysis of responses received from the charge-sheeted employees and submitted his report to Shri K S Mahajan, Under Secretary, MHRD along with a covering note dated Sept. 17th, 2009 for further necessary action and directions. Response from the MHRD is still awaited. Meanwhile, one of the Administrative Officer is due for retirement from his service with effect from 31st Dec., 2010. As such, there is a requirement to conduct formal inquiry and take necessary action against staff members involved in such purchases. After detailed discussions and deliberations, it was decided that a Committee consisting of Governing Board members and outside expert would be constituted by the Chairman, Governing Board. The Committee would conduct necessary inquiries and take necessary action as soon as possible. The decision taken by the Committee would be communicated to the MHRD for their information. Meanwhile, it was decided that pensionary

benefit of retiring Administrative officer may be released on provisional basis as per the General Financial Rules of Government of India.

- vi) **Hiring of Two Senior Consultants for Administrative and Scientific Activities of the Centre:** After brief discussions and deliberations, the Committee approved appointment of Sr. Consultants one each for administration and scientific activities for a period of one year on payment of emoluments ranging from ₹25,000 to ₹40,000/- per month. However, given the fact that the funds for hiring consultants would be charged to the non-plan budget of the UGC, it was resolved that UGC's explicit approval may be sought for this purpose. *as per the Bye Laws of the Centre.*
- vii) **Status of the Construction of Institute Building and Approval of the Minutes of 10th Meeting of the Building Committee:** Dr. Jagdish Arora presented a brief report on the status of construction of Institutional Building to the members. Members were informed that the UGC had sanctioned ₹21.76 crores for the construction of Institute Building. Since the funds allocated for construction of building were insufficient to construct the entire building, the Centre has commenced constructing its Academic and Research Blocks, Administration, Library, Auditorium and Lecture Halls utilizing ₹21.76 Crores sanctioned to the Centre for this purpose. Construction of Guest House, Staff Quarters, Director's Pent House, etc. is kept in abeyance pending permission of the UGC to the revised estimates. Members noted that the revised budget estimates of ₹30.03 crores has been sent to the UGC along with necessary supporting documents with a request to convey its in-principle approval for construction of remaining portion of the building. Additional funds of ₹ 8.27 crores required for constructing remaining portion of the building may be released as and when Utilization Certificate is produced.

Governing Board approved Minutes of the 10th Meetings of the Building Committee held on 24th July, 2010 at Ahmedabad and recommended release of additional funds required for constructing remaining portion of the building.

- viii) **Setting-up of "INFLIBNET Computation Laboratory" in Universities in North-Eastern Region:** Dr. Prakash informed the Committee that the UGC has not exceeded to the request of the INFLIBNET Centre for setting-up of INFLIBNET Computation Laboratory in universities in North-Eastern Region utilizing funds allocated to the Centre during 1995-1996. He informed the members that the Centre is being asked to refund the unspent balance to the UGC. Dr. Jagdish Arora pointed out that the Centre has taken-up a number of activities and services for North-eastern region utilizing funds allocated to the Centre for this purpose. These activities include i) distribution of SOUL software to university and college libraries in NE region; ii) enhancement of Internet connectivity under the UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme; iii) enhanced access to e-resources to all universities in the North-Eastern Region under the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium; iv) Attachment Training Programme @INFLIBNET Centre for working librarians and computer programmers from North-East; v) Organization of PLANNER (Promotion of Library Automation and Networking in North Eastern Region); and vi) N-LIST Programme for Colleges in North Eastern Region without annual membership fee.

Considering the fact that a series of programmes in NE region are already in operation and NE funds is being utilized for several of these programmes, it was resolved that the UGC may be requested to reconsider its decision and permit setting of INFLIBNET Computational Laboratories in universities in North-eastern region utilizing the funds allocated by the UGC for NE region. Dr. Jagdish Arora promised that the unspent balance available under this grant will be spent within one year.

4. Presentation of Audited Annual Accounts of the Centre for the Financial Year 2009-2010

The Audited Annual Accounts of the Centre for the Financial Year 2009-2010 was approved by the Governing Council. It was noted that Audited Annual Accounts were duly approved by the Governing Board in its 21st Meeting held on 24th July, 2010.

5. Presentation on Annual Report of the INFLIBNET Centre from 1st April, 2009 to 31st March, 2010

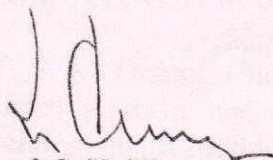
The Annual Report of the Centre for the Financial Year 2009-2010 was placed before the Committee for its approval and the Council approved the Annual Report of the Centre for the year 2009-2010.

6. Any other Items with Permission of the Chair

Dr. Arora made a brief presentation on the new initiatives and ongoing programmes that are taken up by the Centre. Prof. Khanna, Chairman, Governing Board stated that it is the first time in the history of INFLIBNET Centre that the Centre has demonstrated its ability to deliver products and services in an efficient manner. A number of good and timely initiatives have been taken with remarkable support from the UGC as well as with universities that it serves.

The Chairman, UGC suggested that the INFLIBNET Centre should approach Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and make a presentation about its new initiatives and ongoing programmes taken up by the Centre so as to spread awareness about these programme amongst universities and colleges. The Chairman also suggested that the INFLIBNET Centre should organise Awareness Programmes in different regions of the country in collaboration with UGC's Regional Centres so as to engage and enrol more and more colleges across the country for projects and programmes of the Centre. Prof. S.K. Khanna, Chairman, Governing Board suggested that one such programme should be organised within a month or two in one of the regions in collaboration with CEC.

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



Prof. S. K. Khanna
Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre



(Jagdish Arora)
Director, INFLIBNET and
Member-Secretary, Governing Board

Prof. S. K. Thorat
President, INFIBNET Council