

MOST IMMEDIATE
BY FAX / BY SPEED POST

No.F. 33-8/2012 – TS.III
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
._._*._*

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
dated, the 11th October, 2012

Subject: Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Council of the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) held at 11:30 AM on 14th September, 2012 (Friday) at Indian Council of Agriculture Research, NASC Complex, New Delhi.

Kindly find enclosed herewith a copy of the Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Council of the National Institute of Technology held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development on 14th September, 2012 (Friday) at 11:30 AM at Indian Council of Agriculture Research, NASC Complex, New Delhi for your information and comments, if any.


(Rajesh Singh Solanki)
Under Secretary (NITs)
Tel: 23070917

Encl.: As above

To,
The Members of the Council of NITs
(as per list attached)

Office

- Pl place a copy on my desk.
- Copy to Registrar for
- Placing to BOG.
- Put on NITR website and send email to all faculty.

SKS
2012-11-15

**MINUTES OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY
HELD AT 11.30 A.M. ON 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2012 AT
INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH,
NASC COMPLEX, NEW DELHI-110012**

The 5th Meeting of the Council of National Institutes of Technology (NITs) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development. The list of participants is enclosed at Annexure.

2. At the outset, Hon'ble HRM welcomed all the members, particularly the Chairpersons of the BoGs of the NITs for attending the meeting. After that, the proceedings of the meeting started and the Council made the following deliberations:-

Item No. 5.1 To confirm the Minutes of the 3rd and 4th meeting of the Council of NITs held on 18.11.2011 & 4.7.2012, respectively.

Minutes of the 3rd & 4th meetings of the Council held on 18.11.2011 & 4.7.2012, respectively were confirmed.

Item No. 5.2 To report Action taken on the minutes of the 3rd and 4th meeting held on 18.11.2011 & 4.7.2012, respectively.

The Council took note of the following Action Taken on various issues/actions arising out of the minutes of the aforesaid meetings. The Council noted that a Committee had been constituted to look into the matter of normalization of Class XII marks across various Boards.

The following decisions were taken:

- i. All NITs to finalize their Vision Document and submit them by 30.11.2012.
- ii. The notification of the RRs of the faculty and non-faculty posts of the NITs to be done by the end of October, 2012.
- iii. The infrastructural facilities on the temporary campus of most of the new NITs to be strengthened to meet the growing needs of the students.
- iv. Master Plans of the new NITs at Delhi, Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim to be prepared by December 2012. The land issue of Uttarakhand to be resolved at the earliest.
- v. Construction work of the main campus of the 10 new NITs to be initiated at the earliest. Progress report on this process and a step-wise, time-bound plan to be submitted by 31st October, 2012.

Item No. 5.3 To report the changes in the Membership of the Council of NITs.

The Council welcomed the new members of the Council and placed on record its appreciation for the services rendered by the out-going members.

Item No. 5.4 Decision taken by the Standing Committee of the Council of NITs in its Meeting held on 3.9.2012.

The 2nd meeting of the Standing Committee of the Council of NITs was held on 3rd September under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. A. Mashelkar. The recommendations of the Standing Committee were placed before the Council as specific agenda items. Decision taken on each recommendation is recorded as independent agenda item in subsequent paragraphs of this note.

Item No. 5.5 Status report on appointment of Directors in National Institutes of Technology (NITs).

The Council noted (i) the appointment of Directors in the 4 NITs viz. NIT-Jamshedpur, NIT-Raipur, NIT-Patna & NITK-Surathkal and (ii) advised that the appointment of NIT-Manipur & VNIT-Nagpur is to be completed at the earliest possible.

Item No. 5.6 Status report on appointment of Chairpersons, BoGs of National Institutes of Technology (NITs).

The Council welcomed the new Chairperson, BoGs of the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and placed on record its appreciation for the services rendered by the out-going Chairpersons.

Item No. 5.7 Report of the Chairman, CCMT-2012 on Centralized Counselling for admission of students in PG programmes in NITs.

Prof. I. K. Bhatt, Chairman-CCMT, explained that counseling was carried out for 6310 seats in respect of 314 M. Tech/M. Plan. Programs out of a total number of about 32000 online applications received for PG admission. The Council decided to continue with CCMT.

Item No. 5.8 Report of the Chairman, CCB-2012 on Centralized Counselling for admission of students in UG programmes in NITs.

Chairman CCB-2012 reported that out of 18000 engineering seats in CFTIs, 248 seats across NITs remained unallotted. These mostly belong to reserved category of PWD & ST; because candidate-lists under these categories got exhausted. A suggestion was made to de-reserve these vacant seats under PWD & OBC, once the list is exhausted. The Council decided that the Ministry of HRD may consult the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in this regard.

Item No. 5.9 Report of the DASA Committee on admission of foreign students in NITs during the academic years 2010-2011, 2011-2012 & 2012-2013.

The Council approved the Standing Committee's recommendations on DASA, viz:

- (i) DASA scheme to be strengthened to attract students from developed countries
- (ii) Proper infrastructure such as top quality hostel facilities to be developed under PPP mode,
- (iii) A national policy for attracting foreign students should be formulated,
- (iv) Prof. Sancheti, Director, NIT – Delhi to continue as the Chairman, DASA scheme for another year.

The Council also decided that the proposal regarding development of infrastructural facilities under PPP mode being prepared by the Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh could be useful for CFTIs. Based on the report, a position paper for the Council would be prepared. NIT-Delhi could start a model of Hostels on PPP mode.

Item No. 5.10 Nomination of members as Council's Nominee on the BoGs of NITs as per Section 11(e) of the NIT Act, 2007.

The Council ratified the above.

Item No. 5.11 Constitution of a Committee of experts to look into the issues relating to normalization of Class XII Board marks on percentile basis.

The Council ratified the above. It was decided to include as member a Director from the NITs located in the North east

Item No. 5.12 Implementation of the first set of recommendations of the Kakodkar Committee on review of NIT system

Dr Kakodkar presented the first set of the recommendations proposed by the committee set up under his chairmanship to review the NIT system. The Council unanimously approved the implementation of Kakodkar Committee recommendations on the following.

- a) Trainee Teachers at NITs (Some of the best ones engineering graduate could be attracted and trained to be trainee teachers at NITs. While they could assist in teaching, they would simultaneously go through part time Masters-cum-Ph.D. programmes at IITs);
- b) Encouraging undergraduate students to pursue a research career (The programme is designed to catch best undergraduate students of NITs at the end of 3rd year i.e. top ten percent of NIT graduate, to switch to IITs for a direct Ph.D. admission); and
- c) Industry - Institute interface (i.e. involvement of industry at various level viz. collaborative research, internships and fellowships for PG programmes etc. would benefit NITs. The review committee focused on Core teaching by industry personnel

including on online mode, Industry institute interface cells for continuous engagement with industry in research and product development, Joint fellowship for Ph.D. by providing top-up grants by industry, Ranking and awards for industry linked engineering institutions based on formulated criteria).

The Council approved of all the recommendations. It was agreed that issues engaging with IITs should be shared with them to secure their in-principle approval.

Item No. 5.13 To consider the scholarship scheme for meritorious students admitted through AIEEE.

The Council approved the scholarship scheme with a decision that the scheme would be financially supported from the savings generated by CBSE from its conduct of AIEEE every year and to be applicable from 2009-2010 and onwards. The onus (Administrative & Financial) for implementation of the Scheme will be on NIT-Rourkela, for the period up to 2013.

Item No. 5.14 Mandatory accreditation of all programmes in the NITs.

The Council approved that the NITs should take special initiatives to get their UG and PG programmes accredited by National Board Accreditation (NBA).

Item No.5.15 Third Party Objective Evaluation

The Council approved the proposal of 'Third party objective evaluation' and agreed that the System being evolved by the Kakodkar Committee could be considered for NITs as well.

Item No.5.16 Collaboration with other CFTIs and nearest CSIR labs.

The Council emphasized the need to encourage convergence of pure sciences and Engineering disciplines. The representative of the Department of Electronics offered facilities of its laboratories for the NITs for conducting research. The Council recommended that 100-200 research groups be formed through MoUs amongst NITs, between NITs and other CFTIs and Research Labs. National seminars on inter-disciplinary themes involving multiple institutions should also be organized.

Item No. 5.17 Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP)-II for NITs.

It was mentioned that all the NITs i.e. the (older and new ones) are to be covered under TEQIP-II, while allowing more stress on the faculty development programme. The Council approved the same.

Item No.5.18 Special attention to the NITs located in the North-Eastern Region.

The Development of the North-Eastern region needs special attention in view of its distinct contextual features. NITs in the northeast can provide leadership in contributing to the region's

development and demonstrating synergies between academics and local area development. To encourage NITs in the North East, the Council took the following decisions:

- i. Cabinet approval for starting courses in Civil and Mechanical Engineering and other disciplines in new NITs be obtained.
- ii. Exchange of faculty members within the NITs of the North-Eastern Region and also with the NITs in other parts of the country be encouraged.
- iii. Special initiatives be taken up for tutoring potential candidates of Entrance Examination for B. Tech and the B.E. course.
- iv. Specific strategies need to be formulated for connecting NITs with industry and evolving technology-based solutions to the local agricultural/ecological challenges.
- v. Inter-disciplinary, inter-institutional research be encouraged in frontier technologies contributing to local area development.
- vi. Curriculum and Research projects be oriented as engines for economic growth in the North-East.
- vii. An SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) to implement innovative inter-agency strategies involving multiple stakeholders, *inter alia*, Government, industry, NITs, local people, NGOs, etc. in the North-East be evolved through discussion with DONER, NEC, MHA and MHRD. The architecture of the SPV and its constitution be finalized in 30 days.
- viii. All these measures proposed to be taken for the NITs of the North-east would also apply for NIT-Srinagar.

Item No.5.19 Single Counseling for IITs and NITs in 2013.

The Council endorsed the proposal for common counseling for IITs and NITs in 2013.

Item No. 5.20 Vacant seats in NITs.

Some of the reserved category seats remain vacant since suitable and eligible candidates are not available as the category list gets exhausted. Moreover, students are not interested in some non-attractive stream of engineering, leading to unavoidable vacancies.

Members also suggested that seats falling vacant under Physically Handicapped (PH) quota can be filled up by non-PH candidates after the availability of such candidates get exhausted. It was decided by the Council to take up the matter with the Department of Disability Affairs (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in Government of India) while seeking their permission in the above matter.

The Council noted that there has been no wastage of Government funds due to the vacant seats in NITs since (i) in most of the NITs, the students hostels are over-accommodated (ii) there is no tangible material loss on the resources of the NITs due to vacant seats.

Item No. 5.21 National Policy on attracting foreign students.

The Council decided that a committee be set up to evolve a National Policy to attract foreign students, including foreign faculty, across the whole spectrum of CFTIs and Central Universities. The Committee will prepare a position paper on the need to ensure adequate infrastructural facilities for the foreign students through PPP mode.

Item No. 5.22 Admission of students under the Ministry of External Affairs-Quota and ICCR-Quota through entrance examinations.

It was decided that the candidates under the Ministry of External Affairs-quota (for the wards of their employees posted outside India) will be admitted only through AIEEE - online. The present system of admitting candidates under ICCR-quota will continue as this is part of the country's overall international commitments. The students being admitted under ICCR quota should, if need be, given additional academic support in the institutes where they are admitted, that may assume the form of an orientation course, to reach the desired standards of B Tech courses. The orientation course for these students would be followed by the usual B Tech course for 4 years. Therefore, the B Tech course for those students who are assessed to be requiring orientation may be of 5 years.

Item No. 5.23 Promotion of innovation by students' participation in NITs.

It was decided that, to begin with, NITs should encourage their students to develop innovative projects. At least 10 such projects would be identified for providing fellowship/incentives to talented students. A suitable mechanism and appropriate guidelines for this should be developed

Item No. 5.24 Panel for Council's nominee and also visitor's nominee.

The above Agenda was withdrawn with the approval of the Chairman, Council of NITs.

Item No. 5.25 Enactment of the National Institute of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2012

The above Act came into force on 7.6.2012 and it covered all the ten (10) new NITs. The Council approved the:

- (i) establishment of a Standing Committee of the Council of NITs as per section 4(c) of the NIT Council (Rules), 2009;
- (ii) applicability of the First Statutes to the 10 new NITs; and
- (iii) constitution of the Finance Committee, Building & Works Committee and Senate for the new NITs as per the NIT Act, 2007 and the First Statutes of NITs.

Item No. 5.26 Joint appointment of faculty between NITs and other institutions.

The Council approved the proposal of joint appointment of faculties between NITs and other institutions as has been stipulated by the UGC for Scheme of Joint Appointment of Faculty between

universities and other institutions; especially research labs. This would provide interaction and collaboration in areas of research amongst NITs, National Research Laboratories, industries etc. based on MoUs signed between collaborating NITs/Universities/labs on guidelines of UGC's scheme of 'joint appointments'.

Item No. 5.27 Anti-discrimination guidelines.

The Council approved adoption of the guidelines as have been provided in the Notification of the University Grants Commission under process and issue. As desired by the Chairperson, BoG of NIT-Srinagar, the candidates under religious minorities and on the basis of racial characteristics was also approved to be included in the Notification.

Item No. 5.28 Endowment funds with matching contribution from Government/alumni

The Council approved the proposal for establishment of Endowment Funds. NITs should tap the vast pool of alumni of the NITs while seeking donation towards this fund.

Item No. 5.29 Involvement of NIT students in various activities.

The Council approved the proposal of including the need to have summer and winter schools of AICTE located in NITs so that soft skills training is imparted to students. The possibility of private-funding to set up a National Research Fund with inputs and assistance from industry, independent of the government invested with reasonable flexibility and no impact on government exchequer should be explored.

Item No. 5.30 Opening of an Account.

The Council approved the proposal to open a Bank Account in the name of the Council of NITs. The Council also gave 'in-principle' approval to the proposal to subsequently develop a system of fund disbursement to NITs similar to that of the UGC, after such examining the feasibility of such a system.

Item No. 5.31 Miscellaneous items

The Council directed the Directors of NITs for strict enforcement of the following:

- (i) Timely submission of Annual Report along with Audited Statement of Accounts as per time-schedule circulated by the Ministry of HRD.
- (ii) Mandatory intimation of 15 days' time-period for consideration of agenda items and minutes of the meeting of the BoG, FC and B&WC of the Institutes.
- (iii) Filling up of faculty and non-faculty posts in NITs
- (iv) BoG may recommend four tier flexible cadre structures in the NITs, who have not submitted their proposal.
- (v) Approval of Finance Committee and then Board of Governors must be obtained for all major works.
- (vi) Time-bound replies to Parliament Questions and RTI cases.

- (vii) Property return for all faculty and non-faculty members to be posted on website.
- (viii) Nodal Officer for handling Court cases of the institutes.

Item No. 5.32 Any other agenda item with the permission of the Chair.

The Council approved (i) benefits of e-journal to be made available to all the NITs; (ii) inclusion in NITs (of the North-Eastern region) some branches of engineering viz. civil engineer etc. which are especially suited to the local needs and aspiration of the people of the North-East in the backdrop of the special situation prevailing therein, and; (iii) referring the matter of amendment of the NIT Act 2007 to the Kakodkar Committee for making recommendations in addition to the terms of reference already made.

3. The Hon'ble HRM once again thanked all the participants and he offered special thanks to his Parliamentarian colleagues.

4. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.