

VEER SURENDRA SAI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SIDDHI VIHAR, BURLA

MINUTES OF 38th MEETING OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY HELD ON 09.03.2021 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CHAMBER OF VICE-CHANCELLOR, VSSUT, BURLA BY ONLINE MODE (THROUGH WEB LINK)

The following members were present:

1. Prof. B.B. Pati, : Chairman
Vice-Chancellor, VSSUT, Burla
2. Dr. A.K. Nayak, OAS (S) : Member
Joint Secretary to Govt. of Odisha
SD&TE Dept. (Nominee of
Commissioner-cum-Secretary SD&TE)
3. The Vice-Chancellor, : Member
Biju Pattnaik University of Technology, Odisha
Rourkela-769004
4. Er. Bimal Krushna Mishra : Member
CEO, RSB Metal Tech. (P) Ltd, Bhubaneswar
5. Prof. Ratnam V. Raja Kumar, : Member
Director,
Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar.
6. Prof. A.N Nayak, Professor in Civil Engg. : Member
VSSUT, Burla
7. Prof. P.C. Swain, Professor in Civil Engg. : Member
VSSUT, Burla
8. Smt. Upama Kalo, OAS (S) : Member-Convenor
Registrar, VSSUT, Burla

The leave of absence is granted to the following members who could not attend the meeting:

9. The Special Secretary, : Member
Finance Department, Govt. of Odisha
10. The Director, Technical Education & Training : Member
Odisha, Cuttack
11. Prof. Venkappayya R Desai : Member
Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering
IIT, Kharagpur (AICTE Nominee)
12. Shri Kishore Kumar Mohanty, Hon'ble MLA : Member
13. Shri Debesh Acharya, Hon'ble MLA : Member

Shri N.P. Kujur OFS-I (SB), CoF, VSSUT, Burla attended the meeting as special invitee.

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At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. B.B. Pati, Chairman, BOM welcomed the members present in the 38th meeting of the Board of Management with the new member Prof. Ratnam V. Raja Kumar, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar. Vice-Chancellor informed the purpose of calling the meeting.

1. There were objections from many Board Members about the minutes of the 36th BOM meeting held on 25.09.2020. Based on that, office of Hon'ble Chancellor directed for uploading the correct minutes within a week. So, the correct minutes of 36th BOM meeting has been prepared, uploaded in website, circulated to members and sent for information of Hon'ble Chancellor and SDTE Department.
2. The University is TEQIP-III funded which is going to be completed in March 31st 2021. As per NPIU mandate a quarterly BOM is required.
3. To pass the University Budget for the financial year 2021-22

The Agenda items were discussed and resolved as follows:

BOM : 38-01 : Welcome to the new member and thanking the out-going member of the BOM. **(Annexure-I)**

In accordance with section 19(2)(b)(IV) of the VSSUT Act-2008. Prof. Ratnam V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT, Bhubaneswar has been nominated by the Hon'ble Chancellor, Odisha as a member of the Board of Management for a period of 3 years w.e.f. 15.12.2020 in place of Prof. K.S. Reddy, Prof. & HOD Dept. of Civil Engg. IIT, Kharagpur, on completion of his term.

This is for information of the Board for welcoming the new member & conveying appreciation to the out-going member. **(Annexure-I)**

Resolution: The Board welcomed the new member Prof. Ratnam V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT, Bhubaneswar. Conveyed the appreciation to the out-going member namely, Prof. K.S. Reddy, Prof. & HOD, Dept. of Civil Engg. IIT, Kharagpur, for rendering his valuable contribution towards development of the University.

BOM : 38-02 : 1.To confirm the Minutes of the 36th meeting of the Board of Management held on 25.09.2020 by online mode. **(Annexure-II) :**

(Already intimated to Additional Secretary to Hon'ble Chancellor, Vide Letter No. VSSUT/OOR/127/2021 dt. 03.03.2021)

2. To confirm the Minutes of the 37th meeting of the Board of Management held on 19.11.2020 by online Mode.

Resolution: Confirmed the revised 36th BoM Minutes which was signed by the Chairman on 02.3.2021 & 37th BoM

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Minutes, with the following modifications in 36th BoM Minutes

BOM: 36-15.1

The Innovation Centre had been handed over by CPWD on 23.11.2020 and has been made operational. Due to Covid-19 pandemic situation, Students have not used it completely.

Resolution : To order the fly-ash brick manufacturing agency for vacating the University land at the earliest within a defined time limit, failing which university will initiate action on its own to dismantle the same. The cost of dismantling will be borne by the agency. Handover and taken over process of 1000 seated M.Tech Hostel (Pullah Hall of Residence) need to be done after completion of face-lifting and other pending works of same building by M/s IDCO.

BOM: 36-15.2

Resolution : Pursuant to DP & GP with OCS(CCA) rule, the marshalling officer will provide the status report including the documents/videos (if any), articles of charges and list of witness to the Inquiry officers with a copy to the concerned delinquent officers within 15 days. After that Inquiry officers will be given a deadline of 02months to complete the enquiry and submit reports.

BOM: 36-15.4

Action Taken: Prof. S K Swain has been put to rest from the Deanship with effect from 08.3.2021 by Office Order with the instruction to hand over the charge to the newly appointed Dean of Academic Affairs Prof D Mishra within seven days.

Resolution : The matter was thoroughly discussed and the order dated 8.3.2021 of VC putting Mr S K Swain to rest from the post of DEAN is ratified. It is observed that the former Vice- Chancellor has constituted committee comprising of Dean SRIC, HoD (Mech) and HoD (Chem) before circulating the rectified MoM of the 36th BOM. The Committee so constituted is not acceptable and therefore quashed by the BoM and a new committee comprising of Er. Bimal Krushna Mishra, Board Member, Prof. V.R. Desai, IIT Kharagpur, Board Member, Prof. R.P. Panda, Professor ETC, VSSUT is constituted to inquire the matter. Registrar will convene the meeting and shall provide all the required documents to the Committee.

BOM: 36-15.5

Resolution:

In addition to the Resolutions already recorded, the following resolutions be included.

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In order to maintain transparency and uniformity in the University administration and to give opportunity to the Professors to contribute to the development of the University, it is resolved that the Deans be appointed from among the Professors of the University based on seniority-cum rotation without any repetition till the entire list of Professors is exhausted. No repetition will be allowed henceforth without the approval of BOM.

BOM: 36-15.6

Action Taken:The order of salary deduction be withdrawn immediately within 2 days. The Registrar and COF jointly to inquiry in to the matter based on facts and figures as per rules and to submit their report within 15 days so as to confirm the charges of misappropriation if any.

BOM: 36-15.7

Action Taken:No new courtcases have been awarded to the concerned Advocate.

Resolution :The concerned Advocate(Mr.D.R.Mohapatra) is to be removed from the panel of Advocates of the University permanently with intimation to the Hon'ble Odisha High Court.

BOM: 36-15.8

Action Taken:Matter was investigated and the issuance of such letter from the university was proved.

Resolution : No further investigations is required. However, the University has be more careful in this regard so as to prevent all such incidences in future.

BOM: 36-15.9

Action Taken:The two-member committee has concluded the assignment and submitted the report (Annexed)which was placed in the BOM meeting.

Resolution : The BOM approved the recommendations of the Two-member Sub-committee which was signed by them on 02.3.2021 and accordingly accorded special permission for the time extension up to the date of submission in favour of the following six number of Research Scholars who have taken admission in 2011, 2012 under the then prevalent VSSUT Ph.D Regulations 2010-11.

1.Suwendu Narayan Mishra, 2. Sunita Singh Naik, 3. Sachidananda Padhi, 4. S.V.H Nagendra, 5. Diptimayee Konhar , 6. Laxminath Tripathy.

It strictly instructed to the Dean(PGS & R) to issue immediately the letter of acknowledgment to the scholars who have already submitted their Thesis and to immediately send their Thesis to the Controller of

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Examinations for evaluation in respect of Scholars Sl.1-5 and to issue notification for holding the Ph. D Open Defense Viva Voce in 'on line' mode in respect of the Scholar at Sl.6 within two days of the circulation of the Minutes of this BOM meeting. Further, the case of the similarly situated scholars (if any) shall be resolved by the Dean (PGS&R) immediately within a week without any further delay.

The Board expressed its deep concern and strong displeasure the way the Research Scholars are being discriminated and put to difficulties in violation of the orders of the BOM and so also the relevant Ph.D Regulations as applicable to them. It therefore resolves that accountability be fixed on the officials who are directly or indirectly responsible for harassing the scholars and strong advisory be issued to such officials by the authorities for its non-repetition in future.

The action taken on the above shall be reported to the BoM in its next meeting.

BOM: 36-15.10

Action Taken: Some recruiting companies were approached but without any fruitful outcome.

Resolutions: The T& P Cell of the University may explore a greater number of Recruiting agencies in this regard and efforts should continue.

Recruitment of agencies for development of soft skills of the students enabling them to score well in recruitment interviews was approved. T & P department may recruit such agency on competitive bidding.

BOM:38-03:

Action taken report on the Minutes of the 33rd BOM held on 02.11.2019, 34th BOM held on 24.03.2020 and 35th BOM held on 18.05.2020. (**Annexure-III**).

Resolution: Noted

BOM : 38-04

To approve the Minutes of 21st Finance Committee Meeting held on 09.03.2021. (**on the table**)

Resolution: Approved.

BOM : 38-05:

To consider and ratify the approval of Vice – chancellor for placing purchase order of Polymer Powder based 3D Printer for a total amount of Rs. 1,05,93,332/- (including taxes) from TEQIP – III as per the approval of procurement plan of TEQIP – III made in 36th the meeting of BOM held on 25.09.2020. (**Annexure-IV**).

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Resolution:Approved. Proper procedure as laid down by the TEQUIP-III / Govt is to be followed.

BOM: 38-06: To consider and ratify the administrative approval of Vice – chancellor for Construction of Rainwater Harvesting structure by The Executive Engineer, GPH Division No. – II, Sambalpur for an amount of Rs. 4,99,770/- from TEQIP – III.**(Annexure-V)**.

Resolution :Approved

BOM:38-07: To consider and approve for making provisions of Toilets for physically challenged persons in the University for an approximate amount of Rs. 4.0 Lakh from TEQIP – III. The Executive Engineer, GPH Division No. – II, Sambalpur has been requested to submit the estimate for the same

Resolution : Approved

BOM:38-08: To consider and approve for making provisions of fire safety equipment and synagogues for an approximate amount of Rs. 1.0 Lakh.

Resolution :Approved.

BOM:38-09: To consider and ratify the approval of Vice – chancellor for operation and maintenance of the equipment of various Department from TEQIP – III. **(Annexure-VI)** .

Resolution :Approved.

BOM :38-10: Proposal submitted by Dean, SRIC regarding memorandum of understanding (MoUs) to be signed between VSSUT, Burla with different industries/Institutes. **(Annexure-VII)**.

Resolution: Ratified/Approved

BOM : 38-11: To consider and approve the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for promotion to the post of Senior Assistant. **(Annexure-VIII)**.

A Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) was constituted vide Office Order No.VSSUT/Estt/3931/2020 dated 15.12.2020 to examine and recommend the following incumbent for promotion to the vacant posts of Senior Assistant according to merit cum seniority basis. The meeting was held on 04.01.2021 and the committee submitted their recommendation and the Vice-Chancellor has approved to place before the Board of Management for approval as per Statute-8(16) of VSSUT First Statute-2010 (copy of the proceedings enclosed as Annexure-) The Board may consider and approve the recommendation of the DPC for issue of order

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1. Sri Kishore Kumar Kar, Junior Assistant.

Resolution : Approved, the recommendation of the DPC for issue of promotion order in favour of Sri Kishore Kumar Kar, Junior Assistant to the post of Senior Assistant

BOM : 38-12:

To approve for implementation of Pension/Family Pension of retired employees of VSSUT, Burla, formerly UCE, Burla considering their age of superannuation of 60 years.**(Annexure-IX).**

In pursuance to recommendation of the Hon'ble Chancellor vide letter No.GOV-HE-UXX-0001-2020/432/SG(HE) dated 07.01.2021 for taking appropriate action at Government level in the matter of implementation of pensionary benefits at the age of 60 years of superannuation, the government has been requested to take action at an early date to avoid further court cases.

The list of the retired employees who filed case before the Hon'ble High Court and the list of petitioners who have been paid pensionary benefits at the age of 60 years by the University based on the order of the Hon'ble High Court Orissa is enclosed.

It is further mentioned here that all the retired employees of Sambalpur University have been granted pensionary benefits calculating the pay drawn at the age of 60 years by the government of Odisha vide letter No.26475/HE dated 27.03.2014 based on the order of the Hon'ble High Court Odisha and subsequent order of the Sambalpur University vide office order No.661/Estt.II dated 04.02.2019. As per Statute- 13(2) of VSSUT First Statute 2010, the staff and teachers transferred from Sambalpur University and Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT), Odisha shall get all the benefits applicable to their counterparts.

Considering the above facts, the Board may please to take necessary steps to implement the pensionary benefits of the retired employees of VSSUT, Burla (formerly UCE, Burla) calculating the pay drawn at the age of 60 years of superannuation in line with the letter No. 26475/HE dated 27.03.2014 in pursuance to the order of the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa vide OJC No. 11494 of 2019.

Resolution: Pursuant to recommendation of Hon'ble Chancellor vide Letter No. GOV-HE-UXX-0001-2020/432/SG(HE) dtd. 07.01.2021, the Government of Odisha in SDTE be again requested and reminded to take appropriate action on top priority for the

implementation of pensionary benefits at the age of 60 years of superannuation.

BOM : 38-13: Nomination of External members of Academic Council.
(Annexure-X).

Resolution: As per provision of VSSUT Act-2008, Section 21.2(b), & (ii), BOM has suggested following faculties to act as External Member of Academic Council of the University for a period of two years.

1. Prof. Nirod Chandra Sahoo, Prof. & HOD, School of Electrical Sciences IIT Bhubaneswar (ncsahoo@iitbbs.ac.in)
2. Prof. Kishanjit Kumar Khatua, Prof. Civil Engg., NIT Rourkela. Mob: 0661-2462307, 9861068249. (kkkhatua@nitrkl.ac.in)

BOM : 38-14: Proposal submitted by Professor, Training & Placement,
(Annexure-XI).

Resolution: Board approved the proposal of T&P Cell.

- Professor, Training and Placement is advised to check the credentials of Cocubes and eLitmus before enrolling the students.
- Professor, Training and Placement is advised to evaluate the outcome of the engagement of the trainers for conducting the training programme for the students.

BOM : 38-15: To request the Government to give approval for starting of the new Academic complex for which the first instalment of fund, has already been released by the Government since last two years.

Resolution: Approved: The Joint Secretary to Govt. of Odisha in SDTE was requested to expedite the matter at the Govt level.

Any other agenda with permission of Chair

1. Regarding re-instatement of Dr. Pandaba Patro, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

Resolution: Ratified the action of Vice-Chancellor in re-instatement of Dr. Patro.

2. Regarding re-instatement of Dr. Pradipta Kumar Das, Assistant Professor of Information Technology.

Resolution: Ratified the action of Vice-Chancellor in re-instatement of Dr. Das.

3. To Consider and close the matter regarding alleged financial and administrative irregularities in Tender Process of VSSUT for Procurement of

Resolution: The matter is closed as there is no financial loss to exchequer. No action except a strong advisory note to be issued to the concerned UCPC members to be vigilant and careful in future. In each such UCPC in future the COF will be a statutory member who shall guide the committee in financial matters.

4. To Consider and approve the request of faculty members to release 03 days salary from 25.07.2019 to 27.07.2019, which was deducted from their salary Vide Office Order No. VSSUT/OOR/621/2019, dt. 28.08.2019 and VSSUT/Estt./1416 dt. 28.04.2020.

Resolution: A Committee with following three senior faculty members is constituted to study and examine issue on case-to-case basis.

- 1) Prof. P.K. Hota, Professor in Electrical Engg.
- 2) Prof. A.N. Nayak, Professor in Civil Engg.
- 3) Prof. D. Mishra, Professor in Production Engg.
- 4) Registrar as Convenor,

The committee report shall be placed before the next meeting of the BoM through the Regular Vice-Chancellor.

The following additional agenda points received on 09.03.2021 from Er. Bimal Krishna Mishra, Board Member and accepted by Vice-Chancellor were discussed.

5. Regarding Authorization given to a private person for collecting the file from the office of Sri Sanjeev Udgata, Advocate.

Resolution: The matter be closed and the Concerned officials of University to be more careful so as to prevent repetition of such events in future.

6. On the MoM of the 36th BOM, the then VC manipulated the actual MoM and uploaded a distorted version that too almost after two months of the meeting, ignoring the written clarifications from members and even the Hon'ble Chancellor. Such action on the part of the VC cum Chairman of the BOM is not only arbitrary, illegal, but probably amounts to insubordination also. Disobeying and disrespecting the directions of the Hon'ble Chancellor is the most disgraceful act on the part of any member from the education fraternity. Moreover, in the 37th BOM, the humiliation to the Members including Hon'ble MLA by VC Dr Chaudhuri was totally unacceptable. He called off the meeting all of a sudden arbitrarily without formally thanking the participants and directing the operator to switch off the video recording, when all other members were very much present in the online meeting. Under such grave circumstances, it is proposed that an apology prayer to the Hon'ble Chancellor be sent and a resolution condemning the action of the then VC Mr Atal Choudhuri be made.

Resolution: Action of Prof. Chaudhuri is condemned. A letter of apology be written to Hon'ble Chancellor for the delay in complying his instruction on uploading the correct MoM of 36th BOM held on 25th September 2020.

7. Mr Chaudhuri, the then VC made the environment in the campus so disgusting for everybody that Hon'ble Chancellor had to intervene and

withdraw all his administrative and financial powers ten days before the end of VC's tenure. Even after getting such a humiliating direction, VC had taken certain decisions which need to be withdrawn by this BOM with immediate effect and a conducive environment in the campus be restored.

Resolution: Noted. The BoM expressed its dissatisfaction over the manner in which Prof Chaudhuri took decisions in violation of the orders of the Hon'ble Chancellor and therefore nullifies all the financial and administrative decisions taken and orders issued by Prof. Chaudhuri, the then Vice Chancellor during the above said Period.

8. Certain decisions on PhD regulation issues as passed by consecutive BOMs were blatantly violated and illegal instructions were ordered by the then VC resulting in irreparable mental torture and even financial losses to the students. The worst was when a PhD Scholar was arm twisted by the VC on very illegal grounds to pay for Advocate fees to advocate engaged by the university in some court case. The Guide of the Scholar was made to make that payment online to the advocate in front of the VC in his office. This act of the VC is unpardonable and the BOM may resolve to not only condemn the act but also request Hon'ble Chancellor to communicate such condemnation resolution to the highest authorities of the university where Dr Choudhury is continuing as the Professor after his tenure from the post of VC of VSSUT.

Resolution: It has already been resolved to drop the concerned advocate from the University panel permanently. All concerned including the Dean (PGS& R) and Dean (Academics) be informed to be very careful in dealing with such sensitive cases concerning students' careers in future to ensure that the students never ever be asked to pay fees for advocates engaged by the University as a bargaining tool to get their degrees awarded in time.

9. Though the current accreditation of NAAC expired on 18th Feb 2021, renewal application has not yet been made. This may lead to degradation of the status of the university badly and as a result the placement opportunities and scope for higher education in any reputed university across the globe for our students will be severely damaged. The University may lose UGC and Central assistance. Renewal application should have been done six months back. This speaks no good of the leadership of Dr Chaudhuri, Ex VC. Let responsibility and accountability be fixed for such lapses.

Resolution: The Board expressed its deep dissatisfaction for such negligence on the part of the concerned authorities. It is informed that last date of application for NAAC accreditation has been fortunately extended up to June 2021 on account of Covid pandemic. It was resolved that extra efforts be made to apply for the accreditation at the earliest and the officials who are non-cooperating or neglecting in providing data to the University authorities be suitably punished.

10. The curriculum revision process was started in a workshop conducted by the University around two years back where many experts from across the country were invited to participate. I was also lucky to be one of them. Unfortunately, the process is yet to be finalised. Let us fix responsibility and

accountability for such serious lapses which have a cascading impact on other areas like NAAC and other accreditations.

Resolution: It is informed that 95% work has been done. Balance will be completed in ten days' time. The Board noted the same with the remarks that no further extension time shall be allowed and action taken shall be reported to the BoM in its next meeting in this regard.

11. It is observed that the University has not advanced an inch forward on the ISRO MoU front. It has been almost two years by now, since the process of interaction was started with ISRO through our bright students who gloriously launched the first student rocket of the country. The lavish infrastructure made spending huge tax-payers' money is under lock and key for the last one and half years. Not a single meeting of the consulting committee formed in the University has been convened. The University may land up losing the golden opportunity very soon to many other private / government institutes that are eagerly waiting to grab the same. This is sheer callousness and myopic mindset.

Resolution: Apex Committee and Advisory Committee meetings will be called at the earliest within a defined time limit of one month and to expedite the issue with ISRO immediately.

12. No progress is visible in innovation incubation centre. Why can't we make people responsible and accountable for such careless attitudes.

Resolution: It is informed that there are definite developments in this direction. Projects are in place. Details to be placed in the next BOM.

13. Power of VC to suspend any teaching and non-teaching members of VSSUT in anticipation of approval by the BOM appears to have been grossly mis-utilised. Even after repeated reminders by the BOM, there is no substantial development. Faculties have been suspended without any charge sheet. BOM should reverse all such arbitrary orders if any.

Resolution: Already resolved against the preceding agenda points.

14. Deduction of salary of a number of faculty members en-mass appears to have been taken in haste without application of proper mind. Needs to be reviewed and reversed.

Resolution: Already resolved against the preceding agenda points.

15. Appointments of HoDs in different departments need to be reviewed and made systematic. In the absence of any Professor in a department, the responsibility of HoD should be given to the Associate Professor. No person from other departments be made HoD in any unrelated departments.

Resolution: Approved.

16. Post of Deans should be given to all professors in rotation. No repetition be allowed without the approval of the BOM.

Resolution: Approved.

17. Representation to the Academic Council be made judiciously. Other than the HoD, if anybody else is to be nominated, the senior most person is to be preferred in rotation.

Resolution : Approved.

18. Running of Hostel mess is to be done with full participation of students. If outsourcing is inevitable, the selection process should involve the maximum participation from the students.

Resolution: Outsourcing agency has to be decided on open bidding. VC is requested to look into the recent orders on the issue and correct if any decision has been made otherwise. Action at appropriate level be taken for fresh retendering of hostel mess outsourcing work.

19. Appointment of one PIC, Alumni and International Affairs be made with all sincerity to rope in more and more Alumni with the development of the University. More so when GoO is envisaging similar projects under the 'Mo College' scheme.

Resolution: Approved. It is informed that Dr. Anil Kumar Kar was appointed as PIC Mo College Scheme, w.e.f 24.02.2021 vide order No. VSSUT/OOR/77 dated 24.02.2021.

20. All the BOM meetings be video recorded and the recording be circulated to all members along with the MoM.

Resolution: Approved.

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09.3.2021
(Smt. Upama Kalo)
Registrar
Convener-cum-Secretary

B.B. Pati
09.03.2021
(Prof. B.B. Pati)
Vice-Chancellor
Chairman