



MINUTES OF THE 40TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 06TH JULY 2019 AT 10:00 AM IN THE NIT TRANSIT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

PRESENT:

1. Dr. (Mrs.) Mini Shaji Thomas Director & Chairperson In-charge
2. Shri. Madan Mohan MHRD Representative
ADG, TS III
3. Shri Dhananjay Kumar Singh MHRD Representative
Deputy Secretary (Finance),
MHRD
4. Shri. Karumuttu T. Kannan Member (Through Teleconference)
5. Dr. P. Jayabalan Member
6. Shri. A. Palanivel Member Secretary

GENERAL MATTERS

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON IN-CHARGE, FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas, Director, NIT, Tiruchirappalli & Chairperson In-charge, Finance Committee welcomed the Members to the Meeting. She specially thanked Shri Madan Mohan and Shri Dhananjay Kumar Singh for sparing their time and attending the Meeting in person.

Thereafter, the Registrar - Member Secretary initiated the deliberations on the Agenda Items.

ITEM NO.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 39TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 26TH MARCH 2019

The Minutes of the 39th Meeting of the Finance Committee (FC) were circulated to the Members and no comments were received, the FC confirmed the Minutes.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the 40/FC/2019/1 39th Meeting of the Finance Committee be confirmed.

ITEM NO.2 ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS OF THE 39TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The FC noted the Action Taken on the decisions of the previous Meetings of the Finance Committee.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED THAT the Action Taken 40/FC/2019/2 on the decisions of the previous Meetings of the Finance Committee be noted.

APPROVAL ITEMS

ITEM NO.3 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 22ND MEETING OF BUILDING AND WORKS COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JUNE 2019

The Finance Committee discussed the recommendation of the 22nd Building & Works Committee for creating additional academic spaces and other Infrastructure (A & B) to meet the increase in student strength due to the implementation of EWS reservation.

The FC considered the recommendation of the B&WC and recommended the following three proposals to the Board for approval.

Table - I

A. Vertical Expansion Projects		FY 2019 - 20 (In crores)	FY 2020 - 21 (In crores)	Total (In crores)
1	Vertical Expansion of Lecture Hall Complex – one floor [#]	10.65	5.32	15.97
2	Vertical Expansion of Girls Hostel (OPAL 'F' Block – two floors) [#]	8.95	4.48	13.43
B. New Building Projects				
1	Construction of 506 seated UG Boys Hostel*	10.00	31.00	41.00
Total		29.60	40.80	70.40

Under HEFA funding – Window (i)

* Under EWS scheme implementation HEFA window (iv) (10.00 Cr + 31.00Cr = 41.00 Cr)

The FC noted that the projects are within HEFA area norms for Academic and Residential buildings i.e 30 & 35 Sq.mt/student respectively.

The FC insisted that the CPWD has to involve the Institute in all decision making matters and has to obtain the approval of the Competent Authority of the Institute for any changes / modifications / suggestions in the approved plan.

The FC also directed the Institute to meticulously check all the clauses in the agreement between the CPWD and the Contractor with periodic monitoring and also before taking possession of any construction handed over by CPWD.

The FC advised that the CPWD has to modify para 4 of the “responsibility of CPWD” given in the preliminary estimate submitted by CPWD (Annexure II a - Page 31) and para 3 of the “responsibility of the Client” (Annexure II a - Page 33) since the FC is not in agreement with the terms of the CPWD.

In the matter of Arbitration (C), the Finance Committee noted that CPWD has given acceptance to pay the partial arbitral award amount of Rs.32,35,200/- including the interest and the balance amount is being challenged in the court of law.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/3 **RESOLVED THAT** the three building projects as given in Table – I with the financial details be recommended to the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT

- (i) The Institute has to be involved by CPWD in all decision making matters and has to obtain the approval of the Competent Authority of the Institute for any changes / modifications / suggestions in the approved plan.
- (ii) The Institute has to meticulously check all the clauses in the agreement between the CPWD and the Contractor with periodic monitoring and also before taking possession of any construction handed over by CPWD.
- (iii) CPWD has to modify para 4 of the responsibility of CPWD (Annexure II a - Page 31) and para 3 of the responsibility of the Client (Annexure

II a - Page 33) mentioned in the preliminary estimate submitted by CPWD since the FC is not in agreement with the terms of the CPWD.

(iv) The Finance Committee recommends that the Institute will pay the arbitral award amount of Rs.32,35,200/- including interest.

ITEM NO.4 SANCTION OF ADDITIONAL TEACHING AND NON - TEACHING POSITIONS.

The FC discussed the proposal in detail and noted that in order to maintain the Faculty – Student Ratio of 1:12 and to appoint Temporary / Guest / Visiting faculty / PDF, the increase in the sanction of additional Teaching and Non-Teaching positions is essential as per the current sanctioned student strength of 6224 (i.e 5937 in 2018-2019 + 287, EWS for 2019-20). The increase in staff strength will be 519 {i.e 393 (already sanctioned) +**102+24**} for Teaching Post and 570 (i.e 432+**112+26**) for Non - Teaching post respectively.

The total increase in the sanctioned strength is **126** Teaching and **138** Non- Teaching positions. After detailed discussion, the FC recommended the increase in the sanctioned strength to the Board for approval.

RESOLUTION
40/FC/2019/4

RESOLVED THAT the proposal for sanction of additional **126** Teaching and **138** Non- Teaching positions be recommended to the Board.

**ITEM NO.5 INTRODUCTION OF POST - DOCTORAL
FELLOWSHIP (PDF) IN THE INSTITUTE.**

The Finance Committee appreciated the Institute initiative to offer a PDF scheme, as it aims to enhance the research and innovation eco-system of NIT Tiruchirappalli by attracting young exceptionally talented scientists and engineers with diverse backgrounds to work on challenging and frontier areas. It also provides a platform for the development of future science and technology leaders. The Institute efforts to introduce PDF scheme will also help to overcome the shortage of faculty strength as 146 teaching positions are vacant. The Institute has planned to induct 50 positions of PDF as an initial step, in lieu of the faculty positions and recommended to the Board for approval.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED THAT introduction of
40/FC/2019/5 50 Post-Doctoral Fellowship positions
be recommended to the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT
Guidelines of SERB - National Post-
Doctoral Fellowship (N-PDF) be
followed in principle for the PDF
positions.

**ITEM NO.6 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
2018-19**

The Annual Accounts of NIT Tiruchirappalli for the Financial year 2018-19 was discussed and the Finance Committee recommended to the Board of Governors.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/6 **RESOLVED THAT** the Annual Accounts for the Financial year 2018-19 be recommended to the Board of Governors.

ITEM NO. 7 ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (COE) ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – SIGNING OF MOU WITH NVIDIA

The Finance Committee noted the aspiration of the Institute to establish a Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning and advised the Institute to follow the GFR provisions for purchase of equipment.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/7 **RESOLVED THAT** signing of MOU with NVIDIA be approved.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT Provisions of General Financial Rules be followed for the purchase of equipment.

ITEM NO.8 REVISION OF EMOLUMENTS AND GUIDELINES ON SERVICE CONDITIONS FOR RESEARCH PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN R&D PROGRAMME OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OR AGENCIES.

The Finance Committee noted that NIT Tiruchirappalli has admitted 377 (199 JRF and 178 SRF) Ph.D Scholars under full-time category over the last four years and recommended for revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions as per OM F.No 12-2/2019-U1 dated 31st January 2019 issued by MHRD. The Finance committee also noted the

annual financial implication for implementation of the revision of emoluments including the Ph.D scholars admitted in Academic year 2019-2020 is Rs. 3.81 Crores.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/8 **RESOLVED THAT** Revision of emoluments and service conditions for Ph.D Scholars as per MHRD's OM F.No 12-2/2019-U1 dated 31st January 2019 be recommended to the Board.

REPORTING ITEMS

ITEM NO.9

AMENDMENT OF CLAUSE (ii) OF SUB-STATUTE (1) OF PRINCIPLE STATUTE 13 REGARDING DELEGATION OF POWERS TO EXECUTE MINOR WORKS AND MINOR REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

The Finance Committee noted the MHRD communication to amend the Statute 13 of the First Statutes of NITs. The committee noted the provision to relax the condition of rule 133(1) and (2) of GFR 2017 for executing addition/alteration/modification of civil and electrical works in the existing buildings and execution of original/minor works estimated cost up to Rs. 30 Lacs

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/9 **RESOLVED THAT** the amendment of the Statute 13 of the First Statutes of NITs be noted.

ITEM NO.10 ENHANCEMENT OF MANDATORY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION UNDER NATIONAL PENSION SYSTEM (NPS) FROM 10% TO 14% OF BASIC AND DA

The Finance Committee noted the MHRD communication vide OM F.No.23011/1/2019-IF.I dated 03rd April, 2019 instructing the institute to implement the Gazette notification vide F.No. 1/3/2016 - PR of Ministry of Finance dated 31st January, 2019 on the subject of Enhancement of Mandatory Employer Contribution from 10% to 14% of Basic Pay plus DA w.e.f 01/04/2019 and recommended to the Board for approval.

**RESOLUTION
40/FC/2019/10**

RESOLVED THAT MHRD communication vide OM F.No.23011/1/2019-IF.I dated 03rd April, 2019 instructing the institute to implement the Gazette notification for enhancement of Mandatory Employer Contribution from 10% to 14% of Basic Pay plus DA w.e.f 01/04/2019 be recommended to the Board.

ITEM NO.11 OUTSOURCING OF CONTRACTUAL STAFF THROUGH OUTSOURCING AGENCY.

Finance Committee noted the MHRD instructions issued vide OM F.No 36-10/2018-TS-III dated 15/03/2019 to engage contractual staff may be recruited through outsourcing agency only and no direct contract entered between them to avoid the litigation in future. At Institute level total number of contractual post has been worked out to be 110 nos (approx). The approximate budget per annum after adopting minimum wages as per minimum wages act works out to be Rs. 2.83 crores.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/11 **RESOLVED THAT** the proposal to engage contractual staff to be recruited through outsourcing agency and the approximate expenditure be noted.

ITEM NO. 12 SERVICE TAX DEMAND FOR COLLECTING RENT FROM VARIOUS COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS UNDER RENTAL OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY.

The Finance Committee noted the Service tax of Rs.32,28,618 + reduced penalty – Rs. 8,07,154/- + penalty (u/s 77) - Rs. 10,000/- and interest - Rs.24,20,742/- total amounts to Rs. 64,66,514/- paid under protest to avail the reduced penalty on 09.05.2019. Also, the Finance committee noted the fact that an appeal has been filed before Commissioner (Appeals) Customs, Excise & Service tax Tiruchirappalli on 12.06.2019 with a prayer to set aside the impugned order in Original no: 08/2019 – ST passed by learned Joint commissioner, Trichy, stating the above reason.

RESOLUTION 40/FC/2019/12 **RESOLVED THAT** Payment of Rs 64,66,514/- towards service tax with penalty and interest under protest be recommended to the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT An appeal filed before the Commissioner (Appeals) Customs, Excise & Service Tax be noted and recommended to the Board.

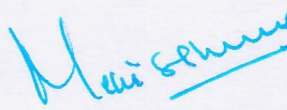
ITEM NO. 13 GRANT – IN - AID RECEIVED FROM MHRD DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20 UNDER RECURRING & NON – RECURRING HEADS (OH-31, 35, 36)

The Finance Committee noted the Grants-in-aid received by the Institute from MHRD during the Financial Year 2018 – 19.

RESOLUTION **RESOLVED THAT** the Grants-in-aid
40/FC/2019/13 received by the Institute from MHRD during
the Financial Year 2018 – 19 be noted.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.


Member Secretary


Chairperson In-charge, FC