



MINUTES OF THE 67th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON 24th NOVEMBER 2021 AT 4:00 PM IN NIT, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1.	Shri. Bhaskar Bhat	Chairperson, BoG
2.	Dr. (Mrs.) Mini Shaji Thomas, Director	Member
3.	Shri. Pawan Kumar Under Secretary, MoE	Member*
4.	Smt. Darshana M. Dabral Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, MoE	Member*
5.	Dr. Krishnan Balasubramanian	Member*
6.	Dr. S. Kumanan	Member*
7.	Dr. S. Jerome	Member*
8.	Dr. M. Umaphathy, Deputy Director	Special Invitee
9.	Dr. M. Arivazhagan, Registrar i/c	Secretary
* Through Video Conferencing		

GENERAL MATTERS

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

Shri. Bhaskar Bhat, Chairperson, Board of Governors welcomed the members to the meeting. He informed about his visit to the Institute for the Convocation-2020 and mentioned the visits to various facilities on campus.

Thereafter, the Registrar (i/c) - Secretary initiated the deliberations on the Agenda Items.

ITEM NO. 1	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 65th AND 66th (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON 26th JULY 2021 AND 24th AUGUST 2021
	The Minutes of the 65 th and 66 th (Special) Meeting of the BoG were circulated to the Members of the Board. One comment was

	received from a member regarding the recruitment, for which the Institute is waiting for directions from Ministry. The Board confirmed both the Minutes.
RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/1	RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the 65 th and 66 th Meeting of the Board of Governors be confirmed.

ITEM NO. 2	ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE BOG
	The Action Taken Report of the previous meetings of the Board of Governors were discussed and noted.
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/2 RESOLVED THAT the Action Taken on the decisions of the previous Meetings of the Board be noted.

ITEM NO. 3	DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS / DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE BOG.
	<p>The Director Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas presented a brief report of the highlights of achievements of the Institute over the last 5 years.</p> <p>It is a privilege to be the Director of NIT Tiruchirappalli from November 2016, which has a vibrant campus, competent faculty, bright students, outstanding research, publications and good placement record. However, some of the challenges in 2016 were, gaps in implementation of Flexible curriculum, long awaited recruitments and promotions for faculty and non-teaching staffs, and no Chairperson BOG till August 2020.</p> <p>With the objectives of streamlining the governance, to increase internal revenue and to improve the performance metric of the Institute in the Indian and Global ranking through periodical recruitment, innovation, entrepreneurship, industry collaboration etc., a strategic planning group was created. Brainstorming with multiple stakeholders evolved into a formal structure as the Strategic Planning 2019-24 document, released in October 2018. Strategic Plan focused primarily on five Pillars, Teaching Learning, Research, Collaboration, Sustainability & Governance and Infrastructure Development. The major highlights /achievements are as follows:</p>

Focus area 1 - Teaching & Learning:

- Five new academic Programmes (PGs)
- Experiential electives/reduction in B Tech credits/12 credits by MOOCs
- Two-fold increase in the number of PhD graduands (174 in 2021)
- Direct Ph. D Admission after B. Tech/B. Arch/ Integrated M. Tech/ Ph. D programme
- Recognition of Excellence/Best Faculty/Department Awards
- Aligned with NEP 2020 in many aspects already

Focus area 2 – Research, Innovations & Entrepreneurship

- Focus on creating Centers of Dynamic Excellence (CoDEs) with Industry Collaboration. Center of Excellence in Manufacturing with Siemens at 190 Crores, Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence with TCS Foundation funding 10 Crores, are examples of strong Industry collaboration. Other Centers of Dynamic Excellence established are in Advanced Manufacturing, in Energy Harvesting & Storage, in Combustion & Emission studies, Interdisciplinary labs in Electronic System Design, Calibration & Testing, Centre for system on chip design (With Alumnus Support)
- With an investment of Rs. 300 Crores into research in the last 4 years, the Research publications doubled and quality of publications stand at 72% in Quartile 1 & 2 in 2020
- Accelerated rise in Research and Consultancy income
- IPR Policy created and patent filing/publishing and granted improved substantially
- Faculty start up policy in place, Incubators CEDI and ISRO-Space Technology Incubation doing very well
- Became PMRF awardee institution, Part of National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), Exclusive Innovation Facilitation Centre funded by NRDC

Focus Area 3 – Collaborations

- Building durable bonds in terms of MoUs with many Educational Institutions, Research centers & Industries.
- Alumni Relations at a new high, Creation of Dean Institutional

Development & Alumni Relations, Heritage Centre inaugurated.

- Effective Brand enhancement of NIT Tiruchirappalli

Focus Area 4- Sustainability & Governance

- 119 New faculty recruits including 27 women and 170 Promotions
- 21 Group A officers & 92 fresh Group B & C recruits. 147 DPC, 27 MACP promotions
- Increase in internal revenue by 25-30 Crores/year
- E- Office implementation/outbound workshops for Faculty
- Special emphasis on women empowerment/Capacity building for women

Focus Area 5 – Infrastructure & Green Campus

- Extensive Greening of campus, Miyawaki forests, Biogas plant, micro compost plant, open Gym, Techno Gym etc created.
- Golden Jubilee Convention Hall, CoE in Manufacturing, Capstone-Training & Placement Cell, Third I – CSG, Chemical Eng Annex, Opal F Girls Hostel completed
- Vertical Expansion of LHC, Amethyst Boys Hostel, Annex Buildings for Civil, MME, Mech, EEE, ICE, Production initiated. When completed increase in area of Academic zone by 26% and Hostel zone by 23%
- Invested heavily into Digital/IT infrastructure/smart classrooms/ team based learning
- War against the Covid- Sailed through the pandemic effectively and safely.

In order to achieve the targets envisioned in the Strategic Planning document, Departments were set with targets to be achieved every year in terms of different performance indicators. Periodic reviews and visits to all the 17 Departments to review the progress in terms target-gap analysis was done every semester by the Director. Best performing faculty have been recognized and Best performing departments were also recognized based on NIRF metrics, during the Institute day. These concerted efforts have reflected fruitfully in our consistent performance in various

	<p>Rankings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •In NIRF India Rankings, retained the No 1 position among NITs, improved from Position 12 to Position 9 (Engineering category, Position 34 to Position 23 (Overall category) in the last 5 years •NIRF parameters have significantly improved, Research metric from 46 to 54 and Perception from 45 to 69 <p>The Director Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas expressed her satisfaction on the achievements and developments of the Institute aligned to the Strategic Plan 2019-24, where some parameters are achieved up to 80% already. The road ahead will include alignment with NEP 2020 and effective financial resource planning towards fiscal independence.</p> <p>The Director thanked the Chairperson BoG, who was a pillar of support, members of the Board of Governors and the Faculty, staff, students and Alumni for the whole hearted cooperation during the last 5 years.</p>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="446 1075 710 1263">RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/3</td> <td data-bbox="710 1075 1404 1263">RESOLVED THAT the Director's report on the major achievements and developments be noted with appreciation.</td> </tr> </table>	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/3	RESOLVED THAT the Director's report on the major achievements and developments be noted with appreciation.
RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/3	RESOLVED THAT the Director's report on the major achievements and developments be noted with appreciation.		

APPROVAL ITEMS

A. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

ITEM NO. 4	<p>STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS.</p> <p>A committee has been formed (copy attached as annexure) based on the Board vide resolution 65/BoG/2021/7 of the 65th BoG meeting. The committee met on 15th and 18th November 2021 and discussed the five focus areas in alignment with NEP 2020, i.e., Teaching-Learning, Research, Collaboration, Governance framework with sustainability and Infrastructure development. The Board noted the interim report of the committee on Teaching-Learning, Research, internal revenue generation and fund utilization as noted by the Finance Committee.</p>
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	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/4	RESOLVED THAT the interim report of the strategic plan review committee be noted.
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ITEM NO. 5	<p>AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CENTRAL SEAT ALLOCATION BOARD (CSAB)- 2019.</p> <p>As per the MHRD OM No.F.35 – 2 / 2018 – TS.III dated 16th August 2018, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, was appointed as the organizing institute for CSAB 2019, and the Director, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, as the Chairperson of CSAB 2019. CSAB 2019 was conducted very successfully with EWS implementation and admissions were coordinated for all participating Institutions (Around 130+ Institutions).</p> <p>As per para 8 of above OM, the CSAB 2019 received Rs. 8.6354 Cr from NTA in account no 38557109311 (referred as NTA Account) against 10% of the application fee collected from applicants to conduct of JEE (Main). Institute also received Rs.25 Lakhs as seed grant from CSAB 2018 (MNIT Jaipur) and transferred the Rs.25 Lakhs to CSAB 2020 (MNNIT Allahabad). Further for conduct of CSAB rounds, CSAB 2019 operated separate account, (CSAB Account - account no 38557109220) for collection of Participation fee from Students which includes Seat acceptance fee and processing fees and also to receive the funds from JoSAA towards transfer of seat acceptance fee to Participating NITs. In CSAB account a provision of Rs.66.20 Lakhs has been created towards Refund of Seat acceptance fee to students who were not allotted any seats in NITs, since no correct account number available with CSAB 2019 even after repeated mails to the students.</p> <p>Now, the total CSAB 2019 activity has been completed including the legal cases. Hence, the accounts have been audited by independent auditor and the report has been placed as the Annexure.</p> <p>The total balance of fund for NTA Account and CSAB 2019 accounts is as follows:</p>
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Account	Total Inflow (in Cr)	Expenditure /Out follow (in Cr)	Balance (in Cr)	Interest (in Cr)	Total Balance available (in Cr)
NTA account	8.6354	8.4165	0.2189	0.3184	0.5373
CSAB account	200.95	193.92	7.023	2.054	9.0767
<p>As per para 8 of above stated MoE OM, any unutilized funds arising out of transfer from NTA will be transferred to Corpus of CSAB Organizing institute.</p> <p>The Finance Committee perused the audited statements of NTA and CSAB accounts, and recommended to transfer the balance amounts from these accounts to the Corpus of NIT Tiruchirappalli and the Board approved the same.</p>					
RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/5			RESOLVED THAT the recommendation of the Finance committee to transfer the amounts to the Corpus of NIT Tiruchirappalli be approved.		

OTHER ITEMS

ITEM NO. 6	VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT REQUEST FROM DR. T. SRINIVASA RAO, PROFESSOR (HAG)
	<p>One faculty member of the Institute has requested for VRS as mentioned below:</p> <p>In his letter dated 15.09.2021, Dr. T. Srinivasa Rao, Professor(HAG), Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering had applied for Voluntary Retirement from service. Prof. T. Srinivasa Rao was the Director of NIT, Warangal from 27.11.2011 to 30.06.2016 and the Board approved the request.</p>
RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/6	RESOLVED THAT the request for VRS by Dr. T. Srinivasa Rao be accepted.

RATIFICATION ITEM

ITEM NO. 7	<p>MOU WITH SHRI RAJ SHANMUGARAJ, ALUMNUS FOR SETTING UP OF SYSTEM-ON-CHIP CENTRE.</p> <p>The Institute has proposed to establish the Centre for System On-Chip (SoC) Design and Fabrication with the funding (personal contribution) from Mr. Raj Shanmugaraj, an alumnus and President & CEO Acacia Communications, USA. This is the outcome of yearlong discussions with Shri. Shanmugaraj with a team from the Institute comprising of Director, Dean ID&AR, Dean R&C and Faculty members of the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering.</p> <p>The vision of the Centre is to significantly increase relevant collaboration between NIT, Tiruchirappalli and Industry in VLSI Technology, by designing and fabricating new SoCs and RF front-end IC's/Products targeted for use in multiple markets, also resulting in more Patents and Intellectual Property for NITT</p> <p>Objectives: Design and Development of SoC based boards targeted to meet the applications of Telemedicine, Biomedical, IoT, Agriculture, transportation and Industrial Automation. The SoC would consist of Shakthi H Class processor and additional hardware accelerators and is proposed to be designed and fabricated in SCL 180nm technology at present.</p> <p>Design and fabrication of RF front-end circuits for 5G and IoT applications. The Low noise amplifier (LNA) circuits for 2- 6 GHz range and Variable gain amplifiers for IF frequencies are going to be designed in UMC 180nm CMOS technology at present.</p> <p>Facilitating System on-Chip IP/Product Development as per the needs of industries and local community</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of Collaborating with defense research laboratories through schemes such as RESPOND and identify the applications where the SoC and RF front-end circuits can be deployed and tailored for their applications.</p> <p>Requirements to be fulfilled by Shri. Raj Shanmugaraj: Funding of Rs. 1,88,54,640/- (Rupees One Crore Eighty Eight Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Six Hundred and Forty) for the establishment of the Centre.</p> <p>Technical and Research collaborations/ Assistance with mutually</p>
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	<p>agreed members from Industry and Academia. Requirements to be fulfilled by the Institute: Fund of Rs.20 Lakhs for purchasing 10 – PCs, 2 – Workstations, Furniture and A/Cs. Faculty Team from NIT, Trichy: Dr. P.Muthuchidambaranathan, Dr. G.Lakshminarayanan, Dr. Bhaskar, Dr. R.Thilagavathy, Dr. B.Rebekka, Dr. R.K.Kavitha, Dr. Varun P.Gopi. The MOU was sent to MOE, as per the Statutes, MoE responded that since the MoU is with an Individual, MoE vetting is not required and the item may be placed in the BOG of the Institute. Hence the MoU was approved by the Chairperson BoG and signed to initiate the process of establishment of the centre. This is a milestone in the history of the Institute, as this is the first initiative to set up a Centre by an Individual Alumnus. The Finance committee recommended the setting up of the above mentioned Centre and the Board ratified this.</p>		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 987 710 1220">RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/7</td> <td data-bbox="710 987 1402 1220">RESOLVED THAT the setting up of the Centre for System On-Chip (SoC) Design and Fabrication be ratified as recommended by the Finance committee.</td> </tr> </table>	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/7	RESOLVED THAT the setting up of the Centre for System On-Chip (SoC) Design and Fabrication be ratified as recommended by the Finance committee.
RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/7	RESOLVED THAT the setting up of the Centre for System On-Chip (SoC) Design and Fabrication be ratified as recommended by the Finance committee.		

REPORTING ITEMS

ITEM NO.8	PURCHASE OF ION EXCHANGE CHROMATOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT UNDER DST-FIST FUNDING.	
	As per the Department of Science and Technology (DST) OM no SR/FST/ETII-137/2017 (C) dated 24 Dec 2020, a sum of 40.00 Lakhs has been sanctioned for procurement of Ion Exchange Chromatography. Vide BoG resolution no. 52/BoG/2018/8, authorized the Director to approve the purchase of project equipment costing above Rs. 25 lakhs and such kind of approvals be reported to the Board in its subsequent meetings.	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/8	RESOLVED THAT the Board noted the procurement of Ion Exchange Chromatography
ITEM NO.9	IMPLEMENTATION OF TREASURY SINGLE ACCOUNT (TSA) AND POLICY DOCUMENT	

	<p>The MoE vide OM No F 36-3/2021 TS III dated 08 Mar 2021 intimated the implementation of Treasury Single Account (TSA) in autonomous Bodies and the same in respect of NITs has been scheduled in month of May 21. Accordingly, Institute proceeded for initial preparation viz opening of Assignment Account in RBI etc and Registrar i/c has been designated as Nodal officer TSA.</p> <p>The TSA account No 10681401001 has been assigned to NIT Tiruchirappalli vide Ministry OM no F 36-3/2021 TS III dated 21 Jun 2021. Institute started receiving funds in TSA accounts since Jul 2021. After Preliminary preparation like DSC procurement for authorities, mapping in PFMS, etc institute started using TSA for direct online payment.</p> <p>The institute level TSA policy in line with CGA (Controller General of Accounts), GoI, policy for implementation of TSA has been framed and placed for the information of Board.</p>	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/9	RESOLVED THAT the TSA policy in line with CGA (Controller General of Accounts), GoI be noted.

ITEM NO.10	MINUTES OF THE 55th MEETING OF THE SENATE	
	The Board noted the Minutes of the 55 th Meeting of the Senate.	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/10	RESOLVED THAT the 55 th Meeting of the Senate be noted.

ITEM NO.11	MINUTES OF THE 47th to 48th MEETINGS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.	
	The Board noted the Minutes of the 47 th and 48 th Meetings of the Finance Committee.	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/11	RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the 47 th and 48 th Meetings of the Finance Committee be noted.

ITEM NO.12	LEGAL MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE LAST BOARD MEETING.
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	Details of Court cases which were filed/came up for hearing subsequent to the 65 th Meeting of the Board were furnished for the information and direction of the Board. The Board noted the cases.	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/12	RESOLVED THAT the court cases filed/heard subsequent to the last Board meeting be noted.

ITEM NO. 13	ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.	
	<p>a. Strategic decision during the period of Director In-charge</p> <p>It was discussed that routine activities could be carried out during the period of Director In-charge, and if necessary, strategic decisions can be made only after consultation with the Chairperson BoG.</p>	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/13a	RESOLVED THAT routine activities can be carried out during the period of Director In-charge and if required, strategic decisions be made only after consultation with the Chairperson.
	<p>b. Appreciation for the service of the Director Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas</p> <p>The Chairperson of BoG placed the letter of appreciation to the Director Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas on behalf of the Board of Governors. He appreciated the splendid work carried out during her tenure, her untiring spirit, astute vision and for taking the Institute to its highest ever National ranking. Dr. Krishnan Balasubramanian appreciated her amazing work and for bringing people together. Smt. Darshana M. Dabral wished her best for the future and said that she has set an example being a woman Director. Dr. S. Jerome thanked the Director for her efforts for promotion and recruitment of faculty and staff. Dr. S.Kumanan wished her all the best and said that her contributions could never be forgotten. Director Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas thanked the Chairperson, the Board, the Ministry and the Faculty, Staff and Students of NIT Tiruchirappalli for the support and help she received during the tenure.</p>	

	The letter of appreciation is attached as Annexure I .	
	RESOLUTION 67/BoG/2021/13b	RESOLVED THAT the service of Director Mini Shaji Thomas be appreciated and noted.

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


Secretary


Chairperson, BoG

Annexure - I



राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, तिरुचिरापल्ली
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The Board of Governors of NIT Tiruchirappalli places on record its appreciation for the splendid work of Mini Shaji Thomas during her five years as Director between 2016 and 2021. As the first woman Director in the 56-year old history of this Institute, she completes her term as one who truly made history through her stellar leadership that has helped in the Institute's all-round development.

Mini Thomas will be remembered for the untiring spirit and astute vision with which she has built an Institute that is more resilient and ready for the challenges in the decades ahead. In the process of actualising her plans she took every one along, ignored none, including every member of the BoG and she leaves behind a legacy that will remain as green as the Miyawaki forests she raised on this 800-acre campus.

She will be remembered as the Director who took the Institute to its highest ever National ranking (9th in Engineering).

We wish her many more years in the service of the nation.



Bhaskar Bhat

Chairperson
Board of Governors, NIT Tiruchirappalli

24.11.2021