



**Minutes of the 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate of  
National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli (By Circulation)**  
(Agenda and Notes: Date of Circulation: 09-05-2020;  
Deadline for comments: 11-05-2020)

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Institute suspended all academic activities from 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and students were requested to return to their hometown. However, an academic schedule has to be worked out to graduate the final year students (UG & PG) in time and a revised schedule for the rest of the students. Department meetings to discuss these items were held for all 17 Departments on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2020. An agenda was circulated to all senate members on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The comments received from the senators were incorporated / responded to and the final minutes of the 50<sup>th</sup> meeting of the senate of NIT Tiruchirappalli is as below:

**1. Resumption of academic activities of current Academic Year (2019-20)**

NIT Tiruchirappalli attracts top students from across the country as well as international students. Owing to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, most of the students have returned to their homes across India and abroad. Many parts of the globe are designated as containment zones and there are severe travel restrictions for citizens. The reopening of a fully residential Institution like NIT Tiruchirappalli can happen only in a phased manner with quarantine of students for a period time and subsequent readiness of the hostels/classrooms to handle the students with social distancing and other norms due to COVID-19.

Final year students (UG and PG) have to graduate in time to take up placement opportunities already in hand and also to enrol in higher studies opportunities already offered/will be offered to them. Meanwhile, many of the universities/institutions in our country and across the globe are fast recalibrating their established practices to circumvent the war like situation due to the pandemic, for delivery of instructions, evaluation and closure of the semester by using the power of technology.

In view of the above, after detailed deliberations with every Faculty of the Institute in all the Seventeen Departments over meetings held during 6/7/8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and harnessing the capabilities of our IT infrastructure, the plans of NIT Tiruchirappalli are put forward before the Senate. MHRD has empowered the Senate of the Institute to take appropriate decisions regarding the Academic matters of the Institute.

### 1 (a). Conducting Examinations for Outgoing Students

The final year UG students have three theory courses in addition to project work while all final year PG students except M. Sc. (Physics) and MBA have project works only. Final year students of MSc (Physics) has one theory course and MBA has 4 theory courses. It is proposed to conduct of examinations remotely for both theory courses and project works of outgoing students as follows:

#### Category 1: Theory Courses

Programmes	Nature of Courses
UG programmes	Theory courses for outgoing students include, minor and Honours courses in addition to project work.
PG Programmes	<b>1. MSc (Physics)</b> Total students: 22 Theory courses: 1 Offered: 2 with class size (8, 14). <b>2. MBA</b> Total students: 75 Theory courses: 4 Offered: 8 with class size (24, 40, 62, 38, 12, 19, 23, 32).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NIT Trichy has put forth the following proposals with regard to conduct of theory examinations remotely for the current final year students so that they can complete the courses in time.

1. All continuous assessments may be completed by 22<sup>nd</sup> May'20, so that final assessment could start from 26<sup>th</sup> May'20.
2. Faculty may plan for a maximum of two online assessments including final assessment for a course perhaps through the institute portal for conduct of online examinations.
3. Any online assessment, including the final one, shall not carry a weightage of more than 30%.
4. The Class Committee (CC) may decide the adjusted weightage amongst the internal assessments (IA) in such a way the total weightage attributed to IA is 70%.
5. The class committee may decide the Bloom's taxonomy levels of setting question papers and the number of sets of question papers to be set and administered, to ensure surprise element amongst the students.

6. The class committee may decide the compensatory assessment for a student who could not attend an internal assessment. However, CC plan to conduct compensatory assessment, if necessity warrants, through institute portal.
7. The class committee may decide suitable amendments in the original course plans along with approximate timeline for the assessment.
8. The assessments including final assessment for composite classes (Final year UG along with 3<sup>rd</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> year & PG along with M. S. (by Research) / Ph.D.) will be conducted together (all semesters) remotely.
9. B.Arch. may follow institute regulations.
10. All students shall be permitted to appear for end semester examination / final assessment. Attendance shall not be a criterion for preventing a student from appearing for final assessment.
11. Considering connectivity and related issues, the final assessment shall not exceed 2- hour duration.
12. An Institute Portal has been created for conducting Examination remotely.
13. The written examinations for those students who have net connectivity and related issues, subject to verification of the genuineness of their claim, may be conducted on campus when the institute reopens.

**Category 2: Project works (Outgoing students: All PG and UG final years)**

<b>Programmes</b>	<b>Name of the Programmes</b>
<b>UG programmes</b>	<b>Currently:</b> B.Arch 5 <sup>th</sup> / B.Tech 4 <sup>th</sup> The ordinal indicates current year.
<b>PG Programmes</b>	<b>Currently:</b> M. Arch. 2 <sup>nd</sup> / MCA 3 <sup>rd</sup> / M.Sc. 2 <sup>nd</sup> / M.Tech. 2 <sup>nd</sup> The ordinal indicates current year.

**For project evaluation,**

- UGC's guidelines may be considered to assign review-based/ secondary data-based projects or software-driven projects, instead of laboratory-based experiments or field/ survey-based assignments and accordingly move towards closure of thesis submission and assessment. Besides, Council of Architecture has issued an advisory that all the viva-voce, juries, thesis reviews and final jury should be done on-line and on time.
- Project viva voce may be conducted over MS Team, CISCO Webex or any other meeting apps. In the cases of genuine connectivity issues, project viva voce

recorded over power point or even WhatsApp or mailed the presentation coupled with telephonic viva voce may be accepted.

- Online No Dues Certificate facilitated for graduating students.

*The Senate approved the proposals regard to conduct of theory examinations and project evaluation remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the current final year students.*

*The Senate also opined that if the faculty member happens to be either Retired Faculty who declines to evaluate or Temporary Faculty, or PDF, the same may be replaced with a regular faculty nominated by HoD concerned.*

**RESOLUTION 50/SENATE/2020/1(a) RESOLVED THAT the proposals regarding the conduct of theory examinations and project evaluation remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the current final year students be approved.**

**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT if the faculty member happens to be either Retired Faculty who declines to evaluate or Temporary Faculty, or PDF, the same may be replaced with a regular faculty nominated by HoD concerned.**

**1(b). Tentative Examination Schedule – For Outgoing UG and PG students**

Based on the number of theory, elective courses and minor courses, the tentative exam schedule has been prepared for UG and PG final year students. The details are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Tentative Online Examination Schedule – For Outgoing UG and PG students**

Date	Academic Activities (PG)	Date	Academic Activities (UG)
27.04.2020 to 01.05.2020	PG Project Review – II (all departments started online review)	06.05.2020 to 16.05.2020	Project Review- II (Some Departments already started online Review)
15.05.2020 to 18.05.2020	PG Project Review – III	18.05.2020 to 24.05.2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> / Mid Semester / Final internal assessment (Including compensation assessment)
19.05.2020 to 23.05.2020	Assessments for Theory courses (M.Sc. - Physics & MBA) (Including compensation assessment)	25.05.2020 to 12.06.2020	Final Assessment for Theory courses through institute portal

15.06.2020	Online submission of PG Thesis (IV & VI Semester)	15.06.2020	Online submission of Project report
28.05.2020 to 08.06.2020	Final Assessment for Theory courses through institute portal (M.Sc. -Physics & MBA)	16.06.2020, 17.06.2020	Project Viva Voce
16.06.2020 to 18.06.2020	IV & VI Semester PG Project Viva Voce	19.06.2020	PAC Meeting for UG
19.06.2020	PAC Meeting for PG		
26.06.2020 to 30.06.2020	<b>Senate and Board Meetings</b>		
30.06.2020	<b>Publication of Results</b>		

*The Senate approved the tentative examination schedule as mentioned in Table 1 for UG and PG final year students.*

**RESOLUTION                      RESOLVED THAT the tentative examination 50/SENATE/2020/1(b) schedule as mentioned in Table 1 for UG and PG final year students be approved.**

**1(c). Revised Academic Schedule Pack – Jan 2020 (Except Outgoing Students)**

*The Senate approved the revised academic schedule pack (RASP) for all other UG and PG students (Table 2) with the following observations.*

- i. The revised academic schedule pack (RASP) for all other UG and PG students (Table 2) will be decided based on lockdown lifting.*
- ii. If the lockdown restrictions continue beyond June/July 2020, the modalities of conducting online examinations suggested for the outgoing students may be taken up for all other UG and PG students.*
- iii. The dates are indicative only and subject to change.*

**RESOLUTION                      RESOLVED THAT the revised academic schedule pack (RASP) for all other UG and PG students (Table 2) be approved with the above mentioned observations.**

**Table 2: Revised Academic Schedule Pack – Jan 2020 (Except Outgoing Students)**

\*The opening date may move further as per the prevailing situation

Programme & Year Academic Activities With proposed Date	MBA 1 <sup>st</sup> / MSc 1 <sup>st</sup> / B. Arch. 4 <sup>th</sup> / M. Arch. 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	M. Tech. 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	B. Arch. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	B. Tech. / BArch. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> / MCA 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	B. Tech. 3 <sup>rd</sup> / MCA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year
Quarantine	*Jun-01-14	*Jun-15-28	*Jun-29- Jul-12	*Jul-13-26	*Jul-27- Aug-09
Contact classes for Lab and Theory courses	Jun-15-19	Jun-29 – Jul-03	Jul-13-17	Jul-27-31	Aug-10-14
Course Pre- Registration for JULY Session	Jun-20	Jul-04	Jul-18	Aug-01	Aug-16
Course Uploading for JULY Session by Departments	Jun-21-22	Jul-05-06	Jul-19-20	Aug-02	Aug-17-18
Feedback submission for January session and Course Registration for July Session (MIS)	Jun-23	Jul-07	Jul-21	Aug-03-04	Aug-19
Final Assessment for Lab and Theory courses	Jun-24-Jul-04	Jul-07-18	Jul-22- Aug-01	Aug-05-14	Aug-20-30
Evaluation by the faculty	Jun-25-Jul-07	Jul-19-21	Jul-23-04	Aug-06-18	Aug-21-Sep-01
Reopen for July 2020 session	Jul-08	Jul-22	Aug-05*	Aug-19	Sep-02
PAC Meeting, Submission of Results and logbook by the Departments to Academic office	Jul-08-12	Jul-22-26	Aug-05-09	Aug-19-23	Sep-02 - 06
Publication of Results	Jul-08-16	Jul-27-30	Aug-10-14	Aug-24-27	Sep-07 -10

**1(d). Internship for 3<sup>rd</sup> year B. Tech. / 1<sup>st</sup> year MBA Students**

There are 305 students have been offered internship in industries. The present situation has made quite a few industries to offer it online.

*Considering the current situation, the Senate approved the following:*

- i. *The current B. Tech. 3<sup>rd</sup> year / 1<sup>st</sup> year MBA students who got internship in industries / institutions that offer it online mode may be permitted to undergo internship online.*
- ii. *Such students as are not got internship outside may be given internship both in (i) Siemens Centre of Excellence and (ii) Students' innovation Centre at NIT-Tiruchirappalli.*

**RESOLUTION**                      **RESOLVED THAT the Internship for 3<sup>rd</sup> year B.Tech. 50/SENATE/2020/1(d) / 1<sup>st</sup> year MBA Students be approved with the above mentioned observations.**

**1(e). Shifting of courses and Professional Training for B. Arch. (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Semester)**

*The Senate approved the following changes in the existing curriculum of B.Arch. program as approved in 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate (Resolution: 45/SENATE/2019/2) for current 3<sup>rd</sup> year B. Arch. Students.*

1. *Shifting of professional training from 7<sup>th</sup> Semester to 8<sup>th</sup> Semester; and*
2. *Shifting of existing course works from 8<sup>th</sup> Semester to 7<sup>th</sup> Semester.*

**RESOLUTION**                      **RESOLVED THAT the shifting of courses and 50/SENATE/2020/1(e) professional training for B. Arch. (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Semester) as approved in 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate be approved for current 3<sup>rd</sup> year B. Arch. Students.**

**1(f). Research Activities**

*The Senate permitted the Faculty members to convene the meetings such as i) DC / GTC meeting ii) Seminar iii) Synopsis iv) Final DC and v) Thesis Viva Voce Examination, for their research scholars (M. S. (by research) and Ph. D.) through video conferencing mode. Further, the Senate noted the following:*

- i. *Let the participants for the seminar, synopsis, and viva-voce be, not limited to, other research scholars and faculty of the department concerned.*

- ii. *A soft copy of the approved synopsis, thesis adhering to the prescribed guidelines with no dues certificate may be sent to Dean (A) office by email/portal created by Computer Support Group, and*
- iii. *Recording of the online meetings shall also be submitted with documents.*

**RESOLUTION**  
50/SENATE/2020/1(f)

**RESOLVED THAT** the Faculty members to convene the meetings such as i) DC / GTC meeting ii) Seminar iii) Synopsis iv) Final DC and v) Thesis Viva Voce Examination, for their research scholars (M. S. (by research) and Ph. D.) through video conferencing mode.


**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** i) Let the participants for the seminar, synopsis, and viva-voce be, not limited to, other research scholars and faculty of the department concerned ii) A soft copy of the approved synopsis, thesis adhering to the prescribed guidelines with no dues certificate may be sent to Dean (A) office by email/portal created by Computer Support Group and iii) Recording of the online meetings shall also be submitted with documents.

**1(g). Authorizing the Chairperson for any other Academic Decisions**

The measures suggested above are aimed at coping with an ever evolving dynamic situation, so that we steer through this rough weather unscathed. These measures may not be the most ideal solution. But then, under the current circumstances, there is nothing like an ideal solution. The Senate recognizes that extraordinary situations call for extraordinary efforts and accordingly endorses the measures proposed above and further authorizes the Chairperson Senate to make any other academic decision, as extension or otherwise of the above measures, as demanded by the evolving situation.

**RESOLUTION**  
50/SENATE/2020/1(g)

**RESOLVED THAT** the Senate authorizes the Chairperson Senate to make any other academic decision, as extension or otherwise of the above measures, as demanded by the evolving situation.

  
Secretary, Senate

  
Chairperson, Senate