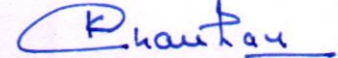F.No.24-1/2022-TS-1 (Sectt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
Technical Section – I
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Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 14th June, 2023

Subject: Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of IITs-reg.

The Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of the IITs held under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, on 18th April, 2023 (Tuesday) at IIT Bhubaneswar are forwarded herewith for information and necessary action.

(Kavita Chauhan)
Under Secretary (IITs)
For Secretary, Council of IITs

Encl: As above

To,

i.   All Members of Council of IITs
ii. Director General, NTA

Copy to:-

i.   PS to Hon'ble Minister of Education
ii.   PSO to Secretary (HE)
iii. PS to JS (TE)
iv.   PS to JS & FA

Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on Tuesday, the 18th April, 2023 at Admin Building, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar.

The 55th Meeting of the Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) under the Chairpersonship of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education was held on 18th April, 2023 at IIT Bhubaneswar. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I.**

At the outset, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Shri Sanjay K. Murthy and Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairman, Standing Committee of IIT Council (SCIC), welcomed Hon'ble Minister of Education and Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Shri Kunar Hembram and Shri Biplab Kumar Deb and all other Members to the IIT Council.

Ms. Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary (TE), Secretary Council of IITs then presented the various agenda points for discussions.

Item No. 55.1: To confirm the Minutes of the 54th Meeting of the Council of the IITs held on 22.02.2021.

The Minutes of the 54th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 22.02.2021 were confirmed, as circulated.

Item No. 55.2: To Report Action Taken on the Minutes of the 54th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 22.02.2021.

The Council noted the status of Action Taken Report (ATR) on decisions taken by the Council in its 54th Meeting held on 22.02.2021. Following observations were made on the Action Taken Report:

54.7: Reforms in the M. Tech Programs:

A brief on the issue was presented by Director, IIT Hyderabad, informing that many institutes have started industry-oriented post graduate programmes.

The Committee comprising of Prof. B. S. Murthy, Director- IIT Hyderabad, Prof. Manoj S. Gaur, Director- IIT Jammu and Prof. M. Balakrishnan, IIT Delhi had made four primary recommendations. Draft report was circulated as part of agenda at Annexure-II. It was decided that the Committee may detail out the implementation roadmap within three months.

(Action: IIT Hyderabad, IIT Jammu & IIT Delhi)

54.8: Implementation of National Education Policy, 2020: Constitution of Working Groups on various issues regarding.

The five working groups formed during the last meeting presented their reports.

It was decided that the Reports of Working Groups on "Evolve a structural system for training and mentorship of new faculty at IITs", and "Innovative funding mechanisms" may be implemented suitably by each IIT.

As the reports on "Governance Reforms in term of Autonomy, Empowerment and Accountability in the IIT system", "Grooming distinguished academics for Directorship of IITs" and "Reforming and restructuring of the Academic Senate" involve taking policy decisions, require change in Statues & Act etc, IIT Council and Ministry of Education may examine these recommendations further.

(Action: Ministry of Education)

54.10: To consider the report of the committee constituted for suggesting recruitment of faculties in IITs (Industry interaction and mobility of faculty)

The report was circulated by the Ministry vide letter dated 18th February, 2022 and has been widely accepted and implemented. The agenda item may be treated as complied with.

54.12: IIT Alumni Council using logos of all IITs including IIT Bombay. (IIT Bombay)

The action taken by the Ministry under this item was noted. The agenda item may be treated as complied with.

54.13: PPP Model for constructing and operating hostels and residential accommodation in IITs

The Department of Economic Affairs' (DEA), Ministry of Finance guidelines which provides for Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for projects in social sector especially health and education, circulated vide this Ministry's letter dated 14th March, 2022 may be used by institutions for further action in this regard.

(Action: All IITs)

54.14: Digital Transformation of Internal Systems at IITs.

Director, IIT Jodhpur discussed the findings of the Committee. It was decided to develop 2.0 version of SAMARTH incorporating all the requirements of IITs, keeping in view the detailed analysis by the Committee into the specific requirements of IITs, in present and near future. Director, IIT Jodhpur may take further action and apprise the Council within four months time, in this regard.

(Action: IIT Jodhpur)

54.15: Outsourcing Non-Core functions of IITs.

Director, IIT Kanpur briefed the Council on the report of the Task Force. It was decided that this report may be circulated among all IITs for further implementation at institute level, as per the unique requirements of each institute, after due deliberations at institute level.

(Action: All IITs)

54.16 Suggestions by IIT Council members: Proposal for organizing R&D fair of IITs by the Ministry

The Council appreciated the R&D Fair of IITs, in which 75+ projects from the IIT ecosystem and 6 theme projects across diverse themes were demonstrated. The Council viewed that such a Fair should be an annual recurring affair, done on fixed dates and should become a globally recognizable event, as the most lucrative event for the industry, seeking technological innovations and adaptations. Other institutions like NITs, IISERs, private institutions etc. may also be roped in towards participating in the event. This fair should primarily focus on industry-oriented projects.

It was decided that the R&D fair during 2023 shall be hosted by IIT Hyderabad, while for the year 2024, the fair will be hosted by IIT Madras. The host IIT will take care of the Secretariat to be set up towards organizing the fair. The institutional mechanism for ensuring continuity of Secretariat for this event; and documentation, brand promotion, liaison with the Ministry, may be worked out within three months by IIT Hyderabad.

(Action: IIT Hyderabad, IIT Madras)

Item No. 55.3: To report changes in the Membership of the Council.

The Council welcomed all the new Members and placed on record the contributions made by the outgoing members.

Item No. 55.4: Ratification of appointment of Directors of IITs.

The Council ratified the appointment of the Directors.

Item No. 55.5: To report /ratify the decisions taken by the Chairperson, IIT Council on behalf of the Council.

The Council after due deliberation ratified the decisions taken by the Chairperson, IIT Council in respect of the following matters: -

I.   Council Nominees on the Board of Governors of the IITs.

II.   Stop-Gap arrangement of Director of IIT-Bhubaneswar, Gandhinagar, Delhi, Madras, Roorkee, Palakkad, Tirupati, Bhilai, Dharwad, Jammu, Guwahati and IIT Goa.

III.   Re-advertisement for the post of Director, IIT Indore, IIT Mandi, IIT Bhubaneswar and IIT Goa

Item No. 55.6: Accreditation of IITs.

Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairman-SCIC, made a presentation on the ongoing exercise for evolving a simple, transparent, trust-based, objective and rationalized system for approval, accreditation and ranking of HEls. The Report on developing a methodology for accreditation is presently being prepared by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan. The Report will be finalized by the end of April, 2023 and shall then be circulated among all IITs for their suggestions. After including these suggestions, the report shall be placed during the next Council meeting.

An action plan may be formulated by December, 2023 by IIT Gandhinagar. In-principle, it was agreed that IITs would also become part of the proposed national accreditation process.

(Action: Chairman-SCIC, IIT Gandhinagar and All IITs)

Item No. 55.7: Research Support to Faculty and Departments to motivate individual faculty and create an environment for collaboration in Departments.

Chairman, IIT Hyderabad presented the need for improving faculty development and Interdepartmental collaboration, by interventions such as enhanced funding, encouraging faculty to create start-ups, institutes as a collection of research centres, etc. It was highlighted during the discussions that each IIT provides financial incentives to younger faculty as per their financial health which varies across IITs.

The Chairman, IIT Council envisioned that IITs should ensure new young faculty get adequate support to spearhead research in the country. Further,

IITs should work towards amplifying their IRG by taking up various initiatives such as consultancy, research projects etc.

It was decided that the detailed proposal in this regard may be formulated by IIT Hyderabad in next three months time.

(Action: IIT Hyderabad)

Item No. 55.8: Non-speculative holding of equity by IITs in ventures aligned with the national mission.

Director, IIT Bombay presented a proposal on this matter. The Chairman, IIT Council urged the IITs to strengthen the entrepreneurship culture, but IITs being autonomous institutions, this matter may not be centralized. The intent behind the proposal was appreciated by the Council as the need of the day and it was decided that further deliberations on the issue may take place in IITs and afterwards, a white paper on the modalities may be sent to MoE by IIT Bombay in next three months time, keeping in mind the global best practices on the issue, for examining and resolving the regulatory and taxation aspects.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.9: Outreach activities of IITs for inclusive growth of other technical Institutions and sharing the benefit of research to society.

Director, IISc Bangalore made a presentation on outreach activities and societal impact of IISc schemes. The teacher training programme of IISc Bangalore, HAL-IISc Skill Development Centre at Challakere and other contributions including stabilised mud bricks, ASTRA stove etc. were highlighted. Director, IISc Bangalore emphasised on engagement on global challenges like climate change while ensuring inclusive and meaningful development, and dedicated activities at higher education institutions in rural areas.

The Council appreciated the efforts of IISc Bangalore. It was felt that a sensitization of students to real world challenges being faced by rural and

urban poor both should be duly incorporated into the curriculum. The Chairman, IIT Council opined that IITs should scale-up technological solutions for redressing social challenges and develop a detailed plan of action within the institutes with active involvement of all departments.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.10: Vision of IITs for the next 25 years.

Director, IIT Delhi made a presentation on how IITs have expanded their footprint over the years and the vision for next 25 years. Director, IIT Delhi proposed constitution of a Committee for IIT 2047 vision and an International Advisory group of leading experts to interface with the vision committee. He also proposed that each IIT may create its own mechanism for an external review and a long-term vision.

In view of changing global scenario and the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat as a developed country by 2047, IITs were asked to formulate a strategy for a Vision for IITs@2047 in Amrit Kaal, along with focussing on short-term goals. Some of the IITs like IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur have prepared their Vision Document. It was decided that each IIT shall prepare a Vision document and also develop a short term strategy paper. After this, an overall Vision document of IITs shall be framed within one year, and a short term strategy paper within three months, spearheaded by IIT Delhi.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.11: Reservation policy - existing policy and the challenges in implementing the CEI Reservation in faculty recruitment in IITs and measures to overcome the challenge.

A presentation on the reservation policy was made by Director, IIT-Madras. IITs were exhorted to follow the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019 in letter and spirit.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.12:   Prime Minister Research Fellowship (PMRF).

A presentation on the progress of the PMRF scheme was made by Director, IIT-Madras. PMRF is the flagship scheme for promoting culture of knowledge research and retaining the talent in the country. The Council appreciated the rigorous process of approval, thereby ensuring that only highly challenging and sustainable projects are approved.

The Council in-principle agreed for taking up PMRF Phase-2 for 5 years with 5000 scholars (1000 per year). A detailed proposal will accordingly be submitted by IIT Madras to the Ministry of Education.

(Action: IIT Madras and Ministry of Education)

Item No. 55.13:   Need for Common Admission test for all CFTIs.

The item was presented by Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe. A detailed discussion was followed in the matter among Chairmen of IITs and other members of the Council. It was decided to have brainstorming sessions in the next 3-4 months to examine the various facets of the issue in light of the assertions of the NEP, and the overall wellbeing of students across the country. The same may be presented to the JEE Apex Board with participation of all stakeholders including parents, teachers and students . Similar to JEE (Mains), JEE (Advanced) may also be held in regional languages which at present is being conducted only in two languages i.e. English & Hindi. Feasibility of conducting a single entrance test for all the higher Educational Institutes with a view to reduce the number of entrance tests being conducted in the country was discussed. Reduction in number of entrance test will not only reduce the burden on students but will also reduce the coaching needs. Further, the design of all such examinations should be such, so that it minimizes the coaching requirements for the students. IIT Delhi to spearhead the same and submit a proposal to the Ministry within 5 months time.

(Action: IIT Delhi and JEE Apex Board)

Item No. 55.14:   Mental Health and wellness.

Director, IIT Gandhinagar presented the issue highlighting the reasons and other risk factors for mental health issues. He also highlighted various ways to handle the mental health of students and to promote wellness. Chairman, UGC opined that there is need of Institutional mechanism at IITs on the lines of Ombudsman mechanism of UGC. It was decided to have a robust grievance redressal mechanism at each IIT. IITs to submit action taken report within 3 months time.

The Chairman, IIT Council expressed his concerns regarding recent cases of suicides and directed IITs to be proactive in providing all kind of support to students including developing a robust mechanism of zero tolerance for discrimination in institutes. IITs were asked to deploy psychological counsellors in their institutes. All IITs need to ensure that the ratio of faculty to students should be maintained to 1:10 which is prescribed by the Ministry. Chairman, SCIC, recommended that a panel of external experts maybe roped in to examine the issues concerning mental health of students at Institute level, wherever needed.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.15:   Supporting the international students for internship program at IITs.

Director, IIT Gandhinagar presented a proposal for short-term and medium-term internship programs at IITs for international students. The Council was of the view that this proposal may be worked out for incorporation in the 'Study in India' programme and detailed financial repercussions may be formulated for next five years and sent to this Ministry by IIT Gandhinagar in next three months; to ensure the fund availability, administrative and financial sanction.

(Action: IIT Gandhinagar and Ministry of Education)

Item No. 55.16:   To consider the report of the Committee constituted to study Drop-out of Students in IITs.

Director, IIT Kharagpur brought forward various statistics regarding dropouts. The Chairman, IIT Council raised concern on the number of students dropping

out of the IITs. It was decided that IIT Kharagpur shall obtain inputs from all IITs in order to frame a strategy to address the issues which lead to dropouts. IIT Kharagpur shall submit a detailed reportand a presentation before Chairman within two months; in respect of IITs providing multiple entry-exit options to students as prescribed under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

(Action: IIT Kharagpur)

Item No. 55.17: Enhancement of MCM scholarship & pocket allowance for SC/ST.

Director, IIT Kharagpur presented a proposal on enhancement MCM scholarship & pocket allowance for SC/ST students. The proposal was agreed to in-principle and IIT Kharagpur shall submit a detailed proposal in next three months time, on this matter to Ministry for further examination.

(Action: IIT Kharagpur)

Item No. 55.18: Revision of Tuition fees.

The item was deferred.

Item No. 55.19: To simplify the process of Visitor's Nominee.

A proposal for a common subject-wise, approved list of Visitor's Nominees for use by all IITs, in line with NITs, presented by Director, IIT Hyderabad was agreed to, by the Council, with validity period till approval of next list, to avoid any vacuum in availing of Visitor nominees. The Ministry will take action in this regard.

(Action: Ministry of Education)

Item No. 55.20: To start 4 year B.Ed Programme in IITs - 4 Year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP).

The matter was presented by officiating Director, IIT Guwahati. The Chairman, IIT Council emphasized that IITs can be torch bearers for bringing quality upgradation in teachers. IITs- Kharagpur, Madras, Guwahati and Bhubaneswar had applied for ITEP programme. They were requested to brief

their achievements in next Council meeting, in this regard. Individual IITs may examine the feasibility of the proposal.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.21: Regional language – measures to overcome language barrier.

Subsequent to a presentation by Director, IIT Kanpur, the Council was informed that AICTE has initiated the work of translation of technical books in various scheduled regional languages. It was also apprised that IIT Madras is also making an effort in this direction.

DG, NTA was requested to send the information on the languages used by students while taking JEE (Mains) exam to the various institutes so that adequate preparation to assist and enable the students may be made by the institutes.

It was also discussed that the work related to translation of SWAYAM PRABHA courses to regional languages may be expedited.

(Action: NTA and Ministry of Education)

Item No. 55.22: Review of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA).

Director, IIT Delhi presented the progress of UBA and future plan for further strengthening this initiative. Chairman, IIT Council desired that the Aspirational Blocks programme should be chosen to expand the ambit of UBA and the IITs should take lead in this regard through UBA. IIT Delhi to work upon mechanism of earning of credits under UBA in consultation with UGC/ AICTE. The outreach of UBA may be further expanded to all HEIs including management institutions.

(Action:IIT Delhi and All IITs)

Item No. 55.23: To Consider the proposal to establish various Chairs in IITs to promote Research.

A proposal on the matter was presented by Director, IIT Ropar. It was decided that a detailed proposal on this matter will be sent by IIT Roparin next three

months to the Ministry of Education for examination of administrative and financial viability.

(Action:IIT Ropar)

Item No. 55.24: To consider proposal for starting Multidisciplinary Courses similar to Bachelor of Science (BSc), Master of Science (MSc) in Humanities and other such areas.

A presentation was made by Director, IIT Jammu. The effort of IIT Jammu in exploring joint programmes were appreciated and other IITs shall explore similar joint programmes in collaboration with local institutions.

(Action: All IITs)

Item No. 55.26: National Credit Framework

A presentation was made by UGC, Chairman. A resolution was passed to adopt the National Credit Framework by the IIT Council, so that institutes can thereafter evolve their own modalities as per approval of their Senate, within the overall framework.

(Action: IIT Council)

Item No. 55.27: Sports Quota in IITs.

Director, IIT Madras presented a proposal for introduction of sports supernumerary quota in IITs. In this regard, a detailed implementation modalities and timelines for academic session 2024-25 may be prepared in consultation with JAB.

(Action: IIT Madras and Ministry of Education)

Item No. 55.28: Proposal to provide HTRA for a period of 6 years for female PhD scholars

Director, IIT Madras presented a proposal on this. The matter was agreed to in-principle to provide PhD HTRA for one additional year (6 years in total) for female PhD research scholars. A detailed financial proposal may be submitted to this Ministry by IIT Madras.

(Action:IIT Madras)

Concluding Remarks

In his concluding remarks, the Chairman, IIT Council, recognized IITs as primary catalyst in multi-fold growth of the country and also, a vehicle for public welfare (lokkalyan). The Chairman added that IITs are aspirational hubs for the youth of the country, and their students must aspire to become job creators over being job seekers. Besides success in placements, the young IITians must be encouraged to be industry innovators and leaders.

The Chairman also emphasised on the need for IITs to deliberate with faculty, students and other stakeholders to focus on long term vision of next 70-80 years as well as create a short term strategy plan for immediate needs of the country. IITs should resolve societal problems at a scalable level and replicate commercially viable solutions.

Chairman, IIT Council, expressing his concern on the mental health issue of students, directed the IITs to frame a roadmap to provide all support system, such that there is zero tolerance for all kinds of discrimination. Students in IITs should be the face of new India with no discrimination and ready to be global citizens.

The JEE Apex Board with participation of all stakeholders including representation of school education and parents may deliberate on the need for rationalizing the admission test, in light of the assertions of the NEP, and the overall wellbeing of students across the country.

The Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Biplab Kumar Deb urged the IITs to contribute for the economic development of the Country. Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Kunar Hembramalso acknowledged the roles of IITs in nation building.

At the end, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all other attendees.

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List of Participants

55th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 18thApril, 2023 at IIT-Bhubaneswar under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Shiksha Mantri.

S. No.	Name and Designation
1.	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan (Chairperson, IIT Council), Hon'ble Education Minister
2.	Shri Kunar Hembram Hon'ble Member of Parliament
3.	Shri Biplab Kumar Deb Hon'ble Member of Parliament
4.	Shri K Sanjay Murthy Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education & Chairman, BoG, IIT Goa and IIT Tirupati
5.	Dr. K. Radhakrishnan Chairman, BoG, IIT Kanpur and IIT Ropar, and Chairman, SCIC, IIT Council
6.	Shri Sharad Kumar Saraf, Chairman, BoG, IIT Bombay & IIT Jammu
7.	Dr.Rajagopala Chidambaram Chairman, BoG, IIT Delhi & IIT Jodhpur
8.	Dr. Rajiv I. Modi Chairman, BoG, IIT Guwahati & IIT Gandhinagar
9.	Prof. Prem Vrat Chairman, BoG, IIT(ISM) Dhanbad & IIT Mandi
10.	Dr. B. V. R. Mohan Reddy Chairman, BoG, IIT Hyderabad & IIT Roorkee
11.	Prof. D.B. Phatak Chairman, BoG, IIT Indore
12.	Shri Ramesh Venkateswaran Chairman, BoG, IIT Palakkad
13.	Shri K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education Chairman, BoG, IIT Tirupati & IIT Goa

S. No.	Name and Designation
14.	Prof. Virendra Kumar Tewari, Director, IIT Kharagpur
15.	Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director, IIT Bombay
16.	Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras
17.	Prof.Abhay Karandikar, Director, IIT Kanpur
18.	Prof. Rangan Banerjee Director, IIT Delhi
19.	Prof. P.K. Iyer, Director, IIT Guwahati
20.	Prof. Kamal Kishore Pant, Director, IIT Roorkee
21.	Prof. Pramod K. Jain, Director, IIT BHU, Varanasi
22.	Prof. Rajiv Shekhar, Director, IIT(ISM) Dhanbad
23.	Prof. Rajat Moona, Director, IIT Gandhinagar
24.	Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar
25.	Prof. B.S. Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad
26.	Prof. Santanu Chaudhury, Director, IIT Jodhpur
27.	Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar
28.	Prof. T.N. Singh, Director, IIT Patna
29.	Prof. Suhas Sitharam Joshi, Director, IIT Indore

S. No.	Name and Designation
30.	Prof. Laxmidhar Behera, Director, IIT Mandi
31.	Prof. A. Seshadri Sekhar, Director, IIT Palakkad
32.	Prof. K.N. Satyanarayana, Director, IIT Tirupati
33.	Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu
34.	Prof. Rajiv Prakash, Director, IIT Bhilai
35.	Prof. B. K. Mishra, Director, IIT Goa
36.	Prof. Venkappayya R. Desai, Director, IIT Dharwad
37.	Prof. Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar, Chairman, UGC
38.	Prof. Govindan Rangarajan, Director, IISc, Bangalore
39.	Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE
40.	Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe Chairman, NETF
41.	Shri Vineet Joshi Additional Secretary (Edu.), Ministry of Education
42.	Prof. Avinash Kumar Agarwal, IIT Kanpur, Nominated by the Visitor
43.	Prof. Shireesh Balwant Kedare, IIT Bombay, Nominated by the Visitor
44.	Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, Former Secretary, DSIR & Director General, CSIR Nominated by the Visitor

S. No.	Name and Designation
45.	Ms. Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary (TE), Ministry of Education
46.	Sh. Sanjog Kapoor Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor (JS&FA), Ministry of Education
47.	Shri Sumit Gakhar Deputy Secretary (IITs), Ministry of Education
48.	Smt. Kavita Chauhan Under Secretary (IITs), Ministry of Education

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