

SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF 26TH MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT MEETING HALL OF BARAD SADAN, SIKKIM UNIVERSITY, GANGTOK, SIKKIM - 737102 ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 2020 FROM 11:30 A.M. ONWARDS THROUGH GOOGLE MEET

Members present:

- 1. Prof. Avinash Khare, Vice-Chancellor
- 2. Dr. D.R. Agarwal [Court's Nominee]
- 3. Prof. Pramod Tandon [EC'S Nominee]
- 4. Prof. D.P. Sarkar [EC'S Nominee]
- 5. Prof. S.S. Mahapatra [EC'S Nominee]
- 6. Dr. C.S. Kumar [Visitor's Nominee]
- 7. Mrs. Darshana M. Dabral [Visitor's Nominee]

8. Dr. Jitendra K. Tripathi [Visitor's Nominee]

Chairman Member Member Member Member Member (Represented by Shri Fazal Mahmood, DS (Finance), MHRD, (IFD) as member) Member Secretary Special Invitee

9. Shri Debasish Pal [Finance Officer]S10. Shri T.K. Kaul, RegistrarS

Shri C.B. Chhetri, Internal Audit Officer was also present to assist the Committee.

Quorum of the having been attained, the Chairman called the meeting to order. The Chairman welcomed Dr. C.S. Kumar, Joint Secretary (IISER & CU), Visitor's Nominee from Ministry of Education. The Chairman also welcomed Prof. S.S. Mahapatra, Department of Commerce, Sikkim University as Nominee of the Executive Council.

The Committee appreciated outgoing members namely Shri G.C. Hosur, Joint Secretary (CU), Visitor's Nominee and Prof. N.K. Paswan, Nominee of the Executive Council for their valuable contribution to the University as members of this Committee.

The Committee then proceeded with the agenda items one by one.

<u>SECTION – 1</u> <u>CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES &</u> <u>ACTION TAKEN REPORT</u>

FC: 26.1.1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 25th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 28th February, 2020:

The minutes of the 25th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 28th February, 2020 was circulated to all the members on 22nd May, 2020. The comments of the IFD, Ministry of Education and UGC received on 4th September, 2020 was placed before the Committee. No other comments were received from any other member.

The Committee accepted the suggestions and confirmed the minutes of 25th meeting of Finance Committee held on 28th February,2020 except the point of "Delegation of Financial Power". The matter shall be forwarded to Prof. P. Tandon, Former Vice-Chancellor, NEHU, Member and Dr. J.K. Tripathi, Joint Secretary (CU), UGC for their opinion.

FC:26.1.2 Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 25th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 28th February, 2020:

The Secretary presented the Action Taken Report on the minutes of 25th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 28th February, 2020.

On the matter regarding to Internal Audit Report for Financial Year 2017-18 and 2018-19 the members from Ministry of Education (CU), Ministry of Education (IFD) and Court's Nominee suggested that University shall prepare Annual Audit Plan from current Financial Year 2020-21 and submit Internal Audit Report quarterly to the Vice-Chancellor for placing in the "Standing Audit Committee" meeting. Further, the members from Ministry of Education suggested that University should issue query to individuals for compliance and reply based on the observations of Internal Audit Report and AG Audit Report, and action shall be taken for non-compliance of the query.

Further, the member also suggested that University shall hold one Finance Committee meeting exclusively on the Audit Reports and Annual Accounts of the University.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the Action Taken by the University.

<u>SECTION – 2</u> <u>REPORTING ITEMS</u>

FC:26.2.1 Approval of proposal for setting up of permanent campus of Sikkim University at Yangang:

The Secretary reported before the Finance Committee that the Ministry of Education vide letter no. F.No. 36-1/2018-CU.V dated 20th August, 2020 has conveyed that the proposal for setting up of permanent campus of Sikkim University at an estimated cost

of Rs. 986.47 Crore from the Year 2007-08 to 2021-22 (including post facto approval) as apprised by the Project Investigation Board (PIB) in the meeting held on 06.02.2020, has been approved by the competent authority with details as under:

		(Rs. in Crores)	
Heads	Expenditure Incurred from 2007-08 to 2018-19	Proposed Expenditure from 2019-20 to 2021- 22	Total
Non-Recurring	142.08	402.70	544.78
Recurring	289.69	152.00	441.69
Total	431.77	554.70	986.47

The amount of Rs. 402.70 Crore includes a part of ongoing campus construction work.

FC:26.2.2 Submission of application for availing loan from HEFA under Window - IV as per HEFA guidelines for incurring Non-Recurring expenditure of Rs. 343.93 Crore for Campus Construction Work and Rs. 21.45 Crore for other Capital Expenditure:

The Secretary reported before the Finance Committee that Sikkim University has submitted application on 15th May, 2020 to Ministry of Finance through Ministry of Education (CU) for availing loan from HEFA under Window- IV as per HEFA guidelines for incurring Non-Recurring expenditure of Rs. 343.93 Crore for Campus Construction Work and Rs. 21.45 Crore for other Capital Expenditure. The amount of Rs. 343.93 Crore includes Rs. 18.68 Crore as payment related to ongoing construction.

The Joint Secretary (CU), Ministry of Education reported that the matter is with the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for their final concurrence.

The Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of Finance Committee has put his great concern about non-availability of any grant for ongoing construction to the tune of Rs. 18.68 Crore. Without these funds there may be chance that the contractor may leave the work and University will suffer for delay in campus construction work.

Other members Prof. P. Tandon, Prof. D.P. Sarkar and Prof. S.S. Mahapatra also expressed their concern and strongly recommended for expediting process and releasing grant specially for ongoing campus construction work.

FC:26.2.3. Shortage of grants for releasing payment against ongoing Campus Construction Work (Package – I of Phase – I):

The Secretary reported before the Finance Committee that the University has awarded Campus Construction Work Order for (Package-I of Phase-I) at Yangang, South Sikkim to M/s. NCC Ltd for structural work of Administrative Building, Faculty Building, Library Building, Main Gate and Small Peripheral Roads. The construction of this small part of New Campus has almost completed. The University has no unspent balance against Building Grant in hand from June 2020 onward.

It is suggested that the University shall wait for grant from HEFA.

FC:26.2.4. Quarterly information of Utilization of Funds during 2019-20 and 2020-21 under Salary, Recurring and Capital Assets as on 01.07.2020:

The Committee noted the submission of Utilization of Funds during 2019-20 and 2020-21 under Salary, Recurring and Capital Assets in the prescribed formats -I to V along with the Utilization Certificate in the GFR 12 A Format separately for each scheme supported by statement of expenditure, which was submitted to the UGC vide letter no. SU/FIN/F-3/2019/01- Vol-IX/348 dated 16.07.2020.

FC:26.2.5 XIIth Plan Expenditure for Ongoing Building Projects in the prescribed format of UGC:

The Secretary presented the detailed financial progress and physical progress for ongoing campus construction work (Package-I of Phase-I) before the Finance Committee. The Committee noted the financial progress and physical progress of on-going campus construction work (Package-I of Phase-I). The members from Ministry of Education (IFD) suggested that the University may consult Finance Officer of BHU to discuss the GST liability on campus construction bills.

<u>SECTION – 3</u> <u>RATIFICATION ITEMS</u>

Nil

<u>SECTION – 4</u> <u>MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL</u>

FC:26.4.1 Annual Accounts for the Year 2019-20:

The Secretary presented the Annual Accounts 2019-20 prepared as per revised format of account introduced for CEIs and instructions/guideline which were issued vide MHRD's letter no. 29-4/2012-IFC dated 17.04.2015.

The Finance Committee discussed on the matter and Members from Ministry of Education (CU), Ministry of Education (IFD) suggested that the observations of C&AG on the Annual Accounts 2018-19 has been noted while preparing Annual Accounts 2019-20. Further, Member from Court's Nominee suggested that the observations of C&AG shall be placed before the Standing Audit Committee. Thereafter, the Finance Committee approved the Annual Accounts 2019-20 and authorized the Chairman to

incorporate the facts and figures, if any, based on the suggestions from C&AG and recommended the Annual Accounts 2019-20 to the Executive Council for approval.

FC:26.4.2 Budget Estimates under Salary Head (OH-36) and Recurring Head (OH-31) for the Year 2020-21:

The Finance Committee approved the Budget Estimates (BE) under Salary (OH-36) and Recurring (31) for the Financial Year 2020-21 in the prescribed format of UGC, which was submitted to the UGC vide letter no. SU/FIN/F-3/2019/01-Vol-IX/75 dated 20.05.2020 subject to availability of funds from UGC.

FC:26.4.3 Creation of (a) Botanical Research Infrastructure at Yangang of Rs. 70.45 lakhs out of Rs. 100.00 lakhs grant under Campus Development Head & (b) repair/renovation/construction of toilets under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) of Rs. 50.00 lakhs from Repair/Renovation/Construction of Toilets under SBA Grant sanctioned by the UGC for 2019-20:

The Secretary reported before the Finance Committee that the UGC vide letter D.O. No. F.1-3/2019(CU) dated 10th October, 2019 has conveyed annual allocation under Capital Assets – 35 for the Year 2019-20 to the tune of Rs. 8.00 Crore.

The Finance Committee approved University's allocation of Rs. 70.45 Lakhs for creation of Botanical Research Infrastructure at Yangang out of Rs. 100.00 lakhs grant under Campus Development Head & (b) Rs. 50.00 Lakhs towards repair/renovation/construction of toilets under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) from Repair/Renovation/Construction of Toilets under SBA Grant sanctioned by the UGC for 2019-20.

The Finance Committee discussed on the matter and Prof. P. Tandon, EC'S Nominee suggested that University should explore possibility for availing funds from MSME and others for IRG by using infrastructure created for (a) Horticulture Research and (b) Botanical Research.

FC:26.4.4 Remittance of interest to UGC against Grants for Salary (36), Recurring Head (31) and Capital Head (35):

The Finance Committee approved the interest refund of Rs. 1,20,32,686/- (Rupees One Crore Twenty Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six Only) by following the provisions of GFRs 2017 and the UGC direction.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

(Prof. Avinash Khare) Vice-Chancellor & Chairman Finance Committee

(Debasish Pal) Finance Officer & Secretary Finance Committee