

**Annexure to Item No. 2 of Agenda of the
34th Meeting of the BoG
to be held on June 4, 2020**

**Minutes of the Thirty Third Meeting of the
Board of Governors of IIT Hyderabad held on
25th November 2019**

The Thirty Third Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad was held on Monday the 25th of November 2019 in Conference Room No. 627, Academic Block C in the Permanent Campus of IIT Hyderabad located in Kandi, Sangareddy District.

The following were present:

Shri. BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman

Prof. BS Murty, Director, IITH, Ex-officio Member

Dr. Prema Ramachandran, Member

Prof. M Lakshmi Kantam, Member

Dr. Rakesh Sarwal, Addl. Secretary, MHRD (through Video Conference mode), Ex-officio Member

Dr. B Janardhan Reddy, Principal Secretary of Higher Education, Telangana, Ex-officio Member

Prof. Anjan Kumar Giri, Member

Prof. Ch Subrahmanyam, Member

Shri. N Jayaram, Registrar and Secretary

Leave of absence was granted to Prof. Vinod Krishan.

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Prof. BS Murty, Director and stated that new ideas and new energy are being brought in and this will help IITH in reaching greater heights.

The Chairman extended a hearty welcome to Dr. Rakesh Sarwal, Additional Secretary, MHRD on his assumption of charge in MHRD and introduced those present in the Meeting.

Item No. 1: To consider Confirmation of the Minutes of the Thirty Second Meeting of the Board held on 10th August 2019.

No comments have been received on the Minutes as circulated.

The Board confirmed the Minutes as circulated. The Chairman mentioned that one of the important items was teaching in Woosong University and thanked Prof. Vinod Krishan, Dr. Lakshmi Kantam, and Dr. B Janardhan Reddy for their valuable inputs in this matter.

Item No. 2: To consider the Report of the actions Taken on the Minutes of the Thirty Second Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 10th August 2019.

The Board noted the action taken. Director informed that teaching in Woosong University will be commenced soon.

Item No. 3: Report relating to Actions Taken by the Chairman, Board of Governors, from time to time since last meeting

In the course of discussion, the Director mentioned appointment of new Deans and stated that on the basis of academic achievements, Prof. M Deepa has been chosen as Dean (Faculty) and on the basis of knowledge of administrative activities Prof. Raja Banerjee has been chosen as Dean (Administration). He further stated that subsequently Prof. P Rajalakshmi has been chosen as Dean (Students) thus taking the female representation to 2 among 7 Deans.

The Chairman and Members appreciated these efforts.

The Board noted the action taken by the Chairman and ratified the action taken by the Chairman.

Item No. 4: Grant-in-Aid, Sponsored, Consultancy and other Projects – revision of Institute norms

The Director briefly explained the reasoning behind the modifications proposed. He stated that Research Maintenance Fund (RMF) has been created with the idea of maintaining equipment procured from funds of projects after completion of the project duration. RMF will be made available to the Faculty who have to maintain the equipment and Institute will not be supporting maintenance.

To a query from the Chairman regarding adequacy of additional provision of 8% to RMF towards AMC, the Director clarified that usually AMC will be about 3% and thus additional provision of 8% (total being 20%) is likely to be adequate.

Prof. M Lakshmi Kantam and Dr. B Janardhan Reddy appreciated this view.

The Chairman suggested that incentive for being associated with projects has to be extended. The Director stated that rotation of employees is expected to take care of this.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran further suggested that IITH has to be in readiness to have sufficient manpower when the number of projects increases tremendously resulting in vast amount of administrative work especially when projects do not provide for additional manpower. Director stated that funds under Sponsored Research & Consultancy Centre (SRC) head will be made use for this purpose.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran suggested that the name of the fund be modified from Research Maintenance Fund (RMF) to Research Equipment Maintenance Fund (REMF). The Board agreed with this suggestion.

The Board approved this item with change of name of RMF to REMF as stated in the preceding paragraph.

Item No. 5: Creation of non-faculty posts.

The Board noted the details of the proposals. Dr Rakesh Sarwal stated that requirement of length of service for Limited Competitive Examination (LCE) should be in line with instructions of DOPT, the proposals have to be in conformity with conditions stipulated in

MHRD letter regarding implementation of recommendations of 7th CPC pay pattern, and the number of posts should not exceed the prescription of 10:1:1.1 as stipulated by MHRD.

It was clarified that the length of service for LCE is in conformity with instructions of DOPT, other proposals also conform with length of service required, and the proposals are in conformity with the ratio of 10:1:1.1.

In regard to LCE, DOPT Office Memorandum No. AB-14017/32/2009-Estt (RR) dated 7th October 2009 has been referenced (while preparing the proposal) according to which the requirement for promotion is “3 years of service in Grade Pay of Rs.1800”.

In IITH direct recruitment is as Multi Skill Assistant Grade 1 in Grade Pay of Rs.1800 and they will be considered for promotion on completion of 3 years of service to Multi Skill Assistant Grade 2. The prescription of IITH for LCE is 2 years of service in Multi Skill Assistant Grade 2 in Grade Pay of Rs.1900 thus totalling to 5 years of service as Multi Skill Assistant. In any case, they will have rendered the requisite 3 years of service in Grade Pay Rs.1800.

As LCE is not a case of promotion, provisions of DOPT OM No. AB14017/61/2008Estt. (RR) dated 24.3.2009 and 12.3.2010 are not attracted.

Further, requirement of educational qualification is 12th standard as per DOPT. The requirement of IITH is a) Graduate degree, and b) Knowledge of computer applications.

Therefore, on all counts the proposal of LCE is in conformity with DOPT’s instructions and rather a step further.

Other proposals do not result in creation of posts and are in conformity with the ratio prescription of 10:1:1.1 and also conform to para 4 of MHRD letter relating to 7th CPC pay pattern for non-faculty.

The Board approved this item.

Item No. 6: Vision for the next 5 years.

The Director made a presentation of various aspects of the Vision for next 5 years. The presentation contained brief description of focus areas and key areas within.

Highlights of the presentation are:

1. With a view to enable orientation of 1st Semester BTech students to new environment, a number of measures have been thought out including introduction of more 3 credit courses in place of 1 credit courses.
2. In line with older IITs and several educational institutions across the globe, dual degree program of 5-year duration i.e. BTech and MTech with different specialisations is proposed.

Dr. B Janardhan Reddy sought reasons for reducing total duration from the normal 6 years to 5 years. The Director explained that curriculum for MTech contains several additional courses to orient the candidates to IIT atmosphere and this is spread over one year and in

case of BTech students of IIT such additional courses are not required as they have already undergone them. The Chairman added that such dual degree programs exist in several countries.

3. Top up fellowships for excellent PhD scholars after 3rd year to motivate them to do better research.
4. Inter-departmental doctoral programs with one guide each from two Departments to enable new thinking.

The Chairman suggested that Eastern side of the globe has evinced more interest in this kind of program and therefore IITH may like to concentrate on Eastern side of the globe.

5. Attracting alumni, employers of the alumni, and other donors by naming block, class room, etc. as is the practice elsewhere.

Dr. B Janardhan Reddy suggested that name needs to be limited to the extent of facilities funded by the donor.

6. Have students' strength of about 5000 by 2024.
7. Achieve higher ranking i.e. from 8 to 5 by improving various component factors.

The Chairman suggested the following:

- a) Targets may be split year-wise to help concentrate and achieve.
- b) Usually institutions of higher education achieve brand name associated with one or two areas of specialisation. IITH may concentrate on one or two areas to help establish brand name.
- c) IITH to identify strength across the Departments, identify potent areas, and approach sponsors.

The Chairman sought views of the Members on the presentation.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran stated that growth and development happen at different points of time and do not happen at the same time. IITH may like to plan for higher growth during planning stages; during initial phase strive hard to get resources on what is relevant; and during later stages concentrate on smaller areas with very high impact and potential. She stated that communicable diseases' being a thing of past, concentration needs to be placed on accurate and inexpensive diagnostics for most commonly occurring health issues. It was also suggested that evaluation of diagnostic tests for their accuracy, cost effectiveness, and capable of being carried out even by un-trained/unskilled persons in suburban and villages is most needed for a country like India. She also spoke of the need to pay attention to right kind of life style and right kind of nutrition as a preventive measure.

The Director invited Dr. Prema Ramachandran to have interaction with the Faculty of IITH.

Prof. M Lakshmi Kantam stated that process development for drug development has good potential for IITH as Hyderabad has a number of pharma companies.

Dr. B Janardhan Reddy stated that study of liberal art subjects, being a part of higher education policy, will expand the horizon of thought process of students and has potential of acting against silo effect. The Director stated that IITH has a full-fledged Department of Liberal Arts with a number of courses with some being mandatory.

Dr. Rakesh Sarwal stated that the vision document incorporates measured thought process and incorporates all that are required. He suggested the following:

- a) Teaching research methodology to BTech students to prepare them to develop art of asking questions and how to ask relevant questions to have scientific temper and have research and innovative mind.
- b) A set of faculty can be mentors to students to develop sense of belongingness among students. The Director stated that this idea is already implemented recently at IITH.

Item No.7: Current Status and Future of Entrepreneurship program of IITH.

Prof. Ch Subrahmanyam made a presentation of the courses from time to time since its inception in the year 2012 and the eminent industrialists who have taught the courses. He stated that the courses provide basic and structured exposure and is open to every student who has no backlog in previous Semesters.

The Chairman suggested that this may be revisited to accommodate changes for which a small Committee with entrepreneurial minds may be constituted and industrialists may be invited to provide valuable inputs and also have brain-storming sessions. The Chairman further suggested that there are many incubators in institutions like ICRISAT and agricultural Universities. Such incubators do not have required engineering support and IITH may like to tie up with such incubators to provide engineering skills.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran suggested that rote learning has to necessarily end through plans developed by students themselves where ‘think before you act’ becomes possible.

The Chairman stated that inter-connectivity of various technologies provides scope for innovations.

Item No.8: Discussion on Future of Education.

The Chairman commenced discussions on the subject. He stated that IITH has fractal academics and flip classes that provide scope for better thinking. Fractal academics may be revisited to accommodate recent trends. Attention span of the students is contracting and self-learning mode appears to be the future. The current trend is entire class-room is video graphed and evaluated component wise to assess factors that impact. IITH may like to start thought process on self-learning path for students. The Chairman suggested that a group may be constituted for this purpose.

Dr. B Janardhan Reddy stated that apart from contracting of attention span, considerable rate of absenteeism has been affecting education. To reduce adverse effect of the two factors, an attempt has been made where students are required to teach for 10 minutes of what they learnt the previous day.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran stated that information is available in huge volumes, but without authentication; authentication is essential to make search for and utilisation of web based of information meaningful and without loss of time. She suggested that about 20 items of information may be identified by the Faculty in their respective areas and the sources may be presented to the students for views.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran stated that these studies are timely because noncommunicable diseases are becoming the major public problems in the country. Public health interventions for early detection and effective management of NCD require accurate estimation of biochemical parameters using accurate and affordable technologies and IIT may like to focus on this area also.

Dr. Rakesh Sarwal expressed concern about slow decline in anaemia in the country and ways to accelerate the decline. Dr. Prema stated that the technology for iron fortification of iodised salt has been developed and approved by FSSAI; DFS provided through PDS can increase dietary intake of iron and prevent anaemia. Haemoglobin estimation using the dry dot blood collection and estimation by of Hb cyanmethhaemoglobin method can help in detection and monitoring response to treatment in anaemia

The Director proposed a Centre for Future Learning Technologies at IITH.

Item No. 9: Presentation by two faculty members on their research.

1. Prof. Kiran Kuchi: 5G related research at IITH

Prof. Kiran Kuchi made a brief presentation on 5G related research at IITH. He stated that with 5G the power of handset increases, wave form of signals with MIMO enhances coverage area, and increases better utilisation of expensive spectrum. All these are likely to reduce cost and provide better services. The Chairman queried about the roll out of 5G across the globe. Prof. Kiran Kuchi stated that it is there in bits in pieces in USA and China and India requires about 5 years for roll out. The Board thanked Prof Kiran Kuchi.

2. Prof. Renu John: Research at IITH for better health

Prof. Renu John made a brief presentation of 'Research at IITH for better health'. The highlights of his presentation related to imaging tissues at cell level, OCT imaging that helps non-invasive diagnostics i.e. analysis of tissues without physically extracting tissues. He also stated that 3D microscope has been developed and has been patented. Dr. Prema Ramachandran stated that these developments are very timely. She stated that refinement of present techniques is needed as preventive measure, early detection of health issues, and inexpensive testing by un-trained/unskilled people in suburban and village areas are needed to take care of substantial population of the country. To a request from Dr. Rakesh Sarwal, she suggested that haemoglobin assessment to prevent anaemia needs more attention. Dry blood test is a simple and useful test. She stated that accurate analysis of blood for life style associated health issues is the need. The Board thanked Prof Renu John.

Item No.10: Any other item with the approval of the Chair.

Prof. Ch. Subrahmanyam has requested circulation of BoG Minutes to faculty/staff. Chairman consulted MHRD and suggested that the BOG minutes can be made available whenever there is an RTI query.

The Board approved the suggestion. The Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.
