

**Minutes of the 41st meeting of the Executive Council held on 7th November
2022 at Conference Hall Barad Sadan, Academic Block**

41st meeting of the Executive Council was held on 7th November 2022 at 11 AM in Meeting Room, Barad Sadan. Following were present:

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| 1. Prof. Avinash Khare
Vice-Chancellor | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. N. Sathyanarayana
Dean, School of Life Sciences | - | Member |
| 3. Prof. Manesh Choubey
Dean, School of Social Sciences | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. S.S. Mahapatra
Dean, School of Professional Studies | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. S.S. Sharma
Senior Professor, Department of Botany | - | Member |
| 6. Dr. A.N. Shankar
Associate Professor, Department of Commerce | - | Member |
| 7. Shri P.K. Dash
Finance Officer | - | Special Invitee |
| 8. Shri K.V.S. Kameswara Rao
Registrar | - | Secretary |

Following members attended the meeting online through video conferencing:

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| 9. Prof. Gurmeet Singh
Vice-Chancellor
Pondicherry University | - | Member |
| 10. Prof. Bidyut Chakrabarty
Vice-Chancellor
Visva-Bharati | - | Member |
| 11. Prof. H.C.S. Rathore
Former Vice-Chancellor
Central University of South Bihar | - | Member |
| 12. Prof. Inder Mohan Kapahy
Professor & Advisor
School of Basic & Applied Sciences
Maharaja Agrasen University | - | Member |

The following members could not attend the meeting because of their pre-occupation and sought leave of absence:

1. Sh. R. Telang, IAS
Principal Secretary
Education Department
Government of Sikkim
2. Prof. Sanjay Dahal,
Dean, School of Physical Sciences &
Dean Students' Welfare

Mrs. Grace D. Chankapa, Deputy Registrar was present to assist the Executive Council.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed all Members of the Executive Council to its 41st meeting.

Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up as under:

SECTION-1

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT

EC 41.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 40th meeting of the Executive Council held on 27th May 2022

The minutes of the 40th meeting of the Executive Council held on 27th May 2022 were circulated to all the members on 6th June 2022. No comments were received from any of the members of the Executive Council.

The minutes of the 40th meeting of the Executive Council held on 27th May 2022 were confirmed.

EC 41.1.2: Action taken report on the minutes of the 40th meeting in the Executive Council held on 27th May 2022

The Secretary presented the action taken report on the minutes of the 40th meeting of the Executive Council. The Executive Council noted the action taken report by the University.

SECTION-2

REPORTING ITEMS

NIL

SECTION-3

RATIFICATION MATTERS

EC 41.3.1: Study Leave and Cancellation of Shri Binod Bhattarai

The Executive Council noted that Shri Binod Bhattarai, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology had requested for grant of study leave of two years w.e.f. 01.09.2022 to 31.08.2024. The Vice-Chancellor accepted the request and granted the study leave.

However, Shri Binod Bhattarai resumed duty on 30.09.2022 after availing Study Leave of 29 days w.e.f. 01.09.2022 to 29.09.2022. The Vice-Chancellor accepted his joining and his request for cancellation of the remaining period of study leave stating personal reasons.

The Executive Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor for grant of study leave of 29 days w.e.f. 01.09.2022 to 29.09.2022 and cancellation of the remaining period of study leave sanctioned to Shri Binod Bhattarai.

EC 41.3.2: Application of Dr. Saurabh Maheshwari for Extra-Ordinary Leave

The Executive Council noted the request made by Dr. Saurabh Maheshwari, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology for Extra Ordinary Leave to undertake post-doctoral Fellowship at Beijing Normal University, China w.e.f. 25.05.2022 to 31.12.2022 which the Vice-Chancellor had accepted subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

Further on his request the Vice-Chancellor accepted the postponement of starting date of Extra Ordinary Leave from 13.06.2022 to 31.12.2022 without extension.

The Executive Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor of granting Extra Ordinary Leave to Dr. Saurabh Maheshwari as mentioned above.

EC 41.3.3: Release on lien and Repatriation to the University of Dr. B. Muthu Pandian

The Executive Council noted that Dr. B.Muthu Pandian, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce was released on lien to join as Associate Professor in Central University Kerala with lien for three months w.e.f. 27.07.2022 (A/N) as accepted by the Vice-Chancellor subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

The Council also noted that Dr. B. Muthu Pandian made a request to revert back to his post of Assistant Professor in the Department of Commerce in the University within the lien period. Since the request was within the lien period the Vice-Chancellor accepted his request

and Dr. B. Muthu Pandian joined the University on 20.10.2022 accepting the provision of cooling off period of two years.

The Executive Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor of relieving Dr. B. Muthu Pandian on lien and accepting his reverting to the University as Assistant Professor on 20.10.2022 which was within the lien period.

EC 41.3.4: Dress Code for the 6th Convocation

The Executive Council noted the decision of the Vice-Chancellor of discontinuing the use of gowns and hoods in the ensuing 6th Convocation in pursuance to an advisory dated 15.07.2015 from UGC requesting to consider using handloom fabric for ceremonial dress prescribed for special occasions like Convocation etc.

The Notification to replace the gowns & hoods with the Khadi Uttariya (an upper garment) of different colours (specific to their programs) was also noted by the Executive Council. Further the Executive Council considered the proposal of use of separate Khadi Uttariya for the members of the Academic Procession.

The Executive Council ratified the decision of discontinuing the use of gowns and hoods in the ensuing 6th Convocation and the notified dress code as notified vide Notification No. 139/2022 dated 26.10.2022. The Executive Council also approved the proposal of the use of separate Khadi Uttariya for the members in the Academic Procession.

SECTION-4

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

EC 41.4.1: Completion of probation period of teachers

The following teachers of the University have completed one year of probation on dates as mentioned against each. Their periods of probation have been reviewed by the reviewing authority and no adverse remarks have been reported.

The Executive Council, in view of satisfactory performance reports, resolved to lift their probation on the dates as shown against each and confirm them in the services of the University with effect from the day following the date of completion of their probation.

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Date of Joining	Date of completion of
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				probation
1.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar Gupta	Associate Professor	27.07.2021	26.07.2022
2.	Dr. Ajay Tripathi	Associate Professor	28.07.2021	27.07.2022

EC 41.4.2: Completion of probation period of Non-Teaching Staff

The following Non-Teaching Staff of the University have completed one year of probation on dates as mentioned against each. Their periods of probation have been reviewed by the reviewing authority and no adverse remarks have been reported.

The Executive Council, in view of satisfactory performance reports, resolved to lift their probation on the dates as shown against each and confirm them in the services of the University with effect from the day following the date of completion of their probation.

Sl. No.	Name of the official	Designation	Date of Joining	Date of completion of probation
1.	Mrs. Grace D. Chankapa	Deputy Registrar	21.01.2021	20.01.2022
2.	Dr. Sujit Kujur	Deputy Librarian	22.02.2021	21.02.2022
3.	Ms. Jutika Goswami	Hindi Officer	21.01.2021	20.01.2022

EC 41.4.3: Extension of Contract of Teaching Staff

The Council noted that the contract of the following faculty members expired on the dated shown against each:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Department	Contract expire on
1.	Prof. Imtiaz Gulam Ahmed	Professor	Law	30.06.2022
2.	Prof. Vinod Chandra Tiwari	Professor	Geology	30.06.2022
3.	Shri BhaichungTsh. Bhutia	Associate Professor	Bhutia	30.06.2022
4.	Dr. Hissay Wangchuk Bhutia	Assistant Professor		30.06.2022
5.	Shri Bal Bahadur Subba	Associate Professor	Limbu	30.06.2022
6.	Shri Norbu Tshering Lepcha	Associate Professor	Lepcha	30.06.2022
7.	Ms. DukmitLepcha	Assistant Professor		30.06.2022

8.	Dr. R. S. S. Nehru	Assistant Professor	Education	30.06.2022
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The Vice-Chancellor extended their contractual appointment for a period upto 31.12.2022.

The Executive Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor of extending the contractual appointment of the above faculty members upto 31.12.2022 and since the recruitment would take more time the Executive Council approved extension of contract for a further period of six months w.e.f. 31.12.2022.

EC 41.4.4: Application of Ms. Swastika Pradhan for extension of Study Leave

The Executive Council noted that on its recommendation in its 40th meeting held on 27.05.2022 Ms. Swastika Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science was initially granted study leave for six months w.e.f. 02.05.2022 to 01.11.2022 with a clause that the approval for the next six months would depend on the progress of first six months.

Based on the six monthly progress report submitted by Ms. Swastika Pradhan and on fulfilling the eligibility under the Ordinance on study leave for extension, the Executive Council accepted her request and granted extension of study leave for a period of six months w.e.f. 02.11.2022.

EC 41.4.5: Application of Prof. V. Krishna Ananth for Sabbatical Leave

The Executive Council deliberated on the matter of Sabbatical Leave in length since this was the first Sabbatical Leave request in the University. All the members of the Executive Council unanimously felt that Sabbatical Leave application should be carefully reviewed as regards its added value or how such grant of Sabbatical Leave would be beneficial to the University / Department.

The Executive Council noted that Prof. V. Krishna Ananth is not joining any institution during the period of Sabbatical Leave and the purpose was to carry out the research work on the topic “The Constitution as an Instrument in Realising the *Idea of India* : A Historical Analysis of Legislative and Judicial Interventions (1946-2020)” as submitted by him.

One of the members of the Executive Council, Prof. Bidyut Chakrabarty pointed out and informed the Chairperson and other members of the EC that he was a referee for a research paper having the exact same title and confirmed that the work was complete or had

very little scope for further work. In light of the same the Executive Council thought it was best to ask Prof. V. Krishna Ananth about his intended research work on the submitted topic and clearly justify and submit his proposal on the proposed research work. The Executive Council resolved that Prof. V. Krishna Ananth may also further elaborate if the completed work as contended by the Executive Council member is different than the same.

The Executive Council also authorised the Vice-Chancellor to go through his proposal and take a decision on the Sabbatical Leave request of Prof. V. Krishna Ananth.

EC 41.4.6: Representation of Dr. Ram Bhawan Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of English against Office Memorandum dated 01.07.2022

The Executive Council noted the facts of the case of Dr. Ram Bhawan Yadav in connection to its decision in its 39th meeting held on 23.12.2021 of imposing the following penalties:

... imposition of minor penalty under Rule 11 (iv) i.e. withholding of increments of pay for three years without cumulative effect. The same to be restored at the end of the period of three years.

Additionally, the Council also decided to impose the following penalties:

- i) Barring him from holding any administrative post or chair/member of any Committee in the University for three years.
- ii) Barring him from supervising any MPhil/PhD for 3 years including his current scholars under his supervision.

Dr. Ram Bhawan Yadav's appeal to the Council seeking permission of the Council to allow him to sign the thesis of the two scholars viz. Mr. Ghunato Noho (17PDEN01) and Mr. Ajay kumar N. (19DEN01) whose thesis are ready to be submitted as reported by him was discussed and the Executive Council resolved to appoint a Committee of Appeals to look into the appeal and forward their recommendations to the Executive Council.

The Executive Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to appoint the Committee of Appeals to take up the appeal and report back to the Executive Council.

EC 41.4.7: Lien policy of the University

The lien policy was placed before the Executive Council and the Council noted that the revised lien policy had retained substantial part of the earlier guidelines approved by the Executive Council in its 32nd meeting including the lien period with the following additional points:

- i) The employee seeking Lien should have completed at least **FIVE YEARS** of regular service (including period on probation) in the University and
- ii) The number of personnel availing the lien should not **EXCEED 20%** of the total sanctioned posts in case of teaching departments and 20% of total sanctioned posts in case of non-teaching staff.

The Executive Council accepted the lien policy as submitted.

EC 41.4.8: Revision of Dress Code under the Ordinance OE-3 on Convocation

The Executive Council took note of the advisory dated 15.07.2022 from UGC requesting to consider using handloom fabric for ceremonial dress prescribed for special occasions like Convocation etc. Accordingly, the revision of dress code under Ordinance OE-3 on Convocation was discussed as placed under:

OE-3

Dress Code 7. Dress code as prescribed by the University.

Further, to remove the ambiguity in the Ordinance on dress code the following revision is suggested in OE-3 5 iii & OE-3 6 ii.:

Existing OE-3 Honorary Degree 5 iii	Revised OE-3 Honorary Degree 5 iii
Candidates at the Convocation shall wear gowns and hoods appropriate to their respective degrees. No candidate shall be admitted to the Convocation who is not in proper convocation dress prescribed by the University.	Candidates at the Convocation shall attend in their prescribed dress code appropriate to their respective degrees. No candidate shall be admitted to the Convocation who is not in proper convocation dress prescribed by the University.
Existing OE-3 Convocation Procedure 6 ii.	Revised OE-3 Convocation Procedure 6 ii.
The Chancellor, the Chief Rector, the Chief Guest, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-	The Chancellor, the Chief Rector, the Chief Guest, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-

Chancellor (if any), the Registrar, the Finance Officer, the Deans of Schools and the members of the University authorities shall wear their special robes prescribed by the University and shall walk in procession in the following order to the convocation hall...	Chancellor (if any), the Registrar, the Finance Officer, the Deans of Schools and the members of the University authorities shall wear their special attire prescribed by the University and shall walk in procession in the following order to the convocation hall.....
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Accordingly, after thorough deliberation the Executive Council accepted the revision in OE-3 of Convocation as proposed above.

EC 41.4.9: Research Publication for Appointment and CAS of Teachers

The Executive Council discussed the UGC Public Notice No.F.1-1/2018 (Journal/CARE) dated 16.09.2019 and dated 14.06.2019 in detail.

It reviewed its decision considered in its 36th meeting held on 20.01.2021 in light of the above orders and carefully resolved as under:

- 1) The screening of the direct recruitment is to be carried out prospectively w.e.f. 14.06.2019 i.e. Journal indexed in the UGC CARE List only to be considered for all appointments made after 14.06.2019, as the applications for direct recruitment were received on a subsequent date and the effect would also be from a prospective date.
- 2) However for CAS promotions, the date of consideration could be with retrospective effect and the UGC CARE List should be considered prospectively w.e.f. 14.06.2019. Indicating that any Research Publications published prior to 14.06.2019 may not necessarily be from the new UGC-CARE Reference List of Quality Journals (UGC CARE list) for consideration under CAS, especially when the promotion date under CAS is to be implemented retrospectively from the date of UGC Public Notice.

Care should also be taken while implementing this for CAS cases to verify whether there are any earlier cases which may get affected because of this decision and report to Executive Council accordingly.

SECTION-5

MINUTES OF AUTHORITIES/COMMITTEES

EC 41.5.1: Minutes of the 29th meeting of the Academic Council held on 5th September 2022

The Executive Council noted the minutes of 29th meeting of Academic Council held on 5th September 2022 and approved it with specific approvals to the following:

- i) Memorandum of Understanding between Sikkim University and CSIR-NEIST
- ii) Memorandum of Understanding between Sikkim University and IIM Shillong
- iii) Renewal of Ph.D Programme at Harkamaya College of Education from the Academic Session 2018-2019, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23. However, college may start admission of Ph.D students from the academic session 2022-23.
- iv) Renewal of Temporary Affiliated of (14) Colleges/Institutes/Subjects/Courses for the academic session 2022-23
- v) Inspection of Permanently Affiliated Colleges

EC 41.5.2: Minutes of the 33rd meeting of the Finance Committee held on 31st October 2022

The Executive Council approved the minutes of 33rd meeting of the Finance Committee held on 31st October 2022 with specific approvals to the following:

- 1) Phase wise requirement of grants for Package-II of Phase-I (Fresh Work of Campus Construction).
- 2) Sanction of fund to meet the deficit of Rs.51.23 crores during 2024-25 for Package-II of Phase-I to complete the construction of deferred scope of work for construction of four numbers of hostels.
- 3) Requirement of 7 teaching positions and additional 89 Non-teaching positions as proposed in the agenda.

SECTION-6

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

NIL

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
(K.V.S. Kameswara Rao)
Registrar & Secretary
Executive Council

Sd/-
(Prof. Avinash Khare)
Vice-Chancellor & Chairman
Executive Council