



SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF 20TH MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT SIKKIM UNIVERSITY,
YANYANG, SOUTH SIKKIM ON 22ND NOVEMBER, 2018

Members present:

1. Prof. Avinash Khare, Vice-Chancellor	Chairman
2. Dr. D.R. Agarwal [Court's Nominee]	Member
3. Prof. P. Tandon [EC'S Nominee]	Member
4. Prof. D.P. Sarkar [EC'S Nominee]	Member
5. Prof. N.K. Paswan [EC'S Nominee]	Member
6. Mr. G.C. Hosur (Visitor's Nominee)	Member
7. Mrs. Darshana M. Dabral [Visitor's Nominee]	Member, Represented by Mr. Fazal Mahmood, DS (IFD), MHRD
8. Dr. Jitendra K. Tripahti [Visitor's Nominee]	Member
9. Prof. J.P. Tamang	Special Invitee
10. Mr. T.K. Kaul [Registrar]	Special Invitee
11. Mr. Debasish Pal [Finance Officer]	Secretary

Mr. C.B. Chhetri, Internal Audit Officer and Mr. Manzil Darnal, JE (Civil) were present to assist the Committee.

Quorum of the meeting having been attained, the Chairman called the meeting to order. The Chairman welcomed the Visitor's Nominee from MHRD, UGC and Nominees of the Executive Council in traditional way by offering Khadas. Prof. J P Tamang welcomed the Vice-Chancellor as his first meeting of this committee by offering Khada.

The Committee appreciated outgoing members namely Prof. Ashoke K. Dutta, Former Director, IIM Shillong & Member North-East Council, Prof. Chetan Singh, Former Director, IAS Shimla and Shri M.G. Kiran, Former Principal Secretary, Finance, Revenue & Expenditure Department, Govt. of Sikkim for their valuable contribution to the University as members of this Committee.

Before the start of meeting the Chairman highlighted the problem before the members for not having permanent campus:

1. Existing 41 hired buildings for Academic and Administrative Departments, Hostels and Guest House etc in stretch of 11 km.

2. Annual expenditure of around Rs. 7.00 crore incurred on rent for hiring of above buildings.
3. Transportation problem due to scattered buildings and hostels and time consuming for mobility from one department to other.
4. Access of new campus is difficult as it is 56 km away from Gangtok and the road condition is not good at the moment.
5. Cost of campus construction in hilly areas is almost double than the plain areas due to problem of Resource Mobilization etc and adverse weather conditions for construction work due to heavy monsoon, altitudinal difference etc.
6. Challenge for retaining quality faculties due to lack of proper housing, transportation facilities, etc.

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

SECTION - 1
CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT

FC 20.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 15th June 2018:

The minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 15th June 2018 was circulated to all the members on 26th June 2018. No comments have been received from any of the member of the Committee.

The minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 15th June 2018 is confirmed.

FC 20.1.2: Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 15th June 2018:

The Secretary presented the action taken report on the minutes of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 15th June 2018. The Committee noted the action taken by the University. The members present suggested recording the action taken by the University for meeting held on 30th August 2018 separately.

SECTION – 2

REPORTING ITEMS

FC 20.2.1: Utilization of Grants as on 30th September 2018:

The Committee noted the progress of utilization of grants by the University upto 30th September 2018.

FC 20.2.2: XIIth Plan Expenditure for Building Projects in the prescribed format of UGC as on 30th October 2018:

The Secretary presented the detailed financial progress and physical progress upto 30th October 2018 for ongoing campus construction work (Package-I of Phase-I) which has been awarded to M/s. NCC Ltd. for total cost of Rs. 106.45 crores before the Committee. The Secretary reported the status on UGC XIIth plan allocation for Construction work and non-release of a Rs.60.22 crore fund out of the allocation. The members present from MHRD suggested that a detailed project report(DPR) for whole Campus has to be prepared by the University as early as possible for approval of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India after recommendation of MHRD.

FC 20.2.3: Report on C&AG outstanding audit paras:

The Committee noted the replies sent to C&AG on outstanding paras upto Financial Year 2016-17.

SECTION – 3

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

FC 20.3.1: Proposal for funds under Higher Education Funding Agency (HEFA) for Campus Construction:

The members discussed threadbare on this agenda item. The members present from MHRD suggested that a detailed project report(DPR) for whole Campus has to be prepared by the University as early as possible for approval of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India after recommendation of MHRD. The University shall take up the work in phases. The proposal for funding for first phase of construction shall be placed before MHRD within the approved DPR.

The members also suggested that the University shall explore the possibility of other source of fund e.g. DoNER for construction of campus work.

FC 20.3.2: Annual Accounts 2017-18 & Separate Audit Report 2017-18:

The Committee approved the Annual Accounts 2017-18 & Separate Audit Report 2017-18.

FC 20.3.3: Fund for Capital Assets – 35 for Financial Year 2018-19

The Committee discussed and approved the claim of Rs.9.00 crore subject to allocation from UGC under Capital Assets (35) head for Financial Year 2018-19. The Committee also appreciated that University has adopted 100% EAT Module of PFMS.

FC 20.3.4: Fund for Salary – 36 & Recurring - 31 for Financial Year 2018-19:

The Committee approved the claim grant for Salary -36 & Recurring – 31 for the Financial Year 2018-19 subject to allocation from UGC. It is also requested that the UGC to release additional fund under Recurring – 31 head due to huge amount of rent payment and the new guidelines of PFMS circulated vide UGC letter no. F.No. 9-4/2018 (CU) dated 11th September, 2018 in addition to normal increase in Recurring Head.

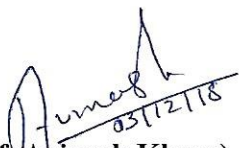
FC 20.3.5: Finalize the University Budget Estimates 2019-20:


The Committee requested the UGC to consider release grants as per the University Budget Estimates 2019-20, subject to allocation of fund by the UGC.

FC 20.3.6: Remittance of interest earned against Grants for Salary and Recurring Heads from UGC during 2017-18:

The Committee approved the interest refund to UGC by following the rules/regulations laid down in GFRs 2017.

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


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


(Debasish Pal)
Finance Officer &
Secretary, Finance Committee