Minutes of Twenty eighth Meeting of the IIT Hyderabad Board of Governors held on 27th April 2018

The Twenty eighth Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad was held on Tuesday the 27th April 2018 in the Board Room of the Permanent Campus of the Institute located in Kandi, Sanga Reddy District.

The following were present:

Shri BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman. Dr Prema Ramachandran, Member. Prof M Lakshmi Kantam, Member. Prof Vinod Krishan, Member. Prof KVL Subramaniam, Member. Prof Anjan Kumar Giri, Member. Prof UB Desai, Director. Shri N Jayaram, Registrar.

Leave of absence was granted to Shri Sukbhir Singh Sandhu and Smt Ranjeev R Acharya.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty seventh Meeting of the Board held on 26th December 2017.

The Board confirmed the Minutes as circulated.

Item No.2: To consider report of actions taken on the Minutes of the Twenty seventh Meeting of the Board of Governors.

The Board noted actions taken on Agenda items.

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

The Board noted the action taken.

Item No.4: Application for loan from HEFA.

The Board noted that the Institute had proposed an expenditure of Rs.557 crores under 'Object Head 35 – Creation of Capital Assets' for the year 2018-19; MHRD vide letter F.No.27-2/2018-TS-I (Part-2) dated 22nd February 2018 communicated budget allocation of Rs.29.43 and HEFA Loan of Rs.500 crores to take care of creation of capital assets under Object Head 35 for the year 2018-19.approved the 'Panel of Experts' attached to the Agenda Item; and the application tendered by the Institute for HEFA loan with approval of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of the Board.

The Board ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman for tendering the loan application.

Item No.5: Approval of Annual Accounts of the Institute for the Financial Year 2016-17.

Prof Vinod Krishnan suggested that a gist of the matter may be presented in future meetings to the Board for information. The suggestion was accepted by the Director.

The Board ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman to the Annual Accounts.

Item No.6: Approval of Annual Report of the Institute for the Financial Year 2-16-17.

The Chairman expressed happiness over the painstaking efforts put in by the Institute in preparation of the Annual Report in presenting information about the activities of the Institute.

The Board ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman to the Annual Report.

Item No.7: Non-executive Independent Director at Real Innovators Ltd.

The Board noted appointment of Prof UB Desai, Director, IIT Hyderabad as Non-Executive Independent Director.

The Board ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman.

Item No.8: Presentation of the Activities of the Institute: Department of Computer Sciences and Engineering.

Dr MV Panduranga Rao, Head of the Department made a presentation of the activities of the Department.

During the course of discussions, the Chairman emphasised that the Department may focus more on areas like artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning, etc. to enhance visibility of the Department and the Institute. Dr Rao clarified that the Department has shifted its focus to these areas and the program M Tech Data Science encompasses these areas.

To a query from Prof Lakshmi Kantam, the Head of the Department clarified the strength of female students is about 14% in B Tech, about 15% in M Tech, and about 27% in Ph D programs. The Board expressed satisfaction over the strength of female students in the Department and also the Institute.

The Board expressed happiness over the raising ranks of the students in JEE opting for IIT Hyderabad as also the increasing number of students opting for IIT Hyderabad.

The Chairman and Prof Lakshmi Kantam suggested that the Department may make efforts to monetise the patents through 'Open Day' or 'Industry Day' like events where technologies can be popularized with a personal invite from the Director; individual targets for Faculty within the Department may be attempted to take up more number of projects with a view to enhance income with suitable incentives for the efforts; identify steps to be taken and the time line needed to the Department to reach Top 5 like required number of Faculty, target project revenue for each Faculty, etc.; etc.

While accepting the suggestions, Prof UB Desai stated that IITH is 7th position among IITs and the increasing popularity of the Department is getting reflected in increase in the number of Visitors to the Department and also assistance sought by various agencies from the Department.

Item No.9: Any other item with the approval of the Chair.

With the approval of the Chair, the following two items were taken up.

a. Tabling of the Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute:

In accordance with the provisions of Statute 7 (3) (k) of the First Statutes of Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, 2017, the Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute along with the Agenda document were tabled.

The Board noted this item.

b. Memorandum of Understanding between IIT and Dept. of Higher Education, MHRD, Govt. of India.

The draft of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) received from MHRD was placed before the Board along with its enclosures.

The Board approved signing of MoU with modifications as discussed during the meeting.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.
