

**Minutes of Thirtieth Meeting of the  
Board of Governors of IIT Hyderabad held on 03<sup>rd</sup> January 2019**

The Thirtieth Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad was held on Thursday, the 03<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 in the Board Room of the Permanent Campus of the Institute located in Kandi, Sangareddy District.

The following were present:

Shri BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman.  
Prof Vinod Krishnan, Member – Audio Conference  
Dr Prema Ramachandran, Member.  
Prof M Lakshmi Kantam, Member.  
Shri Ajay Mishra, Member  
Shri Prashant Agarwal for Dr Sukhbir Singh Sandhu – Video Conference  
Prof Anjan Kumar Giri, Member.  
Prof Ch Subrahmanyam, Member  
Prof UB Desai, Director.  
Shri N Jayaram, Registrar and Secretary.

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to the Members followed by a hearty welcome by the Director.

**Item No.1: To consider Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty Ninth Meeting of the Board held on 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.**

The Board confirmed the Minutes as circulated.

**Item No.2: To consider the Report of Actions Taken on the Minutes of the Twenty Ninth Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.**

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: Start of B Tech in Artificial Intelligence (AI) from July-Aug 2019.**

The Director explained various programs offered by IITH in Artificial Intelligence.

Dr K Sriramamurthy made a presentation of the details of the programs and informed participation of various Departments in these programs. He explained that AI contents of various Departments have been included through various baskets.

The Chairman suggested that some amount of Mathematics, Statistics, and Data Analytics may be included in the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester to enable students to have requisite knowledge to develop algorithms later Semesters. The Director agreed to the suggestions.

Dr Prema Ramachandran suggested that some emphasis may be laid to AI aspects of healthcare so that Primary Health Care improves to the overall advantage of all. The Director agreed to the suggestions.

The Chairman stressed that the initiate is outstanding one considering very high need for trained personnel to develop deep technologies in AI fields, IITH has necessary skills, and IITH may help itself with additional resources by conducting training programs for industries and others.

#### **Item No.5: Mentoring of Woosong University.**

The Director explained that a University from a developed country i.e. South Korea approached IIT Hyderabad for mentoring the University in development of syllabus and Laboratories and help hiring Faculty. This is a unique opportunity to IITH to have international visibility. IITH has experience of mentoring IIT Bhilai (from ground level) and Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi (developing engineering Departments and teaching some courses). Woosong University meets full expenditure and IITH has no financial responsibility in this regard.

Dr S Suryakumar, Associate Professor made a detailed presentation of the matter and explained factors involved. Inter-alia he stated that IITH has international collaborations in Ph D and Masters degrees and this is the first occasion for IITH to mentor graduates.

To a query from the Chairman, Dr S Surya Kumar informed that mentoring at IIT Bhilai was initially for about 2 to 3 years whereafter Faculty at IIT Bhilai became available to take things forward.

The Chairman stated that IITs and India in particular is facing shortage of Faculty and queried whether IITH has ability to spare Faculty time for mentoring Woosong University, and whether this has possibility of impacting teaching and research at IITH. Further, the Chairman and Shri Ajay Mishra sought information on the extent of involvement of IITH in terms of duration of teaching.

The Director clarified that the Faculty of IITH will provide assistance during mid semester segments during they have no teaching load in IITH, the estimated teaching load in Woosong University will be 21 credits i.e. 7 courses in a year, the Faculty need will be about 2 to 3 during 1<sup>st</sup> year, 3 to 4 during second year, and 4 to 5 during 3<sup>rd</sup> year,

during this period Woosong University will be hiring Faculty with assistance from IITH; due to Fractals system in IITH that provides for free segments during Semesters providing spare capacity at IITH; and there will be no interruption in IITH.

Dr Prema Ramachandran sought know about the future of students graduating from Woosong University as it will have a bearing on the brand value of IITH. The Director replied that the areas in which programs are proposed by Woosong University are in huge demand leading to good opportunities and thereby there is no possibility of affecting the brand value of IITH. The Chairman added that South Korean economy is booming and the opportunities are aplenty.

The Chairman suggested that specifics in terms of Faculty time and cost factors be prepared and submitted to the Board for approval whereafter public announcement may be made by IITH.

The Board approved the agenda item in principle.

**Item No.6: Presentation of the activities of the Institute – Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.**

The Board deferred this item for future meetings.

**Item No.7: Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2017-18.**

The Board approved the Annual Accounts of the Institute for the Financial Year 2017-18.

**Item No.8: Annual Report for the financial year 2017-18.**

The Board approved the Annual Report of the Institute for the FY 2017-18.

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

**a) Proposal for creation of non-faculty posts:**

The Board took note of MHRD letter No.32-14/2013-TS.1 dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013, the students' strength of IITH as on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019, financial implication of about Rs.35 lakhs per annum for 4 posts of Section Officer, and approved creation of 4 (four) posts of Section Officer as proposed by the Institute.

**b) Proposal for retaining lien in IIT Hyderabad:**

The Board had brief discussions. Shri Ajay Mishra sought to know whether IITH can have some kind of percentage or number of Faculty who could be on line at any given point of time. The Director clarified that this is mainly enabling provision and would be used with discretion based on the needs of the Institute.

The Board approved this item.

**c) Proposal for extension of tenure of Prof UB Desai as Director, IIT Hyderabad:**

The Chairman mentioned the matter of extension of tenure. Prof UB Desai, Director recused himself from the deliberations and was not present in the meeting venue during the discussions on this item.

The Chairman stated that the tenure of Prof Desai will be ending during June 2019. He cited a few instances of extension of tenure of the Directors of IITs.

The Chairman elaborated that IITH is in the midst of very important and also hectic schedule of activities like Construction of Permanent Campus and development of infrastructure under Govt. of Japan ODA loan amounting to about Rs.1700 crores; international collaborations with several educational Institutions abroad; and various novel programs taken up by the Institute. All these have a significant bearing on the future of the Institute as an Institution of high repute. These activities have been initiated by Prof Desai and would require the inputs of Prof Desai as Director to attain results.

The Board unanimously agreed that the tenure of Prof UB Desai requires extension by 2 years.

Shri Ajay Mishra suggested that the earlier proforma used for the purpose of extension of tenure may also be used again. The Chairman concurred with the suggestion.

The Board agreed to recommend extension of tenure of Prof UB Desai, Director by 2 (two) years.

**d) Purchase of NB IoT chip:**

The Chairman recused from this item and left the meeting venue.

IITH in collaboration with IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, IISc, CEWiT, and SAMEER has an on-going project 'Indigenous 5G Testbed'. The estimated outlay of the project is about Rs.224 crores over a period of 3 years.

The project is in need of NB IoT chip that is an amalgamation of analog and digital technologies, IP for various processes/algorithms owned by several technology companies across the globe and ITH, and is to be manufactured

specifically with all the required ingredients. The estimated cost of making the chip is US \$ 4 million including the cost of IP provided by several IP holders.

IITH made survey of various chip making facilities located in several countries. There are several major chip making companies like Intel, Qualcomm, etc. Considering the very specific configurations of the chip needed, it was considered that M/s AnSem NV located in Belgium would be the only manufacturer. The team of IITH had detailed discussions with M/s AnSem NV. During the discussions it transpired that the company is owned by M/s Cyient Inc. of which Shri BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman of the Board of Governors is the Founder.

The Board was informed by Prof UB Desai, Director and Prof Kiran Kumar Kuchi that the estimated cost of US \$ 4 million is too small an amount for the major chip makers and therefore it is not feasible to approach such companies. More importantly, such companies may deem it as competition to them and due to this factor, the possibility of such accepting the requirement of IITH to make the chip is remote. Therefore, it very clearly remained that M/s AnSem NV, Belgium is the sole maker of the chip required for the project and there is none else and the Indentor has already issued a Proprietary Certificate to this effect.

To a query from Shri Ajay Mishra, the Director informed that IITH is authorised to get the chip made from M/s AnSem NV, Belgium and the matter has been brought to the Board solely on account of the fact that M/s AnSem NV is owned by M/s Cyient Inc. of which Shri BVR Mohan Reddy the Chairman of the Board is the Founder.

Considering the circumstances and the needs of the project, the Board approved procurement of the customized chip from M/s Ansem NV, Belgium.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*