Annexure to Item No. 1 of Agenda of the 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BoG to be held on December 7, 2020

# Minutes of the Thirty Fourth Meeting of the Board of Governors of IIT Hyderabad held on 4th June 2020

The Thirty Fourth Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad was held on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 2020 in Board Room, Academic Block A in the Permanent Campus of IIT Hyderabad located in Kandi, Sangareddy District.

The following were present:

Shri BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman

Prof. B S Murty, Director, IITH, Ex-officio Member

Shri Rakesh Ranjan, Additional Secretary, MHRD, Member (Official comments received vide F.No.11-8/2018-T.S.-1 dated 03.06.2020)

Dr Prema Ramachandran, Member

Prof M Lakshmi Kantam, Member

Prof Krishna Mohan C, Member

Prof Ch Subrahmanyam, Member

Cmde Manohar Nambiar (Retd), Registrar and Secretary

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Cmde Manohar Nambiar (Retd), the new Registrar and thanked Mr N Jayaram, the previous Registrar, for his contributions over the last several years. He further stated that we have a large number of challenges ahead, given the current situation due to COVID-19 and each one of us must put in our best to overcome the present situation.

#### Item No.1: Election of Senate Nominees for the Board

The Director stated that two members, namely Prof C Krishna Mohan and Prof Ch. Subrahmanyam were elected as Senate Nominees for the board for a period of Two years, until 31 December 2021.

The Board thanked Dr Anjan Giri, who has completed his tenure as BOG member, and welcomed Prof C Krishna Mohan as a new BOG member and welcomed Prof Ch Subrahmanyam for his second term.

Remarks of MHRD: Clause 11(e) of the IT Act, 1961 stipulates that two professors of the Institute, to be nominated by the Senate in the Board as Senate nominees. Clause 12 (3) of the said Act, provides "The term of office of a member nominated under clause (e) of section 11 shall be two years from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January of the year in which he is nominated." Board may take decision accordingly.

The Director informed the BOG that the suggestion of the MHRD in this regard has always been complied with by IITH.

The Board also congratulated Prof C Krishna Mohan for taking up the Dean (Public and Corporate Relations) and wished him all the best in his role.

# Item No.2: To consider Confirmation of the Minutes of the Thirty Third Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Remarks of MHRD: May be considered

The Board confirmed the minutes as circulated.

# Item No.3: To consider the Report of the actions Taken on the Minutes of the Thirty Third Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

A report relating to the actions taken on the various minutes was presented by the Director for information and consideration of the Board. The Director stated that one of the important issues taken up in the last BOG meeting pertains to creation of non-faculty posts, where recruitment is still underway. The chairman stated that given the current situation, we may follow an online recruitment process wherever possible.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted.

The Board noted the action taken on other items of the previous meeting.

# Item No.4: Report relating to the Actions Taken by the Chairman, Board of Governors, from time to time since the last meeting.

The Director stated that the Chairman of the Board has approved various actions which were necessary for carrying out the day to day activities of the Institute and these were presented to the Board for approval.

Remarks of MHRD: May be considered subject to pay scale/fixation as per MHRD guidelines.

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

### Item No.5: Covid-19 related research activities at IIT Hyderabad (IITH)

The Director stated that a number of COVID-19 related research activities were carried out by the Institute. In addition, in order to help the local community, IITH has adopted five villages nearby. The Chairman appreciated the research activities and stated that greater efforts be made to uplift the local community.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board noted the excellent research work being carried out by the faculty and students of IITH in tackling the situation caused by COVID-19.

#### Item No.6: Presentation by two faculty members on their Covid-19 related research.

A brief write-up on COVID-19 related research by Prof Renu John: Dr Renu John (BME Dept.) presented a brief report on the COVID-19 related activities at the Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE), IITH. Dr John presented three products from the CfHE, that got translated to market in this short period of time.

The affordable ventilator Jeevan Lite from the start-up company Aerobiosys Pvt Ltd of CfHE, IITH merits among one of the best indigenous ventilators in the country with unique features at par with any commercial ventilator at an affordable price. JCB India Ltd has come forward to support Team Aerobiosys to take this product for mass manufacturing. The company is expected to announce the Jeevan Lite in market by the first week of July. Jeevan Lite meets all the specifications outlined by the ICMR and MoHFW.

Nemocare Raksha Plus from Nemocare, a Start-up from CfHE, IITH is an IoT enabled smart Wearable device with geolocation capabilities and an intelligent integrated decision support platform to provide disease surveillance by remotely monitoring suspected COVID-19 patients and tracking signs of disease progression. Nemocare has also developed a continuous monitoring wearable device that will aid in remote monitoring of vitals along with geolocation and prognosis of affected and quarantined patients. It will also aid in tracking their symptoms and the doctors will be alerted on detection of deterioration. The device is ready with manufacture-ready Design and clinical testing is being carried out.

The Start-up company U Safe of CfHE, IITH is ready with a whole-body Protective gear for clinical staff working in hospitals, a unique personal protective equipment glass shield, and a self-sanitized protective key hook for hands-free operation of switches and door knobs. Dr Surya Kumar (MAE dept.) has designed a Sterilisation compatible and reusable Face Shield & Mouth Mask designed for effective protection for health care workers and for common people. The products are designed keeping in view the current market need for protection against COVID-19. All the necessary standards have been followed in designing the products and the products meet the mandated safety and certification standards. The company has already started manufacturing all the products and now scaling up for large scale productions.

A brief write-up on blower-based Ventilator by Prof R Prasanth Kumar: The department of MAE is developing two ventilator prototypes: one emergency grade, and another ICU grade. Majority of the development is complete. Once the prototypes are ready for testing, it will be tested at Asian Institute of Gastroenterology. HMT Hyderabad will be the production partner. A mobile robot for COVID-19 isolation wards/hospitals has been developed.

### Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board appreciated the work of Prof. Renu John and Prof. Prasanth Kumar and their contribution in bringing out useful products to combat COVID-19.

### Item No.7: Students activities at IIT Hyderabad during lockdown

Various student activities in view of lockdown post COVID-19 and the consequent conduct of all activities using various online modes were elucidated by the Director. The Chairman appreciated the efforts and stated that we must keep issues of poor connectivity and limited

bandwidth available in mind and therefore there is a need to reduce the file size to the minimum possible.

### Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board appreciated the efforts of IITH in reaching out to the students through various online means during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Item No.8: Report on campus development project of IIT Hyderabad.

As a part of the expansion programme of IITH, the Board of Governors had approved the campus development project divided into two packages Viz. 3A and 3B. The Project is mostly funded by JICA loan and partly through HEFA.

A brief report on the Campus Development Project of the Institute and the impact of COVID-19 was presented by the Director. The Director brought out that both major Contractors Viz. M/s L&T and SPCL had stopped work on 23 Mar 2020, just prior to the imposition of lockdown and restarted work in a small way on 28 May 2020. The contractors are likely to gather pace of work in another three months' time, as a result of non-availability of labour and other resources. The overall delay is likely to be at least six months.

Remarks of MHRD: There are two projects- (i) Construction of Permanent Camus of IITH and (ii) IITH\_JICA (EAP) for campus development for separate buildings as per EFC guidelines and procurement of equipment.

- i. MHRD is releasing funds under the Scheme "Support to IITs" for construction of Permanent Campus and Institute is also availing HEFA Loan for the purpose. As per 2nd RCE, the timelines for development of permanent campus is up to 31.03.2021.
- ii. MHRD is releasing funds under the Scheme "IIT Hyderabad (EAP)" for creation of separate buildings and procurement of equipment as per Scheme guidelines. The timelines for IITHJICA(EAP) is up to 2022-23.

Institute may ensure that the expenditure/activities under these Schemes should be as per Scheme guidelines and both the Schemes may not be clubbed. HEFA Loan may be utilized for meeting non-recurring expenditure under the Scheme "Support to IITs" only.

Director informed the BOG that IITH is carrying out its campus development activity in compliance with MHRD guidelines.

The Board noted the progress of campus development.

## Item No.9: Age criteria for non-teaching post.

The Director stated that the Chairman of the Board of Governors had approved the change of age criteria in line with the other IITs.

<u>Remarks of MHRD</u>: As per MHRD's letter dated 18.08.2009, UGC pay scales will apply to Registrar, Dy. Registrars, Assistant Registrars of IITs, IISERs, NITS, IISc and Deemed to be Universities subject to them possessing the qualifications and experience as prescribed by UGC from time to time. For others, normal replacement scale as per CCS (RP) Rules, 2008 will

apply. Age of superannuation will, however, continue to be 60 years. The institute may ensure conformity with MHRD/UGC guidelines applicable in the matter. However, the agenda may be first placed in the FC. Since this is not yet placed in and considered by the FC, BOG may consider deferring it and placing before the next Board meeting after these are approved by the FC.

Since there is no financial implication consequent to the revised age Criteria, the proposal was ratified by the Board.

#### Item No.10: Report on NF-8 Recruitment Notification

The Director stated that Non-Faculty advertisement is in progress for 152 positions. A total of 11840 applications have been received and the screening process has been completed. A list of screened applications and reasons for not screening the remaining applications has been uploaded on the website to ensure transparency in recruitment. The recruitment process has been postponed to a later date, pending resumption of transportation services post lockdown. The only exception was made in the case of the recruitment of Registrar, since the previous Registrar had retired on 30 April 2020. Accordingly, the interview for the post of Registrar was held online on 29 April 2020 and the selected candidate, Commodore M Nambiar (Retd) has joined the Institute on 01 June 2020.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board noted the progress on the non-faculty recruitment.

# Item No.11: Fixation of Pay Scales and adoption of AoD and SCL, Earned Leave (Vacation) for faculty.

The rules relating to fixation of Pay Scales of Faculty and adoption of AOD and SCL, Earned Leave (Vacation for Faculty) were brought up for discussion by the board members.

The Director stated that a number of professors need to participate in Conferences, Seminars, etc. and there is a need to grant Special Casual Leave as is the practice in certain older IITs. After deliberations, the Board, decided that there is no need for Special Casual Leave and that absence of an individual from the Institute for any of the professional activities listed should be considered on duty. Prof. Vinod Krishan stated that there is a need to limit the number of conferences that an individual can attend. The process of due approvals from the deans and the director should be followed. The Chairman stated that there is a need to limit the number of trips abroad, particularly in the present situation.

#### Remarks of MHRD:

- 1. May be considered as per IIT Act, 1961 and the Statutes of IITH. Guidelines issued by MHRD from time to time may also be considered.
- 2. For Earned Leave, CCS (Leave) Rule may be followed. For other leave, Board may take a view. The practice being followed in other IITs for other leave may be considered.

All the proposals were ratified by the Board except Special Casual Leave, which the Board suggested it to be treated as On Duty, with the approval of HOD, Dean and Director.

# Item No.12: Guidelines for utilisation of cumulative professional development allowance (CPDA).

The issue was deliberated upon and the Board decided that the expenditure incurred must remain within the budget limit of Rs 3 Lakhs and the utilization should be focused towards the primary objective of attending professional seminars/meetings.

Remarks of MHRD: As per MHRD's letter dated 18.8.2009, a Cumulative Professional Development Allowance for Rs.3 lakhs for every block period of 3 years (Rs. One lakh per year) may be made available to every member of the faculty on reimbursable basis to meet the expenses for participating in both national and international conferences, paying the membership fee of various professional bodies and contingent expenses. Institute may follow the same. Utilizing CPDA for purchase of laptop/tablet/desktop/books/computer software/databases/cartridges/stationery etc., do not seem justifiable for the purpose it was sanctioned. These expenditures may be met from GIA released under OH-31. However, the agenda may be first placed in the FC. Since this is not yet placed in and considered by the FC, BOG may consider deferring it and placing it before the next Board meeting after these are approved by the FC.

Since there is no additional funding needed and a CPDA of Rs. 3 lakhs for a period of 3 years has already been allocated by the MHRD for each faculty, the BOG approved the proposal.

### Item No.13: Reporting and Reviewing Officers to non-teaching staff.

The Director stated that the Reporting and Reviewing officers have been identified for all posts at IITH in consultation with the Deans and Registrar. In addition, the rules and regulations for the preparation and maintenance of APARs has also been worked out.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board noted the efforts of IITH in streamlining the APARs for the staff.

#### Item No.14: Initiatives for the Growth of the Institute.

The Director stated that several initiatives have been taken for the growth of the Institute in various sectors such as Faculty Research Excellence, administrative excellence, student welfare, campus development, curriculum development and industry interaction.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board noted and appreciated the initiatives taken by the institute for its growth.

#### Item No.15: Report on Online Education at IIT Hyderabad.

The Director stated that all the courses of the 1-4, 3-4, 3-6 and 1-6 segments of the Jan-May 2020 semester are offered online from 01.04.2020. The Examinations were also conducted online for the graduating students. The examinations for the remaining batches of students would be conducted in the offline mode on the campus after the return of students.

Remarks of MHRD: May be noted

The Board noted and appreciated the efforts of the institute in handling the academic session of the semester under the situation caused by COVID-19.

#### Item No.16: Curriculum revision and new Academic Programs

The Director stated that the BTech Curriculum has been extensively revised and a number of additional proactive measures have been initiated for the benefit of students. The M Tech curriculum has also been suitably revised and starting from July 2020, M Tech will be admitted in three different modes viz. MHRD Supported, Govt Lab/Industry sponsored and self-sponsored. In addition, a number of new industry-oriented M Tech programs have been introduced. The Chairman appreciated the efforts and urged the institute to work towards greater collaboration between the Academia and the Industry.

<u>Remarks of MHRD</u>: May be considered. However, the Institute may ensure that MHRD's grant can be utilized for paying only those scholarships which have been approved by the MHRD.

The Board noted the efforts undertaken and congratulated the institute on the measures taken to improve collaboration with industry.

# Item No.17: Grant of Incentive for acquiring fresh Higher Qualification directly relevant to the functional requirement.

Remarks of MHRD: As per DoPT's O.M. dated 15.3.2019 one-time lump-sum rates as incentive for acquiring fresh higher qualification by a Government employee shall be permissible for courses in fields that are directly relevant to the employee's job. However, the grant of incentive in respect of qualifications mentioned therein will be subject to the fulfilment of the criteria laid down in para 8 of the said O.M. The grant of incentive for the qualifications shall be considered by the administrative authorities in consultation with their IFD and necessary orders shall be issued after ensuring that the criteria laid down in para 8 in the O.M., are fulfilled. There is no provision for additional increment. Accordingly, Institute is advised to send the proposal to the Ministry for concurrence and approval of IFD. Since there is financial implication, the agenda may be first placed in the FC. Since this is not yet placed in and considered by the FC, BOG may consider deferring it and placing it before the next Board meeting after these are approved by the FC.

The Chairman suggested that in accordance with the remarks of the MHRD, the Agenda item may be placed before the next FC prior to its placement at the next BOG.

The Board directed the institute to place this item to the next FC meeting and then bring to the next BOG meeting.

#### Item No.18: Revision of Recruitment and Promotion Rules and Administrative Structure.

<u>Remarks of MHRD</u>: Since there is financial implication, the agenda may be first placed in the FC. Since this is not yet placed in and considered by the FC, BOG may consider deferring it and placing it before the next Board meeting after these are approved by the FC.

The Director mentioned that some of the revisions suggested do not have any financial implications. The Chairman directed that in accordance with the remarks of the MHRD, the

revisions suggested can be grouped into two, one consisting of those that do not have any financial implications and the other that has revisions that have financial implications.

Thus BOG approved the revisions in **Annexure-1** of these minutes that do not have any financial implications and directed that those revisions in **Annexure-2** that have financial implications be placed before the next FC prior to its placement at the next BOG.

#### Item No.19: Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

(a) Approval of BOG for Setting up of Technology Innovation Hub on Autonomous Navigation (TIH-AN):

DST, under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) program, has sanctioned the Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) on Autonomous Navigation and Data Acquisition (UAVs, ROVs) to IITH. As per the instructions of DST, a Section 8 company has been incorporated by IITH for operationalisation of TIH. Prof Rajalakshmi is leading the team on the TIH.

The Board congratulated Prof Rajalakshmi for setting up of this TIH and ratified the incorporation of the TIH as a Section 8 company.

(b) Prof Subrahmanyam requested that the BOG minutes be circulated to the Faculty/Staff.

The Chairman directed that a copy of the BOG minutes except the Confidential information may be put up for circulation to the Faculty/staff

The BOG meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

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