



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ALLAHABAD
(An Institution of National Importance established by the Act of the Parliament of India)

**Minutes of Twenty Third Special Meeting of Board of Governors
(Convocation Specific)**

Date	: 18 th March, 2023
Time	: 09:30 AM.
Venue	: Boardroom, IIIT Allahabad

The 23rd Special Meeting of the Board of Governors of IIIT-Allahabad was held on 18.03.2023 from 09.30 AM in a mixed mode in the Boardroom of IIIT Allahabad. The members in attendance were as follows:

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| 1. Dr. Anand Deshpande | - | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. R. S. Verma
Director, IIIT Allahabad | - | Member |
| 3. Sh. Priyank Chaturvedi
<i>Representing Joint Secretary, TE, MoE</i> | - | Member (Online) |
| 4. Prof. Manindra Agrawal
Professor, Deptt. of CSE
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur | - | Member (Online) |
| 5. Sh. Rahul Singh
Managing Director, GAPL | - | Member (Online) |
| 6. Prof. Anand Bulusu
Professor, Deptt. of ECE
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee | - | Member (Online) |
| 7. Prof. Arvind Choubey
Director, IIIT Bhagalpur, Bihar | - | Member (Online) |
| 8. Sh. Jeetendra Singh
<i>Representing Additional Chief Secretary, Deptt of IT & Electronics
Govt. of UP, Lucknow</i> | - | Member (Online) |
| 9. Prof. Shekhar Verma | - | Member |

Professor, Deptt. of IT
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad

10. Prof. Tapobrata Lahiri

Professor, Deptt of AS
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad

Member

11. Dr. Satish Kumar Singh

Registrar (Acting)
Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad

Secretary

Sh. Bhuvnesh Kumar, Additional Secretary & Group Coordinator, Meity, Gol, Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Director IIT Kanpur and Prof. Archana Shukla, Director, IIM, could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupation and were granted Leave of Absence. Prof. Shalabh, Dean (Academics), IIT Kanpur, was the Special Invitee for Agenda Item 23.05 S[1].

The Chairman welcomed all the Hon'ble members present in the meeting and instructed the Secretary to start the proceedings. The attendance was recorded by the Secretary. The meeting was attended by the 11 members. As per the IIITA Statutes Clause 20(3) the quorum of the meeting was complete. Before the start of the meeting, the Hon'ble Chairman, Dr. Anand Deshpande, highlighted the three main agenda items, (i) Convocation related matters, (ii) The representation of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh, and (iii) The Flexible Academic program. Chairman also clarified about the necessity and urgency of the items being considered by the 23rd BoG to move the institute forward. The meeting started with the permission of the Chairman BoG and the following agenda items were presented by the Secretary, considered and resolved by the Board.

23.01 To confirm the Minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute held on 09.01.2023

The Minutes of the Twenty Second meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute as held on 09.01.2023 were prepared by the Secretary in consultation with the Director IIIT Allahabad and the Hon'ble Chairman BoG IIIT Allahabad. Thereafter the draft minutes were circulated with the Approval of the Chairman BoG through the email on 05.02.2023 by the Secretary for the kind perusal of the BoG members inviting their comments on the resolutions of the BoG taken against various agenda items. The draft minutes, along with the comments as received from the three BoG members, namely, Sh Rahul Singh, Dr. Manindra Agrawal, and Dr. T. Lahiri, and the clarification/replies by the Secretary and Chairman thereon, were put-up before the BoG in its 23rd Meeting for its consideration. Further, the Chairman, BoG, clarified to the Hon'ble members of the Board, that the committee members may have some difference of opinion on any agenda items, but the minutes of the 22nd BoG meeting reflect facts as were resolved by the BoG on the day of the meeting. During the discussions, Prof. T. Lahiri and the Registrar had some opinions on some issues. After the discussions as led by the Chairman BoG, the majority was of the opinion of confirming the minutes of 22nd BoG.



Resolution: As per the IITA Statutes Clause 20(4), without counting the vote of the Secretary and the Chairman, the BoG resolved (with a majority vote of 8:1) to confirm the minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute as held on 09.01.2023. The BoG further resolved unanimously that the Minutes will be signed by the Chairman BoG and further actions will be initiated by the Institute to run the institute as per the resolutions of the Board of Governors. The BoG also resolved unanimously that if any of the members has any further opinion then, she/he may please convey the same to the Director IIIT Allahabad for further consideration. Dr. T. Lahiri expressed a note of dissent on confirming the minutes of the 22nd Board meeting.

23.02 To consider and approve the Minutes of the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate (Convocation Specific) held on 15.03.2023.

The Minutes of the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate (Convocation Specific) of the Institute held on 15.03.2023 were considered by the Board of Governors. The said minutes were already confirmed by the Institute Senate in its 25th Meeting by the "way of circulation".

Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

23.02 (A) To consider and ratify: -

- (i) **the date of XVII Convocation along with the name of Chief Guest for the XVII Convocation of the Institute.**

As per the set policy of the Institute, Institute Convocation is held on Second Saturday of September every year. In view of unavoidable circumstances however, in the year 2022, the XVII Convocation could not take place. With the kind concurrence of the Hon'ble Chairman, BOG, the same has now been scheduled for March 18th 2023, Second Saturday of March, 2023, with all graduands completing their degree requirements by 13 March 2023, being awarded their respective Degrees.

After discussions, for the same, Dr Sriram Rajamani, Managing Director of Microsoft Research India, was approached by the Hon'ble Chairman through his email dated 13 Feb '23 for being the Chief Guest on the occasion and also delivering the Convocation Address. In reply thereof, Dr Rajamani kindly confirmed his availability on the said date.

The Senate of the Institute have already approved the date of XVII Convocation along with the name of Chief Guest for the XVII Convocation of the Institute.

Resolution-1: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the date of the XVII Convocation along with the name of Chief Guest for the XVII Convocation of the Institute, which was ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.



- (ii) the contents of the degree format arising due to difference in degree completion year and convocation year for all programs running in the institute

Resolution-2: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the contents of the degree format which was approved by the Senate through circulation on 06.03.2023 and ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

- (iii) the Hindi name for the following Programs:

- 1) M.Tech. IT Data Engineering
- 2) M.Tech. IT Robotics and Machine Intelligence
- 3) M.Tech. Data Science and Analytics

Resolution-3: The BoG resolved unanimously to approved the Hindi Names " डेटा इंजीनियरिंग", "रोबोटिक्स एवं मशीन इंटेलिजेंस", and "तथ्य विज्ञान एवं विश्लेषिकी" of the three M.Tech Degree Programs which was approved by the Senate through circulation on 06.03.2023 and ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

- 23.02 (B) To receive the Statistics in respect of the Graduating students (B. Tech., M. Tech., MBA, DD B. Tech. – M. Tech., MBA(WP), DD B. Tech. MBA(IT), DD M. Tech.-Ph.D, DD MBA-Ph.D & Ph.D Program) on the occasion of the XVII Convocation of the Institute to be held on 18.03.2023

The Program wise list of Graduand Statistics, for the XVII Convocation approved by the Senate during 25th Special Meeting of Senate (Convocation Specific) held on 15.03.2023 was considered by the BoG for award to respective Degrees in the XVII Convocation of March 2023.

Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the program wise list of Graduand Statistics which was approved by the Senate through circulation on 06.03.2023 and ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

Summary of Graduands Statistics for UG, PG, PG(WP), DD & Ph.D

Academic Session	No. of Students Passed		
	Male (s)	Female (s)	Total
Undergraduate Students	239	38	277
Postgraduate Students	159	49	209
Dual Degree B.Tech-M.Tech Students	51	04	55
Dual Degree B.Tech – MBA(IT) Students	07	01	08
Dual Degree M.Tech- Ph.D Students	06	05	11
Dual Degree MBA-Ph.D Students	00	01	01
Doctor of Philosophy Students	26	11	37
Grand Total	489	109	598



23.02 (C) To consider and approve the names of Graduands for the award of various Medals and Merit Certificates to be awarded by the Institute on the occasion of the XVII Convocation scheduled to be held on 18.03.2023

The names of Graduands for the award of various Medals and Merit Certificates as approved by the Senate during 25th Special meeting of the Senate (Convocation Specific) held on 15.03.2023 were considered by the BoG.

Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the names of Graduands for the award of various Medals and Merit Certificates (Appendix-I) as approved by the Senate through circulation on 06.03.2023 and ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

23.02 (D) To consider and approve the names of Graduands who are due to get their degrees for various Programs in the XVII Convocation of the Institute to be held on 18.03.2023

The Program wise list of Graduands, along with their Enrollment Numbers, who are eligible to receive their respective Degrees approved by the Senate during 25th Special Meeting of Senate (Convocation Specific) held on 15.03.2023 were considered by the BoG. As indicated in the lists, some candidates would receive the Degrees with Distinction and few also with ADD On Credits Certificates.

Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the names of candidates for award of respective Degrees and Certificates as per their enrolled programs, as per the lists placed on table as approved by the Senate through circulation on 06.03.2023 and ratified in the 25th Special Meeting of the Senate of the institute as held on 15.03.2023.

23.03 To receive and approve the Minutes of 46th Finance Committee held on 09.01.2023

The 46th Meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 09.01.2023. The minutes of the 46th meeting of the Finance Committee were considered by the BoG.

Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously to approve the minutes of the 46th meeting of the Finance Committee.

23.04 To consider and approve the report of the Committee constituted in respect of the letter received from MoE regarding the representation of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, IIIT-Allahabad

Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, IIIT-Allahabad, sent his representation to the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, on dated 2/08/2022 mentioning his grievances. After examination of his grievances mentioned in his representation, Ministry sent a letter on 07/09/2022 to the Institute and directed the institute to resolve the matter as per the extant rules. Thereafter Director IIIT Allahabad constituted a four-member committee to examine the representation and to send its recommendations within 45 days. The constitution of the committee was as hereunder:

- 1) Prof. Arvind Chaubey, Director, IIIT Bhagalpur and Member BOG, IIITA- Chairman.



- 2) Prof. P K S Dikshit, Head, Dept. of Civil Engineering, IIT BHU, Varanasi-Member
- 3) Prof. Anupam Agrawal, Professor & Dean Alumni Affairs, IIITA- Member.
- 4) Mr. Niranjan Kumar, Assistant Registrar, IIIT Allahabad- Secretary

The above committee met 4 -5 times in online and offline mode and submitted its detailed report along with 4 recommendations to the institute on 9th Jan 2023. The Committee also took legal opinion on the representation of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh from Central Govt. Counsel appointed by Ministry of Law & Justice. Prof Chaubey shared his observations in the previous Board Meeting. As the report was voluminous, the Director was requested to share the report with all the members, and it was agreed to review the report in the next BOG meeting.

The recommendations of the committee were as follows,

- 1) the Committee recommends to restore the services of Dr Ashutosh Kumar Singh, as an Assistant Professor of 8000/- AGP, since his joining at this post (i.e., 6.4.2013, his previous appointment before cancellation). The office order of IIITA Dated 19th June 2017 is, therefore, null and void.
- 2) the Committee recommends that Dr. Singh should be given one-time promotion. The institute should designate him as Associate professor in 9000 AGP in pay band IV (provided he should fulfil the criteria of AGP 9000) by giving him one-time promotion as per MHRD Letter no 23-01/2008-TS-II dated 18.8.2009 since 6.4.2016 i.e. after three years of his appointment 8000 AGP.
- 3) the Committee suggests to constitute another committee to look into the huge expenditure taken in this case.
- 4) the Committee feels, the above recommendation shall not be taken as precedence, as per the clause 8 C of Hon'ble Apex court decision.

The matter was put up in the 22nd BoG Meeting vide Agenda Item No. 22.11. As per the resolution of the BoG, the report of the Committee was circulated to the members of BoG vide email dated 11.01.2023.

The comments as received from one of the BoG members, Dr Manindra Agrawal, via email were as follows,

"The committee correctly observes that SC had set aside the decisions of IIITA BoG taken wrt appointments of faculty in 2013. At the same time, there are some important aspects of SC decision, and consequent BoG actions, that require highlighting:

- 1) The SC observed in its judgement (para 2, page 3): "All that the appellants should have done is to make available a copy of Status Report discussed in the Eighth Board meeting which led to the cancellation of their appointments and afford an opportunity of making a representation and hearing. Short of that, the appellant-institute has taken several other steps. Maybe they have intended well but worked out poorly. The teachers could not have been issued the show-cause notices based on any decision taken subsequent to the judgement. Accordingly, these appeals are disposed of as follows:



- The appellant-Institute shall serve a copy of the Status Report discussed in the Eighth Board meeting to the affected teachers forthwith and also provide a further period of two weeks for making a fresh representation. On receipt of representations, the affected teachers shall be given an opportunity of hearing on all the aspects referred to in the Status Report and on the reasons for termination as referred to in the Eight Board meeting. Thereafter, the Board shall take a fresh decision in the case of each individual in accordance with law. ..."
- 2) From above, it is clear that the SC asked the Board to give an opportunity of hearing to each affected faculty and take a fresh decision on each case individually. The BoG did exactly that in a subsequent Board meeting. In that meeting, apart from representative of the ministry, a lawyer was also present to advice on the legality of decision on each case. The decision taken in that Board meeting were implemented and have remained unchallenged in courts.
- Therefore, I do not agree with the conclusion of the FFC, particularly 8. (C) 2, that even makes allegations of forgery at multiple places.
- 3) The well-established norms in institutions like IIT, IIIT, NIT are that appointments are made on the basis of recommendations of a selection committee consisting of experts. Only rarely does the Board directly appoint a faculty and that too in case the faculty is of very high caliber and the appointment by the Board is more like an invitation to the faculty to join the institute. I do not believe that the present case falls in this category."

On circulation of the draft minutes Dr Manindra Agrawal provided two more reasons for his note of dissent,

- 4) The provision for relaxing criteria to appoint someone at 8000 AGP clearly states that it be done for "exceptionally outstanding candidates as assessed by the selection committee." The present case does not fall in this category as a perusal of the CV of Dr Singh makes obvious.
- 5) The selection committee that appointed Dr Singh was not as per the norms as it had members that were neither Board nor Senate nominees. Hence, the recommendation of the selection committee is invalid.

The BoG did not accept the strong words like "allegations of forgery" used by the fact-finding committee report as pointed out by Dr. Manindra Agrawal.

Dr. T. Lahiri was of the opinion that the "the agenda no. 23.04 that may be taken up in the normal BOG proceeding only." However, the Chairman Decided to take up this agenda as it was long pending issue which needed redressal.

Other than Dr. Manindra Agrawal and Dr. T. Lahiri no member of the BoG commented on the report of the fact-finding committee as circulated among the Board members. Further the BoG discussed on all the four recommendations of the committee.

The first recommendation of the fact-finding committee which was about, to restore the services of Dr Ashutosh Kumar Singh, as an Assistant Professor of 8000/- AGP, since his joining at this post i.e., 6.4.2013, as per his previous appointment before cancellation of his appointment. The Board of Governors considered the provision vide Note (4) of the advertisement published vide Advt. No.: FS-01/2013 (Annexure-1) which states that "Minimum requirement of qualifications and/or experience can be relaxed in respect of exceptionally outstanding candidates as assessed by the selection committee." Dr. Manindra Agrawal and Dr. T. Lahiri expressed their note of dissent on the first recommendation of the committee. Other members agreed with the first recommendation of the fact-finding committee.

Resolution-1: As per the IIITA Statutes Clause 20(4), without counting the vote of the Secretary and the Chairman, the BoG resolved (with the majority vote of 7:2) to restore the services of Dr Ashutosh Kumar Singh as an Assistant Professor at AGP 8000 since 6.4.2013, which is the date of his previous appointment before cancellation. Other identical cases i.e. Dr. T. Pant, Dr. Shashi Kant Rai, and Dr. Saurabh Mishra are also be reinstated as Assistant Professor at AGP 8000 since 6.4.2013. The BoG also resolved to pay the arrears to all such FOUR (04) faculty members. In addition to candidates who were appointed as Assistant Professors, a few others were appointed as Associate Professors and Professors in 2013. However, as their cases were not in the ambit of Prof Choubey 's committee hence the BoG did not consider those cases. Dr. Manindra Agrawal and Dr. T. Lahiri expressed their note of dissent on this resolution of the Board.

Further the Chairman suggested the Board to consider the 2nd recommendation of the fact-finding committee into two parts as follows,

- 2.a. To move the AGP of Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh from 8000 in PB-III to 9000 in PB-IV.
- 2.b. To provide the designation of the Associate Professor to Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh as one time promotion as per MHRD Letter no 23-01/2008-TS-II dated 18.8.2009 since 6.4.2016 i.e. after three years of his appointment 8000 AGP.

On above point (2.a), the BoG was apprised that the institute in its 10th meeting of the Board of Management (BoM) held on 29th May 2014, vide Agenda Item No 9 (Annexure-2), adopted the four-tier flexible faculty structure with certain modifications and resolved that, "Assistant Professors on Completion of 3 years of services at AGP 8000/- at the institute on regular post shall move to the Pay Band-4, Rs 37400-Rs 67400 with AGP of Rs 9000 and will however, continue to be designated as Assistant Professor of the Institute with effect from the date of their eligibility." The BoM also resolved that "above modifications will be operationalized after an appropriate Ordinance/Act comes into effect." The underlined condition was expunged vide resolution against the Agenda Item 12 of 11th BoM meeting held on 14th oct 2014 (Annexure-3). Based on the resolution vide agenda item no 12 of 11th BoM in its 11th meeting held on 14th oct 2014, the then Director IIIT Allahabad, Prof. Somenath Biswas issued an Office Order vide F.N. IIIT-A/ODIR/INT.156/2014 dated on 10th Nov 2014 (Annexure-4) for an automatic movement from AGP of Rs 8000/- to Rs 9000/- which was applicable on all the existing Assistant Professors of the Institute from the date of their eligibility. In effect to the 11th BoM resolution and, the Office Orders by the then Directors of IIIT Allahabad, FOURTEEN (14) Assistant Professors, namely Dr. Sanjeev B.S, Dr. Anurika Vaish, Dr. Madhavendra Misra, Dr. Vrijendra Singh, Dr. Pavan Chakraborty, Dr. Pritish Kumar Varadwaj, Dr. Neetesh

Singh

Purohit, Dr. Vijaishri Tiwari, Dr. Sanaji Singh, Dr. Rajat Kumar Singh, Dr. Vijay Kumar Chaurasia, Dr. Manish Kumar, Dr. Abhishek Vaish, and Dr. S. Venkatesan were automatically moved to AGP Rs 9000 from AGP Rs 8000 After Completion of 3 Years at AGP Rs 8000 (Annexure-5). It was reported that even though the BoG in its 8th Meeting held on 17th May 2018 vide Agenda Item 8.12 approved the movement of the AGP of EIGHT (08) Assistant Professors from 8000 to 9000, this was not implemented as yet. There was a letter sent to the Ministry of Education for which a reply has not been received. Mr Priyank Chaturvedi, representing Ministry of Education agreed to look at the reasons for the holdup. The BoG was also apprised that the same modified four-tier flexible faculty structure as adopted by the IIIT-A vide agenda item 12 of the 11th BoM was enforced till Oct 2017, and all the faculty members recruited between 10th Nov 2014 to 27th Oct 17 were getting the salary as per the same BoM's resolution. After the 7th CPC Order for CFTIs vide F.No.15-4/2017 TC, dated on 27th Oct 2017 (Annexure-6) the new pay structure was adopted and applied on the faculty members superseding the earlier Office Order issued vide F.N. IIIT-A/ODIR/INT.156/2014 dated on 10th Nov 2014. The opinion of the individual Board members was invited by the Chairman regarding the automatic pay movement. Prof. T. Lahiri expressed his note of dissent.

Resolution-2: The BoG accepted the recommendation 2.a and as per the IIITA Statutes Clause 20(4), without counting the vote of the Secretary and the Chairman, the BoG resolved (with the majority vote of 8:1) to automatically move Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh from AGP Rs 8000 to AGP Rs 9000 after completing 3 years of services at AGP Rs 8000 in the institute. The BoG resolved that all such eligible faculty members at AGP Rs 8000 (including the other 8 Assistant Professors) completing the service of 3 years before 27th Oct 2017 i.e. the date of enactment of the 7th CPC Order for CFTIs vide F.No.15-4/2017 TC will move to AGP Rs 9000. The BoG also resolved to pay the arrears to all such faculty members after approval from the Ministry of Education and after the necessary funds are released by the Ministry. Prof. T. Lahiri expressed his note of dissent on this resolution of the Board.

On above point (2.b), the BoG was apprised that although a Career Advancement Scheme came for IIITs in 2009 and was adopted by other IIITs but was not adopted by IIIT Allahabad and never applied to the institute faculty members rather IIIT Allahabad adopted modified four tier flexible faculty structure. There are no provisions in the institute for the automatic promotions from Assistant Professor at AGP Rs 8000 to Associate Professor at AGP Rs 9000. All the Associate Professors in the institute got appointed following open selection process with proper selection committee recommendations and due selection process as per the rules.

Resolution-3: As per the IIITA Statutes Clause 20(4), without counting the vote of the Secretary and the Chairman, the BoG resolved (with the majority vote of 8:1) not to accept the recommendation by the fact-finding committee to promote Dr Ashutosh Kumar Singh to the post of Associate Professor at AGP Rs 9000. He would be considered eligible to apply for the post of Associate Professor when the next selection committee is set up, potentially after the full-time Director takes over. However, considering the huge career loss, the board decided Prof Ashutosh Kumar Singh and the four other candidates considered here can directly apply for the Professor position in the coming faculty advertisement. The minimum eligibility criterion in terms of the teaching experience for post of the Professor, that 4 years' experience as an associate



professor of 9500/- grade pay or 7 years experience as an associate professor of 9000/- grade pay, is relaxed for them. Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Singh shall also be eligible to apply for the post of the Associate Professor at AGP Rs 9500 at IIIT Allahabad if he feels so. The same resolution is applicable on other THREE (03) identical cases of the faculty members i.e., Dr. T. Pant, Dr. Shashi Kant Rai, and Dr. Saurabh Mishra. Prof. T. Lahiri expressed his note of dissent on this resolution of the Board.

The BoG also discussed the 3rd and 4th Recommendation of the fact-finding committee and further resolved as under,

Resolution-4: The BoG resolved unanimously not to accept the 3rd recommendation of the fact-finding committee as the BoG did not think it was appropriate to second guess the decisions of the previous Boards and that there was no positive benefit in investigating the past.

Resolution-5: The BoG resolved unanimously not to accept the 4th recommendation of the fact-finding committee. It resolved unanimously that resolutions (1)-(3) as taken by the BoG under the agenda item 23.04 will be applicable to all other eligible/identical cases.

The Board unanimously decided not to accept any comments made in the report that were derogatory and insinuating to the previous Board and the individual members of the Board. The Board felt that the Committee was formed with a limited charter of recommending the next steps in Dr Ashutosh Singh's case, everything else was beyond their charter. Board felt that it had no authority to judge the competence or the intent of previous Board Members, and investigating the same would provide no benefit.

23.05 Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Two agenda were considered and discussed under the any other agenda item,

23.05 S[1]: To consider the report and the recommendations as made by the committee constituted vide Office Order No. IIIT-A/RO/396/2022, Dated on 25th November 2022 in compliance of resolution taken by the BoG in its 21st Special Meeting vide agenda 21.03.

The Director and the Chairman received the report from the above committee on March 11th, after the agenda was circulated. Considering the importance of the matter, the Chairman recommended to the Secretary to share the report with the members of the Board. He agreed to discuss this matter as any other agenda item. The BoG was apprised that, since the additional 50 students admitted by IIIT Allahabad under FAP without the approval of the BoG, are now moving to the 2nd semester, a decision on FAP essentially must be taken without any further delay. Further, the Board was apprised that a committee was constituted by the Director IIIT Allahabad vide Office Order No. IIIT-A/RO/396/2022, Dated 25th November 2022, in compliance with the resolution taken by the BoG in its 21st Special Meeting vide agenda 21.03. The committee consisted of Prof. L. K. Mishra (Dean Academics) MNNIT Allahabad, Prof. S. N. Singh (Director) IIITM Gwalior, and Prof. Shalabh (Dean Academics) IIT Kanpur. The committee was requested,

1. To review the gaps observed in implementing FAP so that changes can be incorporated as the batches move through the program.



2. To review the reasons for the procedural lapses of not getting BoG and Finance Committee approval for (a) the formation of section 8 company, (b) the framework for transaction between section 8 company and Institute, and (c) approval for the flexible academic program.

The committee met several times in IIIT Allahabad and interacted on FAP and Section 8 Company with various faculty members, including the senators, non-senators, and Prof. Neetesh Purohit, the then Dean of Academic Affairs. The committee enquired about the matter and submitted its report (SIX pages) to the Director IIIT Allahabad on 11th March 2023, along with the 5 appendixes in a sealed envelope. The same was circulated among the Board members on 17th March 2023.

The recommendation of the committee, as provided on the FA,P were as follows,

F_a) The program should have been started after getting the due approvals of the senate and BoG/FC which is not the case. Since the program has already started with 50 extra students in two UG branches, it is better to merge them into the respective branches as proposed in the white paper of FAP.

F_b) There may be JEE(Mains) merit violation, and many students may object in the implementation of the proposal in (a) above. So, the committee proposes the following alternative solution keeping in mind the infrastructure burden, merit list violation, welfare of the students, etc.:

First, merge all the students to their respective old branches (IT and ECE with supernumerary seats), which is also mentioned in the white paper. Create supernumerary seats (say 20 seats) in the BTech (IT-Business Informatics) program of the institute. All the existing students should be given the option of branch change on a merit basis after the first semester result as per the institute rule and procedure. This will have a limited burden on IT and ECE departments and should have supernumerary seats to accommodate them.

It is important to note that this arrangement is being created only for the current batch of students and should not be continued further.

F_c) The course taken by the current batch of first year/first semester of FAP should be merged suitably with other courses by providing a course equivalency by the Institute. The students who have passed the course should not be asked to repeat any course of the non-FAP program to provide the equivalency of the courses. The institute is advised to make necessary arrangements for meeting the academic requirements of those FAP students who have not cleared their academic requirements for moving to the next semester. No additional academic burden should be imposed on the FAP students in merging with the ongoing regular academic programs. It is strongly recommended that the FAP students should be merged from their second semester of AY 2022-23 with the non-FAP (normal) students.

F_d) Institute may take suitable action to avoid any unrest and misunderstanding among the students.

F_e) The FAP program in the present format and structure should be discontinued from the Academic year 2023-24.

The recommendation of the committee as provided by the committee on the Section 8 were as follows,

S8_a) Final Memorandum of Association and Article of Association of any Section 8 Company were never presented, discussed, and approved by the Board of Governors and Finance Committee.



S8_b) At the time of registration of the company in the Article of Association, it is to be noted that instead of seven ex-officio members, only five members in their personal capacity became the BoDs.

S8_c) As Prof. Nagabhushan, who was the Director of the Institute, resigned from the company, and the sanctity of the IIC became questionable.

S8_d) The transfer of the balance amount of the TIDE project of the account of the section 8 company used for the FAPIS is unacceptable.

S8_e) The section 8 company should be used for the purpose of IIC as approved in 12th Board's meeting held on 17th May 2018 vide agenda number 12.04. FAPIS should not be the part of the section 8 company.

S8_f) A fresh BoDs of IIC should be nominated and approved by BoG/FC as per rules.

The committee also recommended to debar Prof. Neetesh Purohit from any administrative post for at least five years.

Prof. Shalabh, the Dean (Academics) IIT Kanpur and one of the members of the three-member committee as mentioned above, was the special invitee to the 23rd BoG meeting for this agenda only. At the request of the Chairman BoG, Prof. Shalabh presented the observations and the findings by the committee. Lots of deliberations happened in the BoG meeting the Board's observations are summarised as follows,

The Board of Governors observed that Dr. Neetesh Purohit as Dean (Academics) was responsible for implementing the New Education Policy 2020 through the FAP program. The Board expected that when launching a critical program, the Dean(A) must prepare a detailed docket with information of the program and its implementation in consultation with the stakeholders like the Departments. The docket must be shared with all Senators in advance and present the program for Senate consideration. However, a systematic process was not followed in obtaining the Senate approval.

The Board expected the Dean(A) to prepare a detailed report outlining the infrastructure and financial requirements for launching a program, but only partial information was shared with the Finance Committee and approvals were not comprehensive.

The Director shared with the Board and the Three-Member-Committee that being new to the Institute, he did not get adequate information and time to study the seat matrix for JoSA and was forced to sign the same under deadline pressure. The Board observed that it was the responsibility of Dr. Purohit to provide complete and detailed information to the Director and enough time to review the documents so that important documents are signed and submitted after a thorough review.

The Board accepted that there were no BoG meetings between April-22 and November-22, but the Dean(A) could have taken approval by circulation well in advance before submitting the seat matrix to JoSSA. Documents submitted to the Board during the November meeting were not convincing, and the Board could observe that all internal members were not aligned with this program.

IIC, a Section 8 Company at arm's length from the Institute, was entrusted with creating software and working on admissions for FAP. This arrangement is unusual and did not have prior approvals. The Board believes



that FAP being an IIIT A program the Institute must take responsibility for implementing it. IIIC charter is related to start-ups, incubation, and innovation, and the Company must have no role in implementing FAP.

The Board also agreed that, FAP, when initiated, was a unique and pioneering IIIT-A program to provide students with the flexibility in choosing institutions and courses and was an excellent attempt to implement NEP. With the widespread deployment of NEP, FAP must be implemented for all students rather than just a few specifically selected in the program. The Board observed that Prof Purohit had no malicious intentions and displayed entrepreneurial spirit, and worked hard on creating and implementing this program. In spirit, he was working in the best interest of the Institute. There were no obvious financial wrongdoings.

Resolution-1: The BoG resolved unanimously that the New Education Policy 2020 be adopted by the Institute from July 2022 batch onwards and applied uniformly across all UG programs. There is no need for a specific FAP batch and all students will have the flexibility as per NEP2020 as per the implementation guidelines of the Institute Senate.

Resolution-2: The BoG resolved unanimously that the 50 extra B.Tech IT/ECE students admitted under the FAP program in 2022 will be subsumed in the respective regular B.Tech IT and ECE branches and will study all the courses together with other programs as offered by the Institute. It was agreed that the flexibility granted by the New Education Program, promised to the FAP students will be provided to all B.Tech students who joined IIIT Allahabad in 2022.

Resolution-3: The BoG resolved unanimously that at the time graduating, the 50 students admitted under the FAP in 2022 will have degree certificates that indicate that, "Student was admitted to the B.Tech IT OR ECE program under the FAP in 2022".

Resolution-4: The BoG resolved unanimously that the Section 8 Company, IIIC has no role to play in the implementation of FAP or the NEP. Any software like FAPIS or FAP-QRS needed for the implementation of the program must be developed by IIIT Allahabad. The Institute has already registered to the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) of Ministry of Education.

Resolution-5: The BoG resolved unanimously that the IIIC, the section 8 company or any company should not have any role in implementing the Flexible Academic Program. The Company will continue to pursue startups, innovations and other activities as per the charter of the Company. The implementation of the NEP program shall be done by the Institute through its statutory bodies like Academic Departments, Senate, FC, and BoG.

Resolution-6: The BoG resolved unanimously that all the details and compliances of the IIIC to be examined by a two-member committee consisting of the Chairman BoG and JR(FA) IIITA.

Resolution-7: The BoG resolved unanimously not to penalize Dr Neetesh Purohit rather issue a letter of caution through the Chairman BoG to help him improve his behavior and mode of working. He may also be advised to seek help through a coach. Prof. T. Lahiri expressed his note of dissent on this resolution of the Board.




23.05 S[2]: Advertisement for the Post of Registrar IIIT Allahabad.


The agenda was moved by the Chairman BoG and taken up by the BoG unanimously for further discussions. The BoG was apprised about the one-member committee headed by Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe report in the case of recent Registrar's selection by the institute. The report was circulated among all the members of the BoG via email by the Secretary on direction of the Chairman BoG. The BoG discussed on the issue generated due to conflict of interest during to recent Registrar's selection process by the Institute, when a person holding the charge of the Registrar applied for the position of Registrar against an advertisement by the Institute and huge mess got created.


Resolution: The BoG resolved unanimously that, (a) To avoid the conflict of interest, the person holding the charge of Registrar should not apply for the position of the Registrar of IIIT Allahabad in future; (b) The new director should advertise for the position of Registrar as soon as he joins the institute; and (c) No further approval of BoG is required to advertise for the position of the Registrar of IIIT Allahabad. However, the associated DoPT/Govt. rules and regulations to be followed.


The proceedings of the meeting were summarized by the Hon'ble Chairman BoG and recorded by the Secretary BoG. Hon'ble Chairman Board of Governors thanked all the members present in the meeting for their active participation to resolve some very important issues.

The meeting ended with thanks to Chair.


Dr. Satish Kumar Singh
Secretary, BOG, IIIT-A


Prof. R.S. Verma
Director, IIIT-A


Dr. Anand Deshpande
Chairman, BoG, IIIT-A


12.4.23
Prof. M.S. Sutaone



Appendix-I
List of Medals and Merit Certificates

(a) List of Institute Medalists

Chairman's Gold Medal for the Year- 2022	
Gold	Kingsuk Bag (IEC2018001)
Institute Medals	
B.Tech (IT)	Gold - Abhishek Manish Singh (IIT2018043) Silver - Manthan Raju Surkar (IIT2018040) Bronze - Rohini Mishra (IIT2018087)
B.Tech (ECE)	Gold - Kingsuk Bag (IEC2018001) Silver - Abhigyan Sharma (IEC2018073) Bronze - Vivek Kumar Mehta (IEC2018093)
M.Tech (IT)	Gold - Achyut Dubey (MIT2020082) Silver - Samiksha Gupta (MIT2020105) Bronze - Ankita Shah (MIT2020097)
M.Tech (ECE)	Gold - Ritika Choubey (MEC2020021) Silver - Sudhanshu Kumar (MEC2020015) Bronze - Shreyasi Ghosh (MEC2020005)
MBA	Gold - Mehvish Fatima (IMB2020029) Silver - Anviksha Tiwari (IMB2020017) Bronze - Nadira Khan (IMB2020034)
5 Year Dual Degree B. Tech. M. Tech.	Gold - Mridul Mahajan (IIM2017501) Silver - Prabhakar Kumar (IRM2017008) Bronze - Arya Krishnan (ICM2017501)

(b) List of Endowment Medalist for Year 2022

Nobel Laureate Prof. Claude Cohen Tannoudji Gold Medal	Pranjali Bhargava (IEC2018072)
Prof. Joelle Cohen Tannoudji Gold Medal	Tanu Singh (MBI2020008)
Dr. T.C. M. Pillay Memorial Gold Medal	Manthan Raju Surkar (IIT2018040)
Prof. Dr.Ing. Matthias Kleiner Gold Medal	Prateek Mishra (IIT2018199)
Megha Goyal Memorial Gold Medal	Swarnam Sinha (IEC2018017)

(c) The names of the merit certificate holders

5 Years Dual Degree B.Tech. MBA Program Students recommended for Award of Merit Certificates Academic Batch July 2017- June 2022	First Rank - Mr. Harsh Aryan (ITM2017003) Second Rank - Ms. Sneha Mishra (ITM2017004)
M. Tech. - B1 Program Students recommended for Award of Merit Certificates Academic Batch July 2020- June 2022	First Rank - Mr. Jay Vyas (MBI2020016) Second Rank - Mr. Gaurav Singariya (MBI2020012)
M. Tech.- DSA Program Students recommended for Award of Merit Certificates Academic Batch Jan. 2021- Dec.-2022	First Rank - Mr. Prakhar Agrawal (IDS2021907) Second Rank - Mr. Akshay Kumar (IDS2021908)

Singh