



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AGARTALA
WEST TRIPURA, PIN: 799046

*Minutes of the 34th Meeting of the
Board of Governors
held on September 24, 2015*

At Conference Hall of NIT Transit House, New Delhi

The 34th meeting of the Board of Governors of the National Institute of Technology Agartala was held on September 24, 2015 at 11.30 am in the Conference Hall of NIT Transit House, New Delhi.

The following members were present in the meeting:

- (1) Prof. Deepak B. Phatak : Chairperson, BoG of NIT Agartala
- (2) Prof. Gopal Mugeraya : Member, Director of NIT, Agartala
- (3) Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma : Director (NITs), MHRD, Govt. of India
(Representative of Special Secretary / Additional Secretary / Joint Secretary dealing with Technical Education, Dept. of Higher Education, MHRD)
- (4) Shri Rajesh Singh : Director (Finance), MHRD, Govt. of India,
(Representative of Financial Advisor, Dept. of Higher Education, MHRD, Govt. of India).
- (5) Prof. A. Srinivasan : Professor, Dept. of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati (nominee of the Director, IIT Guwahati).
- (6) Prof.(Mrs) Uma Bhattacharya : Member, Professor, Dept. of Computer Science & Technology, IEST, Shibpur, West Bengal.
- (7) Prof. Richi Prasad Sharma : Member, Professor, Civil Engg. Dept., NIT, Agartala and Registrar
- (8) Dr. John Deb Barma : Member, Asst. Professor, ME Dept., NIT Agartala.

Shri Samarjit Bhowmik, Secretary to the Government of Tripura, Dept. of Higher Education; and Shri Alok Roy Choudhury, Addl. Chief Engineer, PWD, Government of Tripura, could not attend the meeting.

Prof. Deepak B. Phatak, Chairperson, Board of Governors, NIT Agartala, presided over the meeting and welcomed all the Members of the Board of Governors.

The Chairperson on recommendation of the 17th Senate Meeting held on 22nd April 2015 in its Item No. S/17/3/A and with the approval of the BoG Members present in the meeting invited Prof. R. P.

Sharma, Professor, Civil Engineering Dept. and Dr. John Deb Barma, Asst. Professor, Mechanical Engineering Dept. of NIT Agartala in the meeting as nominated faculty representatives to the Board of Governors (BoG). As decided in 26th Finance Committee meeting Prof. R.P Sharma will represent the Board in Building and Works Committee (BWC) and Dr. John Deb Barma will represent Board in Finance Committee (FC).

It was informed to the Board by the Director that Prof R.P Sharma, Prof Civil Engineering Department of the Institute assumed the additional charge of Registrar with effect from 19th September 2015 (F/N) after relieving Shri Sumanta Chakrabarti, Deputy Registrar from his additional charge as Registrar In-charge. The Chairperson thanked and appreciated the previous Registrar In-charge., NIT Agartala, Shri Sumanta Chakrabarti, for his contributions.

Dean of Faculty Affair of NIT Agartala, Dr. Debasish Bhattacharya was invited in the meeting to assist the Registrar in presenting the Agenda Items before the Board.

The Chairperson then invited the Director and the Registrar to initiate discussions on Agenda items.

Item No. 34.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 33rd (Special) Board of Governors Meeting of NIT Agartala.

The minutes of the 33rd Meeting of the Board of Governors, held on April 13, 2015 was circulated among the Members. No comments/views/suggestions were received from the Members of BoG. So, the minutes of 33rd Board of Governors meeting was confirmed without any modification.

Item No. 34.2: Action taken on the decision of the 32nd and 33rd (Special) Board of Governors meeting held on January 17, 2015 and April 13, 2015 respectively.

The BoG noted the action taken report on the decisions of the 32nd and 33rd BoG meetings with the following observations/ comments.

On Action Taken report of 32nd meeting of Board of Governors

- (i) In respect of Audit Report of the Institute for the year 2013-14 (Item No. 32.5 under 34.2), the Board reiterated the decision taken in the 26th FC meeting in Agenda Item No.26.5 of FC and requested the Institute to act accordingly.



- (ii) Regarding 100% waving of tuition fees for SC/ST students studying in M.Tech, Dual Degree and PhD programme at NIT Agartala (Item No. 32.11 under 34.2), the Board suggested to act as per the directives contained in MHRD letter NoF.33-4/2014-TS.III, dated 16th June, 2015.
- (iii) Regarding PIRD Complaint against Prof. Probir Kumar Bose, Ex-Director of NIT Agartala (Item No. 32.16.9 under 34.2) as per decision of the Board, Prof A. Srinivasan, Board Member in collaboration with Prof. R.P Sharma, Board Member from Institute side, submitted a fact finding report to the Chairman Board of Governors for further necessary action. The Chairman apprised the Board that he will peruse the report submitted by Prof A. Srinivasan and forward the same to the MHRD with his observations.

On Action Taken report of 33rd meeting of Board of Governors

- (i) Regarding Court Cases filed against NIT Agartala and Union of India at the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura, the Board directed that these are very important matters and have to be dealt with utmost care in a time bound manner, always keeping in touch with the Central Government Counsel of Learned Advocates at the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura. In this regard, the Institute shall constitute a Legal Cell for looking after the Court Cases and other legal issues pertaining to the Institute so that para wise reply of the filed cases may be sent to the learned Counsel of Advocates well in time and ensuring timely submission of Counter Affidavit in the Hon'ble Court.
- (ii) Further, as observed in FC Agenda, it is reiterated that all the Items in the action taken report are to be placed serially, and there should not be any missing Item. If, in respect of any Item no action was deemed necessary, the same must be mentioned.

Item No. 34.3: To consider the recommendations of the minutes of 17th Senate meeting of NIT Agartala held on April 22, 2015.

The BoG approved the recommendations of the minutes of 17th Senate meeting of NIT Agartala.

The Board of Governors accepted the nomination of two faculty members namely, Dr. Richi Prasad Sharma, Professor and Dr. John DebBarma, Assistant Professor from Senate to BoG of NIT Agartala.



BoG nominated Dr. Richi Prasad Sharma, Professor, NIT Agartala as representative of the Board in Building & Works Committee and Dr. John Deb Barma, Assistant Professor, NIT Agartala as its representative in FC of NIT Agartala.

Item No. 34.4: To consider the recommendations of the minutes of 33rd and 34th Building & Works Committee meeting of NIT Agartala.

The Board observed that minutes of the BWC should be placed before it as per the provisions of statutes. Items which require administrative approval should be placed as separate agenda in the meeting of the Board, while items which involves financial implications, should be placed through FC. BoG noted the minutes of 33rd and 34th meeting along with the above observations. The Board also requested Director to convene BWC, FC and BoG frequently so that decisions are taken in time and agenda does not become too long.

Item No. 34.5: To consider the recommendations of the minutes of 26th Finance Committee meeting of NIT Agartala.

BoG noted that FC has recommended the Chairperson of BoG ask for an explanation from the Chairman, BWC on item number 34.7 of 34th BWC. It has been decided that the Chairperson will peruse the same and initiate an enquiry, if required. The Board also observed that the FC has mentioned that that provisions of GFR, Act, Statutes and relevant instructions of Government of India should be adhered to strictly. It was also noted that process of requirement determination and estimate preparation should be more thorough and sound. Hence, NITA should revamp the above procedures. It is also suggested that the Director should ensure that minutes are prepared properly henceforth. BoG approved the recommendations of the minutes of 26th FC meeting of NIT Agartala held on September 24, 2015.

Item No. 34.6: To consider the appointments made and job assigned by the Director to different employees of NIT Agartala for ratification of the Board.

As per Statutes, the Chairperson of BoG may assume the power of the Board in case of emergent situation. Hence, all such cases which are time bound and hence, cannot wait for meeting of the BoG, may be got approved by the Chairperson, which can be ratified by the Board in subsequent meeting. However, BoG perused and ratified the appointments made and job assigned by the Director, NIT Agartala to different employees of NIT Agartala.



Item No. 34.7: To consider EPF Contribution for those Contractual staff whose remuneration is above Rs. 15000.00 per month.

The BoG observed that this proposal should have been routed through FC as it involves financial implications. However, considering that this is an important item, the Board took up the item for deliberations.

BoG approved the action taken by the Director, NIT Agartala regarding contribution of EPF amount as per Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 for the contractual employees working in NIT Agartala and whose monthly remuneration is up to Rs.15,000/-.

BoG, after detailed discussion on the proposal for allowing deposit of EPF contribution for contractual employees whose remuneration is above Rs.15,000/- per month, suggested that the Institute should follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India in this regard.

Item No. 34.8: Present Status of TEQIP-II Project of NIT Agartala.

The Board of Governors noted the present status of TEQIP-II Project of NIT Agartala.

Item No. 34.9: To consider the estimate for "Design, Supply, Construction, Erection, trial run and commissioning of water treatment plant of capacity 2.0 MLD and construction of overhead reservoirs, pipe laying work, construction of pump house including site development and boundary wall, electrical and mechanical component at NIT Agartala" at a cost of Rs, 1458.00 lakhs approximately.

BoG has observed that proper justification and estimates may be placed before FC first.

Item No. 34.10: To consider the estimate for the work "Revamping of lakes, water harvesting and beautification of water bodies in NIT Agartala" at a cost of Rs.1500.00 Lakh (Approx).

BoG noted that NIT Agartala has six lakes which are enriched by rain water. The proposed activity will help the rain water harvesting and recharging of ground water along with the improving aesthetic value of the campus. In principle, BoG approved the proposal. However, keeping in view of fund position, such activities may be carefully planned. Tentative estimates may be brought before BoG after due recommendations of FC.



Item No. 34.11: To consider the award of work “Up-gradation of the internal main road with both side footpath including side drain, electric post, bus stop, sitting arrangement at a certain interval & conduit from main gate-1 to auxiliary gate-2 via housing and boys hostel & auxiliary gate-2 to main gate-1 and auditorium to existing playground (old) at NIT Agartala” at a cost of Rs. 14,01,97,006.48.

The Board observed that above item was taken up in 32nd BWC, where the value of estimate was stated to be Rs 960 lacs and it was decided that the work be given to CPWD. In 33rd meeting of BWC, under ATN, it is mentioned that BWC approved for limited tender process for PSUs. The estimate of the work has also been increased from Rs.960 lacs to 1400 lacs. The Board was apprised that work has been awarded to Bridge and Roof Company with the approval of the Director, NITA. The chairman opined that he would meet the BWC to scrutinize the procedures followed by them, and steps to be taken, to ensure full compliance with CVC guidelines and GFR. Further, the Board resolved following:

1. The work order should be immediately cancelled for the work mentioned under this agenda point.
2. A fact finding inquiry by the Chairperson may be instituted after perusing the explanation from the Director, NITA, on the above issue.
3. BWC is asked to be more careful about work order procedures in future.

Item No. 34.12: To consider the General Provident Fund Rules for NIT Agartala Employees.

BoGin principle, agreed and approved the rules prepared by the institute. However it was suggested that a copy of the Draft Rules for maintaining GPF subscriptions of the staff members of NIT Agartala may be forwarded to the Director NITs, MHRD for perusal and suggesting any modifications if necessary. Then the same may be placed in the next Board Meeting for approval for implementation.

Item No. 34.13: Allowing of appropriate Grade Pay in pursuant to the restructuring of Non-Faculty cadre in NITs.

BoG approved the proposal for enhancement of appropriate Grade Pay along with MACP of 6(six) members of non-faculty staff of NIT Agartala.



Item No. 34.14: Any other item with permission of the Chair.

Item No. 34.14.1: Expansion of Campus Wide Networking (Phase III) of NIT Agartala for existing physical infrastructure and upcoming infrastructures under construction.

BoG discussed this issue and in principle approved the proposal of expansion of Campus Wide Networking (Phase III) of NIT Agartala for existing physical infrastructure and upcoming infrastructures under construction. BoG suggested to execute the work maintaining all due procedures and authorize the Director to take appropriate necessary action.


Item No. 34.14.2: Lodging of FIR against Prof Probir Kumar Bose, Ex-Director of NIT Agartala

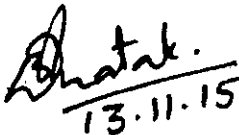
The Director has received a letter No.F.1-9/2013 TS.III, dated 24/08/2015 from MHRD asking to lodge an FIR against Prof.(Retd.) Probir Kumar Bose, Ex-Director of NIT Agartala.BoG discussed this issue and advised that NIT Agartala may seek guidance from MHRD on this matter.

Item No. 34.14.2: Appointment of Officer on Special Duty (OSD) on contract basis at NIT Agartala

As per the first statute of NIT clause 28 (2), the Board of NIT has the following powers for appointing personnel on contract: "The Board may appoint any person on contract in the prescribed scale of pay on terms and conditions applicable to the relevant post for a period not exceeding three years". Accordingly the interview for the post of Officer on Special Duty (OSD) on contract basis was held on 23rd September, 2015 at NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The selection committee appointed by the Chairman, BoG, NIT Agartala interviewed the candidate and recommended the name of Dr. N.K. Kole for this post. BoG approved the recommendation of the Selection Committee for appointment of Officer on Special Duty (OSD) on contract at NIT Agartala.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Prof. Richi Prasad Sharma)
Secretary
Board of Governors
& Registrar, NIT Agartala


(Prof. D. B. Phatak)
Chairperson
Board of Governors
NIT Agartala