

ASSOCIATION OF INDILAN UNIVERSITIES
90th ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the 90th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held on 5.2.2016 at 11:00 am at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar 388 120 District Anand, Gujarat.

As resolved by the Governing Council in its 338th Meeting held on February 4, 2016 at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, the Business Session of the 90th Annual Meeting was held on February 5, 2016 at 11:00 am instead of on 7th February, 2016. Further, in order to ensure that all members agreed to the change in the date and time of the Annual Meet (Business Session), a motion was moved by the Secretary General, which was agreed to by all the members (125) present.

Thus the meeting of the General Body (Business Session) was held on February 5, 2016 at 11:00 am and was chaired by Prof (Dr) Ranbir Singh, the President of the AIU. The Secretary General, with the permission of the Chair, read the rules relating to the procedure and quorum which are read as under:

Rule 5(b)(i) relating quorum for the Annual Meeting

5.(b) (i) The following rules shall be applicable to all General Body meetings of the Association:

- i. One third of the valid membership shall constitute the quorum. However, if a meeting of the General Body is adjourned for want of quorum, the General Body shall meet at the same place on the same day, half an hour afterwards or as announced by the President to transact the business on the agenda.

As the number of members present fell short of the requirement of the quorum, the members resolved to adjourn the meeting and resolved to meet at the same place on the same day half an hour after ward to transact the business of the Agenda.

The Adjourned Meeting of the General Body (Business Session) was held at 11:30 am on February 5, 2016 at the same place.

Further, the General Body (Business Session) resolved to condone the delay in circulation of the Agenda.

At the outset Prof (Dr) Ranbir Singh, President, AIU welcomed the members participating in the 90th Annual Meet at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar. He thanked Prof Harish Padh, Vice Chancellor of the host Sardar Patel University for making excellent arrangements for boarding, lodging and transport for delegates participating in the Meet.

Thereafter agenda items for the Business Session were taken up for discussion.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

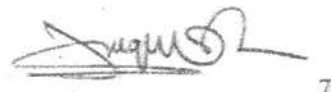
BS 01 To confirm the Minutes of the 89th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab on May 25, 2015.

Confirmed.

ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES

BS 02 To report action taken on the Minutes of the 89th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab on May 25, 2015.

Noted.



ITEMS TO REPORT

BS 03 To report that Prof. (Dr) Ranbir Singh, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi has taken over as the President of the Association of Indian Universities for a period of one year with effect from July 1, 2015.

[Note: The General Body of the Association at its 89th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab on May 25, 2015 nominated Prof. (Dr) Ranbir Singh, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi, Dwarka, New Delhi as President of the Association of Indian Universities for a period of one year with effect from 1.7.2015 to 30.06.2016.]

Noted.

BS 04 To report that Prof. (Dr) Ranbir Singh, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi, Dwarka, New Delhi will represent, in ex-officio capacity, on the following bodies:

1. All India Council of Technical Education, New Delhi
2. Central Board of Secondary Education, Governing Body, New Delhi
3. Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla
4. National Institute of Rural Development, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad
5. Ministry of PIO Committee to grant "Deemed University" status to de novo Universities set up by NRI/PIO.

Noted.

BS 05 To report that Prof D S Chauhan, Vice Chancellor, G L A University, Mathura has taken over as the Vice President of the Association of Indian Universities, for a period of one year with effect from July 1, 2015.

[Note: The General Body of the Association at its 89th Annual Meeting (Business Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara, Punjab on May 25, 2015 nominated Prof. D S Chauhan, Vice Chancellor, G L A University, Mathura as Vice President, AIU for a period of one year with effect from 1.7.2015 to 30.6.2016.]

Noted.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

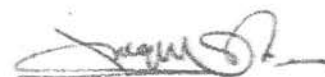
PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP

BS 06 To consider grant of provisional membership of the Association of Indian Universities to the following Universities.

1. State University of Performing and Visual Arts, Rohtak 124 001, Haryana
2. Madan Mohan Malviya University of Technology, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh,
3. K.R. Mangalam University, Gurgaon, Haryana
4. Shiv Nadar University, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP
5. University of Gaur Banga, Mokdumpur, West Bengal
6. Himalayan University, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh

Associate Membership

7. Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand.



[Note: The Governing Council at its 333rd Meeting held on May 20, 2015 approved grant of provisional membership of the Association to above universities and Associate Membership to Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand]

8. National Law University Odisha, Cuttack, Orissa
9. Karpagam University (Karapagam Academy of Higher Education), Coimbatore, TN
10. The SRM University Haryana, Sonapat, Haryana.

[Note: The Governing Council at 334th Meeting held on June 30, 2015 at AIU House, New Delhi approved grant of provisional membership of the Association to above Universities.]

- 11 Cotton College State University, Guwahati, Assam
- 12 R K D F University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- 13 Jagran Lakecity University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- 14 Uttaranchal University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- 15 IMS Unison University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- 16 Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University, Hadauri, UP
- 17 Venkateswara Open University, Arunachal Pradesh
- 18 R.K. University, Bhavnagar, Gujarat
- 19 Apex University of Professional Studies, Arunachal Pradesh

[Note: The Governing Council at its 335th Meeting held on September 29, 2015 at AIU House, New Delhi approved grant of provisional membership of the Association to above Universities.]

- 20 Raksha Shakti University, Ahmedabad 380 016, Gujarat
- 21 Sardar Patel University of Police Security & Criminal Justice, Jodhpur 342 304 Rajasthan
- 22 SunRise University, Tehsil Ramgarh, District Alwar 301 030, Rajasthan
- 23 Sri Satya Sai University of Technology & Medical Sciences, Pachama, Sehore 466 001, MP
- 24 Srinivas University, Srinivas Nagar, Mukka, Mangalore 5757 023, Karnataka
- 25 DIT University, Dehradun 248 009, Uttarakhand
- 26 Jagan Nath University, Jhajjar-Bahadurgarh Road, Jhajjar 124 507, Haryana
- 27 Madhav University, Tehsil Pindwara, District Sirahi 307 026, Rajasthan
- 28 Mohammad Ali Jauhar University, Jauhar Nagar, Rampur 244 901 Uttar Pradesh
- 29 Swami Rama Himalayan University, Dehradun 248 016 Uttarakhand
- 30 Bahra University, Wahnaghat, District Solan 173 234, Himachal Pradesh

[Note: The Governing Council at its 336th Meeting held on November 30, 2015 at AIU House, New Delhi approved grant of provisional membership of the Association to above Universities.]

- 31 Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Chennai 600 127, TN
- 32 C M R University, Bangalore 560 0043, Karnataka
- 33 Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune 411 008, Maharashtra
- 34 Presidency University, Bengaluru 560 089, Karnataka
- 35 Manipal University, Jaipur 303 307, Rajasthan
- 36 P E S University, Bangalore - 560 062, Karnataka

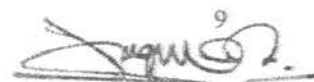
[Note: The Governing Council at its 337th Meeting held on December 18, 2015 at National Law University, Delhi, Dwarka, New Delhi approved grant of provisional membership of the Association to above Universities.

Noted and approved.

BS 07 To receive the Annual Report of the Secretary General, AIU for the year 2014-15.

Accepted.

Annexure 7.01



BUDGETS.

BS 08 To consider the Revised Estimates for the year 2015-16 and the Budget Estimates for the year 2016-17 in respect of the following Budgets along-with relevant schedules:

- AIU Main Budget
- Non Plan Budget
- Plan Budget
- Youth Affairs Budget
- Sports Budget

[Note: A schedule showing the designation, pay bands, total expenditure on salaries along with notes on the Budgets in respect of RE 2015-16 & BE 2016-17 is enclosed. The provision of DA, Bonus, Children Education Allowance, vacant positions etc. is made in the Budgets.

The Finance Committee agreed to the RE 2015-16 & BE 2016-17 with the final approval that the allocation for the Staff Car under the Budget Head 'Furniture/Office Equipment' be enhanced to Rs. 15 lacs and recommends it to the Governing Council for its approval.

The GC at its 335th meeting held on 29.09.2015 at AIU House under item No.335/09(01) approved the minutes of the Finance Committee.

This was followed by approval in the 336th Governing Council meeting held on 30.11.2015 for granting additional assistant of Rs.30.00 lacs (@ Rs.5.00 lacs each) to host universities for organizing 5 Zonal and 1 National UNIFESTs 2015-16 from AIU Fund.]

Annexure 09.01

Approved.

RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS, INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS, BALANCE SHEET

BS 09. (a) To consider the Receipt and Payment Account, Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet, Audit Report and Points for Attention for the Management in respect of AIU including AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme for the year 2014-15 received from M/s. Sanjay Satpal & Associates, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi, AIU Auditors.

The Accounts of the Association for the Financial Year 2014-15 were considered by the Finance Committee in its meeting dated 28.9.2015 and after due deliberations the same were recommended for approval of the Governing Council:

The GC at its 335th meeting held on 29.09.2015 at AIU House under item No.335/09(01) approved the minutes of the Finance Committee.

(b) To consider the Revenue Account, Balance Sheet along-with audit report for the year 2014-15 in respect of AIU Provident Fund Trust received from M/s. P S Bajaj & Company, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi.

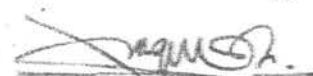
The Finance Committee in its meeting held on 28.9.2015 considered the Revenue Account, Balance Sheet along with the Audit Report - AIU PF Trust of the Statutory Auditors and recommends it to the Governing Council for its approval.

The GC at its 335th meeting held on 29.09.2015 at AIU House under item No.335/09(01) approved the minutes of the Finance Committee.

Annexure 9.01

Approved.

BS 10 To consider the appointment of AIU Auditors for the Financial Year 2015-16 in respect of AIU, AIU PF Trust and AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme.



[Note: The Accounts of AIU and AIU Provident Fund Trust for the Financial Year 2014-15 were audited by M/s Sanjay Satpal & Associates, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi on a remuneration of Rs.20000/- & Rs.7500/- respectively. The remuneration for auditing the accounts of AIU and AIU Provident Fund Trust was fixed in the year 2008-09. There is no revision in the audit fee for the last six years. The services of the Statutory Auditors (M/s. Sanjay Satpal & Associates) have been satisfactory.

A Gazette notification dated 30.1.0.2003 received from EPFO stating that "The same auditors should not be appointed for two consecutive years and not more than two years in a block of six years in respect of accounts of Employees Provident Fund Trust" is placed below for kind consideration of the members.

The Auditors for AIU including AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme and AIU Provident Fund Trust may accordingly be finalized.

The Finance Committee recommended to the Governing Council that M/s Sanjay Satpal & Associates, CA be appointed as Statutory Auditors for AIU and AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme and M/s Girish Neelam & Associates, CA be appointed as Statutory Auditors for AIU Provident Fund Trust for the FY 2015-16.

Further, the Finance Committee authorised the President & Secretary General, AIU to approve appropriate Audit Fee after comparing the audit fee being paid by the organisations having similar volume of transactions as that of AIU.

The fees for works other than audit fee as shown in the enclosed statement such as procurement of FCRA Return, UCs, Income Tax Returns, Exemption Forms, Assessment Proceedings and Consultation etc. from Statutory Auditors shall be on mutual agreed charges/terms.

The GC at its 335th meeting held on 29.09.2015 at AIU House under item No.335/09(01) approved the minutes of the Finance Committee.]

Approved,

ITEMS TO REPORT

BS 11 To report the Appellate Order issued by the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals) (Exemptions) in respect of Assessment Year 2010-11.

[Note: During the course of assessment proceedings for the AY 2010-11, the Assessing Officer issued number of notices u/s 143(2) of IT Act, 1961. All the notices were complied with by submitting the requisite documents, details and explanations called for. The books of accounts were also produced before the Assessing Officer through our Statutory Auditors.

This was followed by a Notice of Demand of Tax for Rs.51,44,921/- for the AY 2010-11 under section 156 of Income Tax Act, 1961 from the DDIT (Exemption) along with Assessment Order u/s 143(3) dated 23.3.13 by stating:

"Your application for stay has been considered and in view of the facts of the same and circumstances stated by you, the petition for stay is rejected. You are directed to deposit at least 50% of the outstanding demand within 7(seven) days of receipt of this letter and balance 50% shall remain stayed till the disposal of appeal before the CIT (Appeal) or six months whichever is earlier subject to fulfillment of first condition that 50% of demand is deposited within seven days of receipt of this letter. In case you fail to deposit such demand, coercive measures including attachment of your bank accounts shall be resorted to."

An appeal under Form No. 35 (No. 189/13-14 U/S 250 of the Income Tax Act 1961) was filed by the Association on 25.4.2013 before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeal) against the Assessment Order issued by the Assessing Officer.



The matter was personally discussed with DDIT(E) by the Statutory Auditors and Deputy Secretary (F) to keep the demand under abeyance till the appeal with the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeal) is heard for the AY 2010-11 for which association had already deposited Rs.25,72,460/- (50% of tax demand).

It is pertinent to mention here that the Deputy Director of Income Tax. (E) has countered our replies in the earlier order also by stating following provisions:

- By insertion of the new proviso in Section 2(15) certain type of activities (advancement of objects of general public utility) considered otherwise charitable were taken out of the definition of charitable activity if they were found to be engaged in trade and commerce.
- *As already stated that the activities of the applicant fall under the last limb, i.e. advancement of any other object of general public utility and since these activities involve providing services for a fee are clearly hit by the proviso to section 2(15) of the Income tax Act.*
- The inclusive definition of charitable purposes states among other things, relief of the poor, education, and medical relief etc. as in the nature of charitable purpose. The concept of charitable purpose may be manifested in different forms like relief of poor, education, medical relief etc. but a charitable purpose should always take care of the welfare and interest of the public and especially the poor section of the public. Running a society only for the purpose of co-ordination between the universities does not show any work of charity being undertaken by the society.

The case was heard by CIT (Appeal) based on the Grounds of Appeal submitted by AIU on 29.8.2014 and subsequent submissions on 4.9.2014, 9.9.14, 4.6.15 & 5.6.2015. The Appellate Authority (CIT-Appeal) has issued a positive order by stating:

"After considering all the facts and circumstances of the case, I am of the view that apparently the assessee is not involved in any trade, commerce or business to attract the mischief of Proviso of Section 2(15) and the assessee is very much in the field of education and accordingly the AO is directed to allow the exemption U/S 11(1) with all the consequential benefits.

In the result, the appeal of the assessee is allowed.

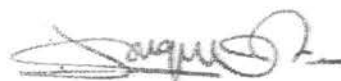
The Association will continue to avail the exemption U/S 11(1) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 now with the issuance of order by CIT(A) i.e. by applying, at least 85% of the income of the Society/Trust to charitable purposes. Where 85% of the income is not applied to charitable or religious purposes, the charitable trust may accumulate or set apart either the whole or part of its income for future application for such purposes in India. Such income so accumulated or set apart will not be included in the total income of the trust or institution in the year of receipt of income, provided such trust or institution has specified by means of a notice to the Assessing Officer, in Form No. 10, the purpose and period (which in no case exceed 5 years) for which the income is accumulated or set apart.

Similar cases for the Assessment Years 2011-12 & 2012-13 are pending before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeal) and the matter is being pursued by the Association].

Noted and approved with appreciation for the initiative taken by the Secretary General for assessment proceedings before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeal). The Committee Members perused the Order issued by the CIT (A) for the AY 2010-11 and resolved that the Secretary General of the Association may approach the new CIT (A) for the pending cases of the Assessment Years 2011-12 & 2012-13. If need arises, Secretary General may appoint an eminent Advocate/ Financial/Legal Expert besides approaching the CIT (Appeal) through Statutory Auditors of the Association.

The GC at its 335th meeting held on 29.09.2015 at AIU House under item No.335/09(01) approved the minutes of the Finance Committee.]

Noted.



HOSTING OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

BS 12 To consider hosting the next (91st) Annual Meeting of the Association in 2017 in South Zone

[Note: In order of rotation, it is the turn of the South Zone to host the next (91st) Annual meeting of the Association in 2016.

The following Universities have agreed to host the Annual Meeting:

10. Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka
11. Dayanand Sagar University, Bangalore, Karnataka
12. Karapagam Academy of Higher Education, Coimbatore, TN
13. Presidency University, Bangalore, Karnataka
14. Reva University, Bangalore, Karnataka
15. Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, AP
16. Vignan University, Vadlamudi, AP
17. Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi, Karnataka
18. Yeonopaya University, Mangalore, Karnataka

The General Body considered the recommendations of the Governing Council taken at its 338th Meeting held on February 4, 2016 at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar but resolved that the members present having sent their proposal to host the Annual General Meeting to make a presentation.

Vice Chancellors of the following Universities made their presentation:

1. Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati
2. Vignan University, Vadlamudi, Andhra Pradesh
3. Bangalore University, Bangalore
4. Reva University, Bangalore

Following the presentation and ensuing deliberations, the General Body resolved to accept the proposal to host the next Annual General Body Meeting at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The Vice Chancellor of Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati was required to submit a resolution of the EC/BOM of his University to the effect that the University shall be hosting the AIU Annual General Meeting. The General Body further resolved that a Committee Constituted by the President, AIU may visit Sri Venkateswara University to assess the facilities available for hosting the Annual General Meeting.

The General Body further resolved that in case the Sri Venkateswara University expresses its inability or for any reason it becomes difficult to host the Annual General Meeting at Sri Venkateswara University, then the chances to host the AGM be given to the Bangalore University, Bangalore.

BS 13 To consider the proposal to disqualify a member from continuing as a member of the Governing Council or any other statutory Bodies of the AIU or from being an Officer bearer.

[Note: Vice Chancellors/Directors of member Universities/Institutions are nominated on various statutory bodies of AIU (Governing Council, Finance Committee, Research Committee, Equivalence Committee, Cultural Committee, Sports Committee) and other bodies constituted by the Governing Council and/or by the Association on the basis of their individual or Institutional seniority.



Their active participation in these bodies on which they have been nominated as Member is necessary for effective functioning of the AIU.

It is, therefore, proposed that members nominated on Governing Council or other statutory bodies either on account of their individual seniority or on account of Institutional Seniority, but failed to attend three meeting consecutively be considered disqualified to continue as member of the said Committee and also from holding any Office in the AIU. This is also to propose to amend the AIU Rules and Regulations in this regard with immediate effect.]

[Note: The matter was also included in the agenda of the 338th Governing Council Meeting scheduled to be held on 4.2.2016 at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, District Anand, Gujarat]

The Governing Council considered the proposal and after detailed deliberations resolved as under:

" A member, who by virtue of his seniority, either on institutional basis or individual basis, was appointed as a member of the Governing Council or any other Statutory Committee(s) of the Association, fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee shall cease to continue to be a Member of the said Committee and shall also not be eligible for holding any post or office bearer of AIU.

The Governing Council further resolved that the said amendment shall come into force with immediate effect.

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE YEAR 2016-17.

BS 14 To declare President and Vice President of the Association for the year 2016-17.

AIU Rule provides as follow:

President (Rule 21)

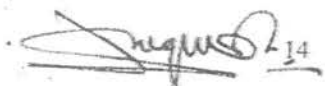
The senior most member of the Association shall be its President. He shall hold office for a period of one year corresponding to the academic (1st July to 30th June of next year) year. Should he resign or retire at any time, the Vice-President shall function as the President for the remainder of the term.

Vice President (Rule 22)

The senior most member (in terms of rotation) after the President would be designated as the Vice-President. He would be so designated for a period of one year unless he/she meanwhile becomes the President. In the absence of the President he/she would exercise all the powers of the President. He shall be the member of all Committees of the Governing Council/Association.

Based on the above rules, read in conjunction with the amendments as approved by the General Body of the Association vide item No. BS 13, the General Body resolved to elect Prof D S Chauhan, Vice Chancellor, G L A University, Mathura as President, AIU and designate Prof C K Kokate, Vice Chancellor, KLE University, Belgaum as Vice President AIU for the year 2016-17.

Members welcomed the Incoming President, AIU Prof. D S Chauhan and Incoming Vice President Prof C K Kokate.



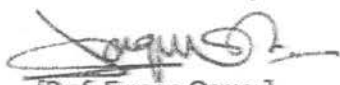
Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Prof. (Dr) Ranbir Singh, thanked all members, members of the Governing Council, Vice President, Immediate Past President and the Secretary General, AIU for extending full cooperation for successfully discharging his duties as President, AIU.

The House placed on record the excellent services rendered by Prof. (Dr) Ranbir Singh as President, AIU and Prof D S Chauhan as Vice President, AIU.

Prof D S Chauhan thanked the House and hoped that he will continue to get cooperation from all members and will strive to take the Association to new heights with the active and continued cooperation from all stake holders.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.


[Prof. Furqan Qamar]
Secretary General


[Prof. Ranbir Singh]
President

ASSOCIATION OF INDILAN UNIVERSITIES

Minutes of the 90th Annual Meeting (General Session) held at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar 388 120 on February 7, 2016.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- GS 01 To confirm the Minutes of the 89th Annual Meeting (General Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara Punjab on May 25, 2015

Confirmed.

ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES

- GS 02 To report action taken on the Minutes of the 89th Annual Meeting (General Session) held at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara Punjab on May 25, 2015.

Noted and approved.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ZONAL VICE CHANCELLORS' MEET 2014-15

- GS 03 To consider the recommendations of the West Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet held on November 26-27, 2015 at Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

Annexure 3.01

Considered with item No. GS 07.

- GS 04 To consider the recommendations of the East Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet held on December 4-5, 2015 at Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh,

Annexure 4.01

Considered with item No. GS 07.

- GS 05 To consider the recommendations of the South Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet held on December 11-12, 2015 at Alliance University, Bangalore.

Annexure 5.01

Considered with item No. GS 07.

- GS 06 To consider the recommendations of the North Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet held on December 19-20, 2015 at National Law University, Delhi, Dwarka, New Delhi.

Annexure 6.01

Considered with item No. GS 07.

- GS 07 To consider the recommendations of the Central Zone Vice Chancellors' Meet held on January 15-16, 2016 at Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University, Bhopal.

Annexure 7.01

Item No. GS 03, GS 04, GS 05, GS 06 and GS 07 were considered together.

Resolved that recommendations be edited, printed and sent to concerned bodies/agencies and other stake holders for taking action thereon.



GS 08 To consider a proposal received from Prof. Onkar Singh, Vice Chancellor, Madan Mohan Malviya University of Technology, Gorakhpur on "Sustainability of Higher Education in Digital Era"

[Note: "I wish to draw your attention on the challenges faced by prodigious higher education system of the country due to ubiquitous knowledge through wide spread use of information technology. Also, India being blessed with demographic dividend happens to be one of the biggest nations in terms of internet users. Almost all higher education Institutions are facing a great challenge of attracting students to the class room. The student's access to e-content which is primarily meant to supplement the existing classroom teaching is trying to replace the traditional direct contact type teaching - learning processes. This virtualization of higher education needs to be dealt with carefully so that the students do not loose perspicacity of higher education. The virtual learning can only help to supplement, but the attempt to accept it as replacement may have its own adverse implications upon the responsibility and duty of higher education Institutions in creating an educated holistic human being. Universities have to act as the creators of knowledge, and also play their important role in its fruitful dissemination. Apart from this the ICT has also put forward the challenges of continuous removal of obsolescence in terms of ICT infrastructure and needs requisite support from the funding agencies.

In view of above, I feel it relevant for discussion in the forthcoming Annual Meeting of AIU and wish to request you to kindly consider the issue titled 'Sustainability of Higher Education in Digital Era' in the agenda of forthcoming Annual Meeting of AIU.]

Noted. The House was informed that the subject was discussed during the AIU National Seminar.

GS 09 To consider the following proposals received from Prof. (Dr) S K Gakhar, Vice Chancellor, Ch Bansi Lal University Bhiwani:

(a) Waiving of condition of 12(B).

The University Grants Commission has laid down the criteria under 12(B) of the UGC Act pertaining to physical facilities and infrastructure for the universities to be eligible to receive UGC grants. However, among the state universities, a large number remain wanting in meeting these criteria and therefore remain ineligible to receive development grants from the UGC. Thus, these universities get mired in a vicious cycle. The scheme, however, is essentially to motivate the state universities to improve the infrastructure and quality so as to enable to receive regular financial assistance. One of the criteria for recognition under 12B is that 50% of the academic and physical infrastructure facilities should be available at the time of application and/or at least only 5 departments of the university should fulfill the requirement of teaching staff as per UGC norms.

Once these Universities are recognized under 12(B) they continue to receive grants even after they discontinue to fulfill the criteria because of the retirement of teaching faculty and/or opening of new departments without staff or with lesser number of faculties as per UGC norms. Regarding the academic environment, more than 75% Universities in the country which have already been recognized under 12B should fail if re-monitored because of the lack of required teaching faculty.

Therefore, it is submitted that this condition should be waived off. This will help other state universities also to receive the UGC funds. The purpose of putting education on the concurrent list was to empower both the federal and provincial governments to improve the standards of education in a harmonious manner. This purpose is now getting defeated because of the 12(B) clause. Waiving off 12(B) should help the purpose of higher education for Access, Equity and Excellence.

The House considered the proposal and resolved as under:

1. All University must strive to meet the minimum eligibility requirements for being recognized under section 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956.
2. The UGC be requested to expedite the process for granting recognition under section 12(B) to the eligible universities.
3. Further, the UGC may be requested to consider providing students and faculty related grants such as the JRF/SRF and the major/minor research projects to the students and faculty of the non 12(B) Universities.

(b) Centrally Appointed Teachers instead of Central Universities

Fifteen Central Universities have recently been established under Central Universities Act 2009. Some of these universities have not taken off because of lack of either allotment of land or due to the locational disadvantage. There has hardly been any appointment for the last two years in these Universities. Many of the Central Universities are located at very odd and secluded places where the proficient and seasonal teacher would not like to join and where even the parents would not like to send their wards. Admissions in these universities are only from adjoining areas. Central Universities are causing discrimination in terms of salaries, age of retirement and other benefits to teachers. I really wonder that the teachers retire at the age of 58, 60, 62, 65 and 70 in the same State, causing confusion and discrimination leading to heart-burn among the teachers. Let there be uniform opportunity for all students and teachers in all State and Central Universities.

Therefore, it is suggested that instead of Central Universities, there should be recruitment of 50% of teaching faculty by the Central Agency in the State Universities. The Centrally Appointed Teachers should be posted in all the State Universities in the ratio of 50 : 50. This will not only remove the disparities and impart quality education at a lower cost and efforts. In other words, every State University will have at least 50% of staff which is centrally appointed. However, the terms and conditions should be the same for all the teachers either appointed by the State Government or by the Central Government. Similarly 50% admissions in all the Universities should be on all India basis allowing better choice and convenience to students. Hence it is suggested that the Central Universities be merged with the State Universities. This will help the students to rise above mediocrity and grow into multifaceted with multi-talented minds. The process of centralized appointment of teachers will not only minimize the regional imbalances but also create an egalitarian society. The above process should help integrate the Nation also.

Hence, the purpose of putting education on concurrent list will be better achieved by Centrally Appointed Teachers than establishing Central Universities in odd and distant places.]

The House considered the proposal and resolved that while it is not advisable to suggest the centrally appointed teachers, each university must ensure that they appoint teachers purely on merit and such that the in-breeding is stopped.

GS 10 To consider the proposal received from Prof Prem Kumar Khosla, Vice chancellor, Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences, Solan:

[Note: The backbone of higher education depends upon five pillars of strength i.e. quality faculty, quality infrastructure, sound alliances, brilliant students and transparent governance. The global experience shows that the private universities, in general, are better performers than the public universities which are handicapped due to procedural formalities. Today among the first 200 universities in India, only one belongs to public sector.

However, there is discrimination between private and public universities in its perception and also in providing facilities by the funding agencies such as DST and other ministries while sanctioning grants in favour of private universities. The allotment is made on 50-50 basis i.e. 50 per cent cost is to be shared by the private universities themselves. A copy of the letter dated 8th November, 2015 is enclosed which has been received from the Ministry of Science and Technology on account of FIST grant in partnership with the University.

The Academic Council of the University took up the matter that a university cannot be discriminated on the basis of private or public university. It is against the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution of India. Private universities also require money as its source of income is only fee collected from the students or the interest from endowment fund. Due to sudden spurt in private universities in the country on account of competition, there may be few universities which are having respectful admissions. This type of discrimination is going to affect the growth of private universities pushing them only as institutes of teaching alone and research will be reduced to insignificant level. The private universities work on the model with larger class size in comparison to the public universities and consequently the faculty strength will be much more than the public universities. If this human source is not properly channelized by providing them equal chance, this will leave to poor development of research base. This huge human reservoir available with the private universities cannot be allowed to be dissociated from research base of the nation. I have my feelings the private institutions in general are not eager to undertake research work. However, the embargo of 50:50 grant further dissuades the private institutes from undertaking research work. As a consequence of which most of the private universities are functioning as a teaching institute only whereas in the strictest sense the university means teaching, research and extension education for the societal benefits.



In view of the above, we strongly plead that the Association takes up this point with the Government of India and the myth that there is lot of money with the private universities needs to be cleared. In fact the private universities are starving of funds for research.]

The House resolved that further details on the proposal be invited from the Shoolini University to take an informed view.

GS 11 To consider the following proposal received from Prof N S Malhi, Vice Chancellor, Guru Kashii University, Talwandi Sabo, Punjab:

[Note: The Private Universities being established by State Legislature Act falls under the category of Unaided Universities. These Universities are not receiving any aid from State/Centre Governments. These are not eligible for accreditation by NAAC or other grading bodies for first five years. These grading are pre-requisite for applying for most of the grants from UGC and other Government academic research organization. Due to this, various grants from UGC and other government academic research organization are also not forthcoming. Such conditions normally lead to hindrance in the development of these Universities for their role in Higher Education.

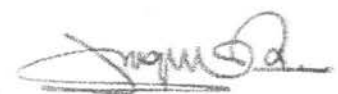
In view of above, it is suggested that the clauses i.e. accreditation by NAAC and other grading bodies for receiving of various grants from UGC and other Government academic/research organizations be dispensed with for the first five years for a University. The case is requested to be taken up with appropriate authorities.]

Resolved to request the member to send detailed note on the subject to enable the House to taken an informed view.

GS 12 To consider the following proposals received from Dr C Swaminathan, Vice Chancellor, Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu

1. Higher Education and Research, to become globally competitive:

[Note: During the last decade, the higher education sector has been dominated by economic concerns and we are slowly forced to adopt business models. Though a hundred percent adoption of the model will turn out to be counterproductive in the final analysis, it is at present an unavoidable necessity. Despite many new national missions/programmes and reforms agenda by both the central and state governments to encourage private participation in the sector, it has not really taken off in any tangible manner. It is not clear where exactly the industry and academic should meet and where stop so that the interests of the one will not override that of the other. Successful models from the west need to be studied and modified to suit our conditions. As things stand today, we are struck with what can be called the tangible asset syndrome. Too much concern for tangibility will only result in concern for immediate gains whereas higher education is a domain that specializes in bring long term benefits. This is explained by the proneness to quantification that afflicts our policies today. Mere number of universities will not find the solutions required. Let us recall that a decade ago we were all talking of the number of Universities needed to reach global standards. The figure was 1500 to reach Korean standards, 3000 to reach that of Europe and 5000 that of the US. It turned out to be a fallacy as there was never any mention of quality indicators of performance. The result is that we are where we were. No headway has been made in this regard. The situation warrants an honest and open debate without allowing the façade of political correctness to derail the process. The issue is also related to the prevailing will to control the Universities where were in fact conceived with the noble intention of having access to ideas from quarters unhindered by powers political or otherwise. If there is one word that can characterize the condition in which our universities are today it is SUFFOCATION. To become globally competitive these concerns have to be addressed failing which it would be status quo all the way and we will continue to find ourselves in the sidelines of history. Let us wake up to the issues at hand before our systems start gasping and it is too late to recover.



2. The need to promote Humanities education.

[Note: The neglect of disciplines coming under what is called humanities has persisted for too long. Somehow, it has not entered the space for discussion to arrive at policies and the thought that the absence of certain personality related skills in the present day youth could owing to this neglect has not occurred. A high bias in favour of STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) education has forced us to produce graduates and postgraduates poor in social and interpersonal domains. There are studies world over proving that IQ apart it is one's emotional intelligence which fetches professional success and fulfillment. We must take cognizance of the trend towards liberal arts education elsewhere and also in our own country in the form of private liberal arts education universities like the Ashoka and the Shiv Nadar.

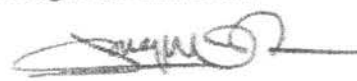
3. Intensive use of Technology

[Note: The Indian higher education system has undergone massive expansion to become the largest in the world enrolling over 70 million students. Such expansion would have been unimaginable without the extensive use of ICT tools. To illustrate, if India were to create this additional capacity through increase in brick and mortar Institutions alone, it would have to build six universities and 270 colleges each and every month in the last 20 years - a feat that would have been impossible to achieve with India's limited resources. Instead, India chose to go the MOOCs way. Online platforms and ICT tools have helped take higher education to millions of deserving students in far-flung areas who would otherwise have no access to University education. Online education has become the first port of call for many students who were earlier left out of the higher education system. Or had to settle for lower quality alternatives. The MOOCs models made it possible for the country to give a quality education to the masses despite poor faculty student ratios. Students today increasingly learn from leading faculty at elite institutions beyond the four walls of their classrooms as top tier institutions have donned the mantle of being content generators. Professors collaborate across universities to collectively create and distribute for credit curriculum of an online semester. Technology has not only been instrumental in addressing the demand-supply gap for quality education, but has fundamentally changed the nature of several educational processes. Gone are the days when students had to gather in a large hall only to hear a lecture. Today, classrooms lectures and pre-recorded and uploaded be accessed by students at their comfort. Class time is instead used for creating more in-depth learning experiences through group activities, problem solving and interactive learning. Online analytics provide faculty with data on who and at what pace each student is learning, enabling them to provide personalized support to aid student learning outcomes. The model also acts as a great democratize allowing students to learn at their own pace - for instance, slow learners can go over certain content and exercise multiple times with special tools to aid their learning. Finally, the hybrid model (where part of the program is taught online and part in person) has become particularly popular among adult and working professionals looking to gain additional credentials. The model provides them with the flexibility to access course material as their schedule permits. In short, technology can help Indian higher education, solving for three of India's pressing problems - access, equity and quality - at once.

But the challenge is how to integrate technology with the intake technology for the human mind. There are already studies like the one conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development which suggest that massive use of computers in education may have negative impact. Pedagogical research in this regard is much needed.

4. Academia-Industry Link

[Note: It is an irrefutable fact that tie ups with the industry has become inevitable and essential too. But where do we stop in along the industry to determine what is taught and how? The business models has no doubt made it foray into the academic. There are quite a few voices celebrating the trend and excessive enthusiasm and even missionary zeal. Where do we draw the line? It is worth recalling Tabish Khair's observation in his article published in The Hindu, August 2, 2015 "Life is more than capital. Universities are meant to guard this truth - and what we call "knowledge" is largely a consequence of this. To lose sight of this fact is to lose sight of civilization."



5.

[Note:

The need to have productive campus culture.

Campus culture in our universities not exactly conducive to professionalism in academics and research. In his recent address at the convocation of IIT, Delhi Mr Raghuram Rajan, the RBI Governor has brought up certain issues in this regard. As he has rightly pointed out we have taken the concept of political correctness too far. Not a day passes without someone raising some issue or the other which no doubt halts the University's normal functioning by vitiating the atmosphere. Mr Rajan has also drawn attention to the culture of taking offence at the slightest possibility and linked this disposition to the idea of confirmation bias in psychology. The result in faculty devote most of their time either in inventing accusation or by defending themselves against allegations. And most of a Vice Chancellors' [tenure is wasted away in sorting these issues out. It is high time we raise this issue for debate and subsequent solution. Rights should be protected not at the cost of professionals and enrichment of the intellect.

6.

The neglect of language learning and its impact on writing skills

[Note:

For too long have we condemned language skills to intellectual hinterland and plagiarism has become the bane of our university system. It is painful to see the instruction "avoid plagiarism" on the top of the list in the advisory for Indian students aspiring to test the educational waters of the West. The problem has become rampant but no serious note has been taken in this regard. Our universities can gain international presence only by quality publications for which writing skills are indispensable. It is a mystery that we have not thought of language's connection with thinking, reflection, inference, insight and interpretation all hallmarks of quality scholarship. Things have come to such a pass that most of knowledge we produce and scholarship remain mute. We need some drastic measure to extricate ourselves from this "cognitive famine" plaguing our universities where at the mention of a writing task majority of the faculty do a Houdini. It is time the issue is acted upon, otherwise we may have to face the embarrassing moment in that world famous story on the emperor's clothes.

The House considered the proposal and resolved that the suggestions made are excellent and would improve the quality of Higher Education and urged the member Universities to consider them for implementation at their level.

GS 13

Members raised the issue of circular letters received from the Secretary, University Grants Commission with regard to allotment of research supervisor which are contradictory to each other.

Importantly UGC letter banning the appointment of retired/adjunct faculty as Research Guide and that only University teachers from PG College should be taken as Research Guide has been adversely affecting the allotment of research supervisors..

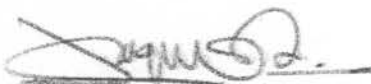
It was resolved that AIU may write to the University Grants Commission conveying the sentiments of the House in this regard.

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

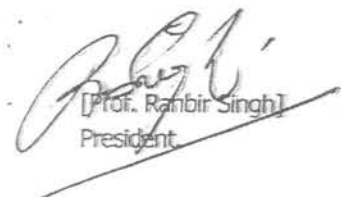
GS. 14

It was also resolved that AIU may write letter of appreciation to Member Vice Chancellors for hosting the Zonal and Annual Vice Chancellors' Meet 2015-16.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.



[Prof Furqan Qamar]
Secretary General



[Prof. Ranbir Singh]
President