National Institute of Open Schooling A-24/25, Institutional Area, Sector -62, NOIDA

The Minutes of the 77th Meeting of the Executive Board of NOS Society held on 20th June 2019 at 3.00 PM in the Conference Hall (Chairman Block), NIOS, A-24/25, Sector - 62, NOIDA.

The following were present:-

1.	Prof. Chandra Bhushan Sharma Chairman, NIOS	-	Chairman
2.	Dr. Rajneesh Arora, Managing Director, Amritsar College of Engineering & Technology	-	Member
3.	Dr. Nandita Pathak Former Founder Director, JP Foundation, Chitrakoot	-	Member
4.	Prof. Suresh Gupta 'Arunodaya', M.P.	-	Member
5.	Shri Naresh Jain CMD, JAINCO Buildcon Pvt. Ltd. (&) Vice President, Ekal Abhiyan	-	Member
6.	Sh. Umesh Upadhyay President & Media Director, Reliance Industries Ltd.	-	Member
7.	Sh. Bajrang Bagra, Representative of Sh. Srinibas Panda Ekal Abhiyan		Member
8.	Sh. C. Dharuman, Director (Eval.)	-	Member
9.	Dr. Ashminder Singh Bahal Director (Vocational), NIOS	-	Member
10.	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Singh Director (Academic), NIOS	-	Member
11.	Sh. S. Vijaya Kumar Director (SSS), NIOS	-	Member
12.	Sh. Anjani Kumar	-	Member-Secretary

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12. Sh. Anjani Kumar Secretary, NIOS

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Sh. Sanjay Kumar, Joint Secretary (SE), MHRD, Smt. Darshana M Dabral, JS & Finance Advisor (MHRD), Prof. Anil Shukla, Vice Chancellor, MJP Rohilkhand University and Shri Girish Yashwant Prabhune, Punaruthan Samarasata Gurukulam could not attend the meeting.

Sh. Anil Kumar, Accounts Officer and Sh. Gurdev Singh, Deputy Director (Admn.) were also present to assist the Committee.

The Chairman, NIOS welcomed all the Members of the Executive Board and informed the members about the joining of Sh. Anjani Kumar, Secretary, NIOS, who has been appointed by the Ministry of HRD and Sh. S. Vijay Kumar, Director (SSS) in NIOS. He expressed his happiness that NIOS has now all the Heads of the Departments in place, which were lying vacant for the past few years. After a brief introduction by the Members, the NIOS song was played.

In his opening remarks, Chairman, NIOS shared with the Members with regard to the recent development in the D.El.Ed Programme. The members were informed that the last examination of D.El.Ed programme was conducted on 15th and 16th March 2019 and the final result was declared on 22nd May 2019 by the Hon'ble Minister of HRD, Shri Prakash Javadekar ji. 12,11,740 teachers registered for the D.El.Ed programme from all over the country and 11,98,614 teachers appeared for the examinations. 9,58,513 teachers passed the examination and the total pass percentage is 79.97. He further informed the members that NIOS has approached the Ministry of HRD and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) for allowing NIOS to conduct supplementary examinations for the teachers who could not qualify the examinations.

He further added that NCTE has communicated their satisfaction towards the way the D.El.Ed examinations were conducted by NIOS. NCTE monitored the whole process of conduct of examinations and appreciated the measures taken by NIOS during the conduct of D.El.Ed Programme.

He further informed the members about the PCF9 Conference which is scheduled to be held during the month of September 2019 and would be hosted by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL). He further added that NIOS has sent its nomination for the Best Institution Award — Changing Lives - category to COL. He appreciated the earnest efforts made by the Principal, Ms. Neetu Kapoor of Army Public School, Delhi Cantt., in organizing special coaching for Ms. Sakshi, who is a deaf learner of NIOS and won two Gold Medals in Paralympics.

He further informed the members that Commonwealth Open Schooling Association (COMOSA) has approached Chairman, NIOS to attend the

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meeting. The Chairman proudly informed the members that NIOS had nominated Ms. Anshul Kharbanda, Academic Officer, NIOS as the member of COMOSA who would be attending the meeting. The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) is sponsoring the participation of Ms. Anshul Kharbanda. He further added that NIOS has nominated a delegation of seven Academic staff of NIOS to participate in the PCF9 to be held at Edinburgh during the month of September. This would facilitate exposure to the faculty and in turn would benefit the organization. The Executive Board appreciated the decision of Chairman, NIOS.

The members were informed that NIOS has recently launched Sindhi language, which is a scheduled language in the Constitution of India, as a subject at Secondary level. The NIOS has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language (NCPSL) for design and development of Sindhi language in the country. Sindhi shall be offered as a language subject at OBE – (A,B and C levels) as well as at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. The material for Secondary has already been developed.

The members were also informed with regard to the progress of courses being offered under the NIOS Education Project for Indian Army (NEPIA). It was informed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and Army Educational Corps (AEC) Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army) to provide education to the Jawans of Indian Army at their workplace including Border and field areas. Around 6000 Army Jawans have already been enrolled under this programme. Till now, three subjects namely Military History, Military Study and Physical Education and Yog have been developed.

The members were informed that NIOS has started Bhartiya Gyan Parampara based on Vedic knowledge and has established centres in Ved Vidhyalayas across the country which were not recognized by any Board before. The main objective behind launching these courses is to revive the Vedic Education, Sanskrit Language and literature, Indian Philosophy and many other areas of ancient Indian Knowledge. The aim of this stream is also to revive our ancient education system throughout the country. The Course has been developed at both Secondary and Senior Secondary level. The subjects which are being offered are Ved Adhyayan, Sanskrit Vyakaran, Bharatiya Darshan, Sanskrit Sahitya and Sanskrit Language. NIOS is in the process of developing "Jyotish" as one new subject in the course, beside five other courses.

Director (VE), NIOS also gave a brief about the courses being offered by NIOS at various levels under vocational stream. He informed the members about the new courses Bamboo Cultivation, Bamboo Craft, Vermi composting, Bee

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Keeping etc to be launched by NIOS. The members were also informed with regard to the Health Project taken up by NIOS in the State of Bihar. The NIOS has launched a project for Training and Certification of untrained health workers in Bihar. 21812 learners have enrolled in this programme in the first cycle and 29650 in the second cycle. He further informed that NIOS has also signed an MoU with National Health Mission, Maharashtra Government in the month of May 2019. He also suggested that NIOS may tie up with Helpage India for implementation of the course on Care of the Elderly, and mentioned that discussion with Helpage is under progress.

The Chairman, NIOS once again thanked all the members and requested Secretary, NIOS to take up the agenda items. The Secretary, NIOS welcomed all the Members.

Thereafter, with the permission of Chair, Secretary, NIOS took up the agenda items.

2.1 77.1(A) To Report the confirmation of Minutes of the 76th Meeting of the Executive Board held on 15th March, 2019.

The Minutes of the 76th Meeting of the Executive Board held on 15th March 2019 were sent to the Members for comments. Since no comments were received from the Members, the Minutes of the 76th Meeting of the Executive Board were treated as confirmed.

The Executive Board took note of the confirmation of the Minutes of 76th Meeting of the Executive Board held on 15th March 2019.

2.2 77.1(B) To report the Action Taken on the Minutes of the 76th Meeting of the Executive Board held on 15th March 2019

The Executive Board took note of the Action Taken on the Minutes of the 76th Meeting of the Executive Board held on 15th March, 2019.

2.3 77.2 To report extension of deputation period in respect of Ms. Geetika Singh as Assistant Director (Academic) in NIOS w.e.f. 26-02-2019 to 25-02-2020 (sixth year).

The members were informed that Ms. Geetika Singh, Incharge Assistant Director, CDRW JD, J&K State Board of School Education was appointed as Assistant Director (Academic) in NIOS w.e.f. 26-02-2014 on deputation basis initially for a period of one year. The deputation period was extended by NIOS from time to time. Her deputation period was extended by NIOS for the fifth year for the period upto 25-02-2019.

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It was informed that due to the acute shortage of experienced manpower the services of Ms. Geetika Singh as Assistant Director (Academic) has been further extended for one more year with the approval of the Competent Authority. The parent department (i.e. Jammu and Kashmir State Board of School Education) of Ms. Geetika Singh has also accorded the approval of extension of her deputation period for further one more year w.e.f. 26-02-2019 to 25-02-2020 vide their Order No.-199-B of 2019 dated 11-03-2019.

The Executive Board took note of the agenda.

2.4 77.3 To report the Appointment of Shri Anjani Kumar to the post of Secretary, NIOS

The Agenda was withdrawn.

2.5 77.4 To report the approval of drawings for construction of NIOS Building for Regional Centre Delhi at Rohini, New Delhi.

It was informed that the NIOS has been allotted 4580 sq. Mtr. (1.13 acre approx) of land on Plot No. 12 Sec-30, Rohini, Phase-IV, New Delhi. The NIOS has taken over the possession and requested Chief Engineer (Civil) CPWD, to take up construction of Regional Centre building at Rohini, Delhi.

The NIOS has executed the lease deed of the land on 28/03/2018 with DDA. The Sr. Architect CPWD has submitted the preliminary drawings vide letter no.-SA(DR)-1/199/2019/406-410 dated 30/05/2019 for vetting and approval of NIOS, so that preliminary Estimates could be prepared and NOCs from the various Govt. Departments could also be obtained before the construction is initiated on the proposed building at the allotted plot.

It was informed that the administrative approval of drawings of Plot No.-12, Sec-30, Rohini, Delhi has been accorded by Hon'ble Chairman, NIOS after discussion with the senior officers of NIOS and drawings have been forwarded to Sr. Architect CPWD vide letter no-F-42-1(1.57)/2015/NIOS/Admn/Mtce. dated 06 June 2019 with the request to submit the NOCs, as well as preliminary estimates at the earliest for enabling NIOS to take further necessary action to start the construction activities on Plot No.-12, Sec-30, Rohini, Delhi.

The Executive Board took note of it.

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2.5 Tabled Item 1

To Consider and approve the Minutes of the Selection Committee for one post of Director (Evaluation) (OBC) on Direct Recruitment basis.

It was informed that the post of Director (Evaluation) was advertised and the selection to the post was recommended by the Selection Committee constituted by the Competent Authority as per Recruitment Rules of NIOS. As per Chapter -9 (9.3.1) of Service Rules of NOS, the Executive Board of NOS Society is the Competent Authority for the appointment to the post of Head of the Department (HOD).

The members were informed that the post of Director (Evaluation) (OBC) on direct recruitment basis was advertised on 14th April 2019.

The applications were duly screened by the Screening Committee constituted for the purpose. The Committee shortlisted and recommended 33 candidates to be called for the interview) conducted on 20th June 2019. Out of 33 candidates 19 candidates appeared before the Selection Committee for the interview. The members were informed that the recommendations of the Selection Committee were kept in a sealed cover for the approval of the Executive Board, as it is the appointing authority of Head of the Departments.

The Selection Committee recommended Sh. B. Venkateswaran for appointment as Director (Evaluation) (OBC) on direct recruitment basis in NIOS. The Board approved the recommendations of the Selection Committee.

2.6 Tabled Item 2

To report the status of issues relating to casual/daily wages employees in NIOS.

It was informed that NIOS engaged casual workers on daily wages basis long back at NIOS Headquarters and its Regional Centres situated in different locations.

It was further informed that during 2018, 29 daily wage casual workers approached the Employees Provident Fund Office (EPFO), Noida requesting that they are working in NIOS and its Regional Centres since long and they may be provided the benefit of EPF from their date of engagement.

The EPFO, Noida issued a notice to NIOS under Section 7A(3) for assessment of dues u/s 7A of Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952. It was desired by the EPFO to submit the Attendance Register, Account

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Book and Voucher, Payment Register/Pay Bill, General Ledger, Business Profit and loss account and balance sheet and any other document to ensure attendance and payment etc. for the period January, 1997 to March, 2018.

The necessary records as asked by the EPFO were submitted and the proceedings are still going on.

The Executive Board took note of the Agenda.

2.7

After taking up the agenda items, Chairman, NIOS thanked all the members, especially, Sh. C. Dharuman, Director (Evaluation), as he is retiring from his services on 30th June 2019. He appreciated the contribution made by Sh. C. Dharuman during his tenure in NIOS. Then, Sh. Dharuman thanked all the members and Chairman, NIOS for the cooperation and support rendered by them during his 09 years tenure in NIOS. He informed the members that during his 09 years tenure in NIOS he looked after the work of Secretary, NIOS for almost 06 years and 05 years as Chief Vigilance Officer and Director (SSS) for 03 years. He further informed the members that as Director (Evaluation), he has assessed 11.92 crore learners.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Anjani Kumar)

Secretary, NIOS & Member Secretary

Executive Board

(C.B SHARMA)
Chairman, NIOS & Chairman
Executive Board