# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SILCHAR

## EIGHTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## MINUTES

The 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 1630 hours. The following members were present in the meeting:

- Sri Gautam N Mehra, Chairman & Managing Director, Savita Oil Technologies Limited, Chairperson, BoG
- 2. Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director & Ex Officio, BoG
- 3. Sri D. K. Singh, Dy. Secretary (IFD), Ministry of Education
- 4. Sri Indrajit Kuri, Under Secretary, TS III, Ministry of Education
- 5. Dr. S. K. Kakoty, Professor, IIT Guwahati
- 6. Prof. P. S Choudhury, NIT Silchar
- 7. Dr. Ripon Patgiri, NIT Silchar
- 8. Prof. Nalin Behari Dev Choudhury, Registrar (i/c) & Secretary, BoG

Sri Gautam N Mehra presided the meeting of the Board of Governors as Chairperson in accordance with Section 16 of the NITSER Act.

At the outset, Prof. Asim Roy welcomed the Chairperson and other members who attended the meeting

The BoG then initiated the discussion on the Agenda Items one by one: -

BoG-80/21/01: To confirm the minutes of the 78th and 79th Meeting of Board of Governors.

Seventy eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on  $21^{st}$  December, 2020 via video conferencing. The copies of the Minutes of the  $78^{th}$  meeting of the Board of Governors (Annexure  $-I_1$ ) was circulated to all the members of the Foard. If any comments are received the same will be placed on the table

Seventy ninth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on  $27^{th}$  January, 2021 via video conferencing. The copies of the Minutes of the  $79^{th}$  meeting of the Board of Governors (Annexure –  $I_2$ ) was circulated to all the members of the Board. If any comments are received the same will be placed on the table.

The Board is request to confirm the minutes of 76<sup>th</sup> and 77<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BoG.

#### DECISION

The Board confirmed 78th and 79th meeting of Board of Governors.

BoG-80/21/02:

To discuss on the Action Taken Report on decision of the  $78^{th}$  and  $79^{th}$  Meeting of Board of Governors.

The action taken report on the minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> and 79<sup>th</sup> meeting of BOG is placed at **Annexure** – **II**. The Board is requested to take note of the same

#### DECISION

The Board noted the Action taken Report of 78<sup>th</sup> and 79<sup>th</sup> meeting of Board of Governors.

BoG-80/21/03:

Ratify the action taken by the Chairperson regarding appointing Prof. Nalin Behari Dev Choudhury to the post of Registrar, In - Charge.

On completion of tenure of Prof. Asim Roy, Professor, Department of Physics as Registrar, In - Charge, the Director, NIT Silchar on the basis of power vested to

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him vide Statute 17 (11) of First Statute of NITs assign the responsibility of Registrar, NIT Silchar to Prof. Nalin Behari Dev Choudhury, Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering for a period of 1 (one) year w.e.f. 01.01.2021.

The Chairperson, BoG has also accorded approval on the same.

The Board is requested to ratify the action taken by the Chairperson, BoG.

#### **DECISION**

The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson BoG and opined to assign Prof. Nalin Behari Dev Choudhury the responsibility of Registrar NIT Silchar for a period of 6 (six) months from 01.01.2021.

The Board also decided that the Institute should strive to complete the recruitment process for selection of Registrar within a period of six months.

BoG-80/21/04:

To consider the recommendation of Selection Committee for the faculty positions advertised against advertisement No. NITS/Estt/Faculty/Advt/2020/1 dated 15.09.2020.

The institute vide advertisement No. NITS/Estt/Faculty/Advt/2020/1 dated 15.09.2020 (Annexure –  $III_1$ ) advertised for the following positions for various departments of this institute.

- I. Assistant Professor Grade II at Level 11
- II. Assistant Professor Grade I at Level 12
- III. Associate Professor at Level 13A2
- IV. Professor at Leve! 14A

The meeting of Selection Committee for interviewing the candidates for the aforesaid posts for the following Departments were scheduled from 08.12.2021 to 14.02.2021:

- 1. Civil Engineering
- 2. Mechanical Engineering
- 3. Electrical Engineering
- 4. Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Computer Science & Engineering
- 6. Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering
- 7. Mathematics
- 8. Management Studies

The recommendation of the Selection Committee will be placed on the table.

Board may approve the same.

#### DECISION

The institute informed the Board that reservation as per the norms of Government of India is followed in the recruitment process of various Faculty Position advertised vide No. NITS/Estt/Faculty/Advt/2020/1 dated 15.09.2020.

The Board was also informed decision of the selection committee for two faculty members in the Department of Mathematics and one Faculty Member of Department of Electrical Engineering were kept in sealed cover as enquiry is under process against them.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Selection Committee except those that were kept on sealed cover.

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BoG-80/21/05:

To discuss on the issue related to grant of Temporary Status to Muster Roll Workers.

The matter related to grant of Temporary Status was placed before the BoG in its 50<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21.07.2016 explaining the issue in detail. BOG after examining the scheme of DOP&T for granting temporary status to Casual Workers (September, 1993) came to conclusion that MR workers can be awarded Temporary Status Casual Labour as per the DoPt guidelines dated 10.09.1993 subject to clearance from Finance Committee / MHRD as it involves financial implication. The Institute vide letter No. PA/BoG-50/16 dated 10.08.2016 referred the matter to MHRD. In reply MHRD has requested to furnish the details of appointment of all MR Workers.

The institute again vide letter No. NITS/Estt/MR/TS/18/18376 dated 24.12.2018 furnish the detailed documents in connection with the appointment of the MR Workers.

The MHRD vide letter F. No. 15-12/2016.TS.III dated 18.03.2020 intimated that institute may consider the case of MR workers for grant of temporary Status as per the Judgement in the case of Uma Devi.

The aforesaid letter dated 18.03.2020 from MHRD was placed before the 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoG scheduled on 21.12.2020 wherein it was briefed that Judgement in the case of Uma Devi is regarding regularising staff who were irregularly appointment, however, the MR workers were appointed by following proper recruitment process. The Board in its 78<sup>th</sup> meeting opined to consider the case of MR workers for grant of Temporary Status as per the Judgement in the case of Uma Devi by MoE in its letter F. No. 15-12/2016.TS.III dated 18.03.2020

In the meantime the Muster Roll Workers called strike in front of the New Administrative Building of the Institute since 22.01.2021 along with their family members and children. They are demanding either to regularise their service or grant them the Temporary Status.

Because of the aforesaid situation as per statute 4(8) of First Statute of NIT, the Institute called a special meeting of Board of Governors (79<sup>th</sup> meeting) on 27.01.2021 with permission of Chairperson, BoG, wherein the board opined to put the matter of grant of Temporary Status to the Muster Roll Workers in the next meeting of the BoG

The Board is requested to discuss the issue and take necessary decision accordingly.

#### **DECISION**

The institute informed that some Muster Roll / Daily Wage workers of the Institute had filed a writ petition in the High Court of Gauhati vide WP (C) No/403/2021 on being aggrieved by the initiation of the recruitment process for filling of non-teaching posts pursuant to the advertisement dated 07.03.2019 without regularisation of the services of the Muster Roll / Daily Wage workers. The Hon'ble Gauhati High Court vide order dated 06.02.2021 directed to examine and consider whether the petitioners can be given the minimum scale of pay in terms of the judgement of the Apex court in the case of State of Punjab vs Jagjit Singh. The

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same should be done within a period of six months from the date of receipt of a copy of the said order.

The institute also explained the judgement of the Apex court in the case of State of Punjab vs Jagjit Singh along with DoPT OM no. 49014/1/2017-Estt.(C) dated 04.09.2019 wherein the concept of "equal pay for equal work" is reiterated.

After threadbare discussion the Board decided that the matter of Temporary Status will be discussed in the coming meeting of Board and regarding implementing "equal pay for equal work" to Muster Roll workers the matter is to be referred to Ministry of Education with all relevant documents.

### BoG-80/21/06:

To consider Financial Up-gradation of Sri Pulak Nath, Assistant Registrar to Level 11.

Sri Pulak Nath joined the post of Assistant Registrar at Level 10 (i.e. PB – III with GP of INR 5,400.00) on 27.11.2015. His services was confirmed vide office order No. NITS/Estt/BoG-65/18/20437-40 dated 19.01.2019 w.e.f. 27.11.2017 after successful completion of two years of probation. The incumbent has completed five years of service in this institute on 27.11.2020.

MHRD vide Letter No. F. 35-5/2018-TS.III dated 04.04.2019@ circulated the Recruitment Rule for Non – Teaching staff of NITs and as per point 4 of Recruitment Rules for the post of ASSISTANT REGISTRAR in NITs, after five years of service as Assistant Registrar with GP of INR 5,400.00 (i.e. Level – 10) will be assessed by Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for moving to the higher GP of Rs. 6600/– (i.e. Level – 10) with the same designation"

In this regard a committee (DPC) was constituted as per Clause 23(18) of the First Statute of NIT. The recommendation of the committee will be placed on the table.

Board is requested to accept the recommendation of the committee

#### DECISION

The Board approved the recommendation of DPC for upgrading Sri Pulak Nath, Assistant Registrar to Level 11 w.e.f. 27.11.2020 after completion of 5 (five) years of service as Assistant Registrar at Level 10.

### BoG-80/21/07:

Ratifying the Action taken by the Chairperson, BoG regarding signing MoU with University College Cork – National University of Ireland, Cork. The Chairperson, BoG has accorded approval for signing of MoU with University College Cork – National University of Ireland, Cork.

The approval of the Chairperson, BoG and copy of MoU is attached at (Annexure – VI).

The Board is requested to ratify the action taken by the Chairperson BoG

#### DECISION

The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson, BoG regarding signing MoU with University College Cork – National University of Ireland, Cork

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BoG-80/21/08A: Considering Lien to Dr. Avijit Chowdhury, Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department of Physics.

Dr. A Dr. Avijit Chowdhury, Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department of Physics vide letter date 06.01.2021 requested to grant him Lien for 3 (three) years to enable him to take up his new assignment at Satyendra Nath Bose Nation Centre for Basic Sciences as Assistant Professor at Pay Level - 12.

It may be noted that the application of Dr. A. Chowdhury for the aforesaid post was forwarded by this institute vide Letter No. Estt.0590/13/Vol-I/17/7400-7402 dated 23.11.2020 and vide No. Estt.0590/13/Vol-I/17/8836 dated 24.12.2020 NoC for appearing the interview for the said post was also issued.

Dr. A. Chowdhury joined the institute on 19.09.2013 and vide Office Order No. NITS/Estt/BoG-76/20/11676-11900 dated 15.02.2021 his services were confirmed.

As per Statute 30 (i) of first statute of NIT, a permanent employee before releasing the institute should give three months' notice in writing to his appointing authority or by pay three months salary in lieu thereof. Dr. A Chowdhury vide letter dated 10.02.2021 requested to release him on lien from 25.06.2021 (A/N).

Submitted for kind decision regarding releasing Dr. A. Chowdhury on lien from this institute

#### DECISION

The Board allowed Dr. Avijit Chowdhury, Assistant Professor Grade — I, Department of Physics to retain Lien to the post he is holding in this institute for 1 (one) year for taking up his new assignment at Satyendra Nath Bose Nation Centre for Basic Sciences as Assistant Professor at Pay Level - 12

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Prof. N. B. Dev Choudhury) Registrar (i/c) & Secretary

(Sri Gautam N Mehra) Chairperson, BoG