

**Minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2015 at 11:00 am at Kanchendogza Management Block, Sikkim University, Gangtok.**

The following members were present:

- |                                 |   |                 |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Prof. T.B. Subba             | - | Chairman        |
| 2. Prof. J.P. Tamang            | - | Member          |
| 3. Prof. Pratap Chandra Pradhan | - | Member          |
| 4. Dr. Dhaniraj Chettri         | - | Member          |
| 5. Dr. Subir Mukhopadhyay       | - | Member          |
| 6. Prof. Irshad Ghulam Ahmed    | - | Member          |
| 7. Dr. Nawal Kishore Paswan     | - | Member          |
| 8. Shri D. Kanunjna             | - | Special invitee |
| 9. Shri T.K. Kaul               | - | Secretary       |

Prof. Sameera Maiti and Prof. Chetan Singh, Director IIAS could not attend the meeting.

Chairman welcomed all members of the Executive Council. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up.

**SECTION-1  
CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

**EC22.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014**

Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014 were circulated to all members on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014. No comments were received from any of the members of the Council. The Chairman proposed for confirmation of the minutes of the meeting.

Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014 as circulated to the members on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014 were thereafter confirmed.

**EC22.1.2: Action taken report on the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014**

Registrar presented the action taken report on the minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Council. The Council noted the action taken report.

**SECTION - 2  
REPORTING ITEMS**

Nil

**SECTION-3**  
**RATIFICATION MATTERS**

**EC22.3.1: Resignation of Prof. Debabrata Mitra from the post of Professor in the Department of Commerce**

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in accepting the resignation of Prof. Debabrata Mitra and relieving him from the service of the University w.e.f. 23.02.2015 (AN). Since no panel was available, the post has been marked vacant.

**EC22.3.2: Resignation of Dr. Binu Mathew from the post of Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture**

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in accepting the resignation of Dr. Binu Mathew and relieving him from the service of the University w.e.f. 08.12.2014 (AN). The post has been marked vacant and advertised.

**EC22.3.3: Resignation of Dr. Kiran B. from the post of Assistant Professor in the Department of Botany**

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in accepting the resignation submitted by Dr. Kiran B, Assistant Professor and relieving him from the service of the University w.e.f. 17.03.2015 (FN). Since the panel has expired, the post has been marked vacant and advertised.

**SECTION – 4**  
**MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**

**EC22.4.1: Empowering Vice-Chancellor to issue offer of appointment after conclusion of interview**

The Council noted that appointing authority for Professors, Associate Professors (Readers) and Assistant Professors (Lecturers) is Executive Council. It also noted that delegation of powers in response to appointment of non-teaching staff have not been made so far. Hence, all recommendations of Selection Committees from MTS to Professor are placed before the Executive Council for approval before issuing offers of appointment.

The matter regarding authorising the Vice-Chancellor to issue offers of appointment on the basis of recommendations of the Selection Committees immediately after conclusion of the interview was discussed in detail. After discussion, the Council approved the proposal to authorise the Vice-Chancellor in issuing offers of appointment on the basis of recommendations of the Selection Committees immediately after conclusion of the interview to be ratified subsequently by the Executive Council.

#### **EC22.4.2: Recruitment to statutory and Non-Statutory Positions in the University**

The Council was informed that on receipt of Visitor's nominees from MHRD to the Selection Committees, the process for constituting Selection Committees and conduct of interviews was carried out. The University carried out the interviews for the post of Finance Officer on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2015 and that of Librarian and Assistant Librarian on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015.

The Council ratified the action of Vice-Chancellor in nominating the members to the Selection Committees and approved the Selection Committee proceedings. Based on the recommendations of the Selection Committees, the Council approved giving offers of appointment to the following persons for the posts mentioned below:

1. Finance Officer - Shri Promod Kumar Singh
2. Librarian - No one found suitable
3. Assistant Librarian - Shri Prabin Karkee  
Wait list – 1 (Sh Sandip Kumar Singh)

#### **EC22.4.3: Nomination to the Finance Committee**

The Council noted that the membership of the following in the Finance Committee has expired/will expire on the date(s) shown against each:

1. Shri Sonam Wangdi - 29.01.2015
2. Prof. A.K. Dutta - 02.06.2015
3. Finance Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim - 02.06.2015

The Council noted the provision contained in the Statute 17(1) (iv) regarding nomination by the Executive Council to the Finance Committee.

The Council after deliberations authorized the Vice-Chancellor in nominating members to the Finance Committee under the above mentioned Statute.

#### **EC22.4.4: Completion of probation period of Non-Teaching Staff**

The Council noted that six non-teaching staff as per the details given below have completed their probation on the date showing against each.

<b>Sl. NO.</b>	<b>Name of the Official</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date of joining</b>	<b>Date of completion of probation</b>
1.	Shri Vivek Moktan	System Analyst	23.08.2013	22.08.2014
2.	Shri Vishal Tamang	Section Officer	18.12.2013	17.12.2014
3.	Mrs. Punam Chettri	Section Officer	09.01.2014	08.01.2015
4.	Ms. Reshu Pradhan	LDC	05.09.2013	04.09.2014
5.	Mrs. Deepika Subba	Hindi Typist	06.01.2014	05.01.2015
6.	Mrs. Mamta Pradhan	Nursing Attendant	23.12.2013	25.12.2014

Their performance have been reviewed by the Reporting Officer and the Reviewing Authority. No adverse remarks have been noted in the performance report of the above mentioned officers.

The Council approved lifting of probation of the above mentioned non- teaching staff members and confirming in service of the University from the date following the date of completion of their probation.

#### **EC22.4.5: Contractual engagement against statutory positions**

The Council noted that the contractual engagement of Shri D. Kanunjna as Advisor (Finance) against the post of Finance Officer is up to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 and that of Prof. A.S. Chandel as Librarian upto 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015. The Council further noted that selection to the post of regular Finance Officer has already been done, hence approved extension of engagement of Shri D. Kanunjna for a period of three months from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 on the existing terms.

The post of Librarian has to be re-advertised, hence the contractual engagement of Prof. A.S. Chandel has been approved for a period of six months on the existing terms from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.

#### **TABLE ITEMS**

#### **EC22.4.6: Setting up of a Centre of Sikkim University**

The Council noted that MHRD vide letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 has communicated that while examining proposal for setting up of a Central University in Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) area, it has been thought appropriate that instead of considering the proposal for establishing a new Central University in GTA, option of setting up off-campus of Sikkim University in GTA area be explored. The letter of MHRD further states that there is no provision of off-Campus of the University in the Statutes. However, as per Section 5 (xii) of the Act, the University is empowered to establish, with the prior approval of the Central Government, such centres and specialized laboratories or other units for research and instruction as are, in the opinion of the University, necessary for the furtherance of its objects. Also, as per Section 6 (1) of the Act the jurisdiction of the University is limited to the State of Sikkim. Comments on the proposal of establishing its Centre in GTA area and seeking the views of the University on the proposed amendments to Section 6 (1) of Act, relating to the jurisdiction have been sought.

All members present in the meeting expressed their opinion. Whereas, some members opined that there is long pending demand from the people of GTA area for establishment of a Central University there, and the same is part of the tripartite agreement among the GTA, Centre and West Bengal, setting up an off- Campus of SU may dilute the demand of establishing a Central University there, which is very much needed. Others felt that off-campus will face problems of staff who will want to be transferred to HQ besides the problem of teaching the same subjects in both off-campus and HQ. Some

members were favourable to the proposal of establishing off-campus centre of Sikkim University, only as a prelude to a full-fledged Central University for GTA. Some members were in favour of holding serious discussions at different levels outside the University on the issue. Some members even favoured the proposal of MHRD in setting up off-campus centre in GTA as they viewed it as an opportunity for Sikkim University to help GTA area in development of higher education system and were also of the view that it may ultimately grow into a full-fledged University as has happened in case of Mizoram University, Nagaland University, Rajiv Gandhi University, Tripura University and Manipur University.

After detailed deliberations all members unanimously approved the proposal of MHRD in setting up off-campus centre in GTA area and suggested following amendment to Section 6(1) of Sikkim University Act 2006.

*“The Jurisdiction of the University shall extend to State of Sikkim and Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) area in West Bengal”.*

Other related amendments to some other sections of the Act also need to be considered together with the above amendments such as given below:

<b>Section of SU Act</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
2(u)	“University” means the Sikkim University established and incorporated as a University under this Act.	“University” means the <b>Central University of Sikkim</b> established and incorporated as a University under this Act. <b>Reason:</b> The change in nomenclature is proposed to avoid confusion in public mind about Sikkim University vis-à-vis five other state/private Universities partly bearing SU in their nomenclature such as Sikkim Manipal University, EIILM Sikkim University, MD Sikkim University, ICFAI Sikkim University and SRM Sikkim University.
3(1)	There shall be established, in the State of Sikkim, a University by the name of “Sikkim University”.	There shall be established, in the State of Sikkim, a University by the name of <b>“Central University of Sikkim”</b> .
3(2)	The headquarters of the University shall be at Gangtok	The headquarters of the University shall be at <b>Yangang, South Sikkim</b> .
4	The objects of the University shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit; to make provisions for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, forestry and other allied disciplines in the educational	The objects of the university shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit; to make provisions for integrated courses in humanities, natural and physical sciences, social sciences, forestry and other allied

	programmes of the University; to take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching-learning process, inter-disciplinary studies and research; to educate and train manpower for the development of the State of Sikkim; and to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of that State, their intellectual, academic and cultural development.	disciplines in the educational programmes of the University; to take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching-learning process, inter-disciplinary studies and research; to educate and train manpower for the development of the State of Sikkim <b>including the GTA area of West Bengal</b> and to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of the region, their intellectual, academic and cultural development
6(2)	Notwithstanding anything in any other law for the time being in force, no educational institution within the State of Sikkim shall be associated in any way with or be admitted to any privileges of any other University incorporated by law in India, and any such privileges granted by any such other University to an educational institution within the State of Sikkim prior to the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to the withdrawn on the commencement of this Act;	Notwithstanding anything in any other law for the time being in force, no educational institution within the State of Sikkim and <b>in GTA area of West Bengal</b> shall be associated in any way with or be admitted to any privileges of any other University incorporated by law in India, and any such privileges granted by any such other University to an educational institution within the State of Sikkim prior to the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to the withdrawn on the commencement of this Act, <b>or on such dates as the Central Government may by order specify;</b>

#### **EC22.4.7: Completion of probation period of teachers**

The Executive Council noted that the following teachers have completed their probation on dates shown against each. Their probation have been reviewed by the Vice-Chancellor and found satisfactory. The Council approved lifting of the probation period and confirmation of these teachers in the service of the University with effect from the date following the date of completion of their probation.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the official</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Date of joining</b>	<b>Date of completion of probation</b>
1.	Prof. J.P. Tamang	Professor	Microbiology	14.03.2012	13.03.2013
2.	Prof. P.C. Pradhan	Professor	Nepali	25.06.2012	24.06.2013

#### **EC22.4.8: Resignation of Dr. Dharmendra Pratap, Assistant Professor**

Dr. Dharmendra Pratap, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture has submitted his resignation from the post of Assistant Professor vide letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015 requesting that he be relieved with lien. Subsequently

vide letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 he requested to relieve him without lien at the earliest on the ground that he has been selected as Assistant Professor in Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut.

The Council noted that as per Statute 26 (6) (a) '*permanent employees may resign after giving three months' notice in writing to the Executive Council or the appointing authority as the case may be, or by paying three months' salary in lieu thereof*'. Under this provision Dr. Dharmendra Pratap can be relieved on 27.05.2015 after completing three months notice period. He can also be relieved early subject to refund of his salary for which notice period of three months falls short of.

The Council after deliberations approved the proposal. However, some members pointed out that Dr. Dharmendra Pratap is having a project under him for which scholars have also been appointed. Dr. Dharmendra Pratap may be asked about the details of the project separately in writing.

#### **EC22.4.9: Matter relating to operation of the Guest House**

The Registrar presented this item. He informed the Council that Guest House Advisory Committee was constituted to advise on the overall functioning of the Guest House and suggest and evaluating alternatives etc. In the Advisory Committee meeting a presentation was made giving the details of present situation of the Guest House. These details were briefly explained to the members of the Council also. The Advisory Committee of the Guest House recommended that we may dispense with the present Guest House and take rooms in hotels for the entire year for which following course of action be followed:

1. Float the advertisement seeking Expression of Interest from the various ranges of hotels in and around Gangtok.
2. To book the rooms in hotels of different ranges for accommodating University guests of different stature and also to avoid dependability on a single hotel.
3. To retain the Guest house till the recommended arrangement is in place.
4. Services of contractual staff in the Guest House (Cook & Helper) may also be dispensed with, once Guest House is dispensed with.

The Council after detailed deliberations approved the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. It also approved hiring of two to three small flats to accommodate Professors/Officials on contract who may have to stay for longer duration of about six months at a time.

**EC22.4.10: To consider reimbursement of treatment as outpatient in lieu of fixed medical allowance**

The Council noted that a proposal to consider reimbursement of treatment as outpatient in lieu of fixed medical allowance was placed in the Executive Council in its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014 where in the Council suggested the University to explore the possibility of Group Medical Insurance Scheme for the purpose of OPD treatment of employees and dependent family members. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Advisor (Finance) with Dr. S.S. Mahapatra, Mr. C. Talukdar, Dr. Manjushree Thapa and Mr. C.B. Chettri as members was constituted for the purpose. The Committee contacted all four General Insurance Companies (GICs). The Committee in its report submitted that Mediclaim policy of each of these companies cover only hospitalization. OPD treatment is not covered in any of the Insurance scheme. The Committee recommended that Group Medical Insurance Scheme is not suitable for the employees with regard to their OPD treatment.

The Executive Council after deliberations approved reimbursement of outpatient treatment for self and dependent family members as per CS (MA) Rules of Govt. of India in lieu of fixed medical allowance to the employees of the University.

**SECTION 5  
MINUTES OF AUTHORITES/COMMITTEES**

**EC22.5.1: Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Building Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015.**

The Council approved the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Building Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015

**SECTION 6  
ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**

**EC22.6.1:** The Chairman informed the Council that Prof. Sameera Maiti, Dean School of Human Sciences is currently on medical leave for her treatment. She may continue for some more time on medical leave. In order to run the affairs of School of Human Sciences, especially in view of ensuing NAAC peer review, it was proposed that an Associate Professor in School of Human Sciences may temporarily be given the charge of the Dean in place of Prof. Sameera Maiti during her absence from duty.

The senior-most Associate Professor in School of Human Sciences is Dr. Sohel Firdos, but he cannot be given charge as he has been removed from headship of Geography Department and decision of the Executive Council is pending on the charge sheet served to him. The next senior-most



Associate Professor is Dr. Nutankumar S. Thingujam, Associate Professor & Head Department of Psychology.

The Council approved temporary appointment of Dr. Nutankumar S. Thingujam as Dean, School of Human Sciences during the absence of Prof. Sameera Maiti. Dr. Thingujam will continue to be the Head of Psychology Department.

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

**Sd/-**  
**(T.K.Kaul)**  
**Registrar & Secretary**

**Sd/-**  
**(T.B.Subba)**  
**Vice-Chancellor & Chairman**