

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SILCHAR

## EIGHTY FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### MINUTES

The 81<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2021 at 1700 hours. The following members were present in the meeting:

1. Sri Gautam N Mehra, Chairman & Managing Director, Savita Oil Technologies Limited, Chairperson, BoG
2. Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director & Ex - Officio, BoG
3. Sri Indrajit Kuri, Under Secretary, TS – III, Ministry of Education
4. Dr. S. K. Kakoty, Professor, IIT Guwahati
5. Prof. P. S Choudhury, NIT Silchar
6. Dr. Ripon Patgiri, NiT Siichar
7. 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. N. B. Dev Choudhury welcomed the Chairperson and other members who attended the meeting

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

**BoG-81/21/01: To confirm the minutes of the 80<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Board of Governors.**

Eightieth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 via video conferencing. The copies of the Minutes of the 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors (Annexure – I<sub>1</sub>) was circulated to all the members of the Board. No comments has been received from any members.

The Board is requested to confirm the minutes of 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BoG.

#### DECISION

*The Board noted that the comments of one of the members of the Board was not reflected on the agenda item. The Board gone through the comments of the Honourable member of Board of Governors and decided the following:*

*The minutes of the following two Agenda Items should be changed as follows:*

*BoG – 80/21/01: The Board confirmed the Minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> and 79<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors*

*BoG – 80/21/03: 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*

*The Institute has provided clarification on the comments received against Agenda Item No 80/21/04 and after threadbare discussion, the Board confirmed the minutes of 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoG with the modification as mentioned above.*

BoG-81/21/02: To discuss on the Action Taken Report on decision of the 80<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Board of Governors.

The action taken report on the minutes of 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of BOG is placed at Annexure – II. The Board is requested to take note of the same

**DECISION**

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*The Board after confirming the minutes of 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoG noted the action taken report of the 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoG.*

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BoG-81/21/03: To approve the proposal of Department of Mechanical Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Renewable Energy.

Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering has submitted a proposal duly approved by the DPPC of the Department for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Renewable Energy. The detailed syllabus is placed at Annexure – III.

The Senate approved the proposal of Department of Mechanical Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Renewable Energy and recommended the same to the BoG for consideration.

The Board is requested to approve the same.

**DECISION**

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*The Board received following queries from one the Honourable Board Members*

- i. What is the financial implication of the proposal?*
- ii. How the additional fund requirement will be met?*
- iii. What will be the annual students intake of the Course?*
- iv. What will be Course fee charged from the students and what percent of the expenditure will be recovered from the students?*
- v. What will be the additional faculty requirement due to the new Course? and;*
- vi. How the additional infrastructural requirement of the hostel, etc. due to the new Course will be met?*

*The institute clarified in details the queries received from the Honourable Board Members in front of the Board (placed at Annexure – A).*

*The Board after going through the clarification from the institute approved the proposal of Department of Mechanical Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Renewable Energy*

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BoG-81/21/04: To approve the proposal of Department of Computer Science & Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Head of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering has submitted a proposal for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. The detailed syllabus for the course is placed at Annexure – IV. The Senate approved the proposal of Department of Computer Science & Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning and recommended the same to the BoG for consideration.

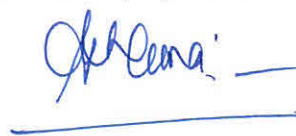
The Board is requested to approve the same.

**DECISION**

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*The Board received following queries from one the Honourable Board Members*

- i. What is the financial implication of the proposal?*



- ii. How the additional fund requirement will be met?
- iii. What will be the annual students intake of the Course?
- iv. What will be Course fee charged from the students and what percent of the expenditure will be recovered from the students?
- v. What will be the additional faculty requirement due to the new Course? and;
- vi. How the additional infrastructural requirement of the hostel, etc. due to the new Course will be met?

The institute clarified in details the queries received from the Honourable Board Members in front of the Board (**placed at Annexure – B**).

The Board after going through the clarification from the institute approved the proposal of Department of Computer Science & Engineering for introduction of new M. Tech. Course in Artificial Intelligence.

**BoG-81/21/05: To consider the proposal for a dual degree programme with Arizona State University.**

The Institute has received a proposal for a Dual Degree Program with Arizona State University, USA for undergraduate courses. As per the said proposal, the partnering Institutes will establish a collaborative education program in which qualified undergraduate students after successfully completing the first two (2) years of their curriculum, will apply for admission to selected fields of study at Arizona State University, USA for the next two (2) years to finish a required training curriculum to qualify for their bachelor's degrees awarded by both the partnering Institutes.

The copy of the proposal along with the draft agreement is placed at **Annexure – V<sub>1</sub> & Annexure – V<sub>2</sub>** respectively.

The Senate considered the proposal for a dual programme with Arizona State University and recommend the same to the BoG for consideration.

The Board is requested to approve the same.

**DECISION**

*One of the Honourable Board Member of the Institute commented that from the proposal, it is not clear whether the proposed dual degree programme (2+2) with Arizona State University will be two-way process or one-way process and what will be its financial implication for the Institute?*

*The Institute clarified that only the students of this institute will pursue dual degree programme with Arizona State University and there is no financial involvement of the Institute.*

**BoG-81/21/06: To note the ranking of National Institute of Technology Silchar in various platform.**

The National Institute of Technology Silchar has participated in following platforms and secured the rank mentioned against the platforms.

1	THE US News University Ranking	750 <sup>th</sup>
2	UI Green Matric World University Ranking	275 <sup>th</sup> (World University)
		6 <sup>th</sup> (Indian University)
3	The Emerging Economies University	251 – 300
4	Times Higher Education World University Ranking	601 – 800 for Engineering World University

	601 – 800 for Physical Science World University
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The Board is requested to note the same

**DECISION**

*The Board noted the same.*

**BoG-81/21/07:** Regarding granting of lien to Dr. Nirmala Soren, Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department of Electrical Engineering for taking up new assignment of Associate Professor at Birsa Institute of Technology Sindri, Jharkhand.

Dr. Nirmala Soren, Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department of Electrical Engineering vide letter dated 01.03.2021 (Annexure - VII) requested to release her on lien for taking up new assignment of Associate Professor at Birsa Institute of Technology Sindri, Jharkhand.

It may be noted that vide No. Estt.0593/14/20812 dated 28.12.2017 Dr. N. Soren was granted NoC for appearing document verification for the post of Associate Professor at Birsa Institute of Technology Sindri, Jharkhand.

The application of Dr. N. Soren for the said post was not forwarded by the institute.

Dr. N. Soren joined the institute on 31.10.2014 and vide Office Order No. NITS/Estt/BoG-76/20/11676-11900 dated 15.02.2021 her service was 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. N. Soren vide letter dated 01.03.2021 requested to release her on lien w.e.f. 01.06.2021 (A/N)

The Board is requested to give kind decision regarding granting Lien to Dr. Nirmala Soren, Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department of Electrical Engineering

**DECISION**

*The Board did not grant Dr. Nirmala Soren Assistant Professor Grade – I, Department Electrical Engineering Lien for taking up new assignment of Associate Professor at Birsa Institute of Technology Sindri, Jharkhand as the application of Dr. N. Soren for the said post was not forwarded by the institute.*

*The Board further, decided to review whether any Faculty Members with NoC was granted Lien and also decided to refer the matter to Ministry of Education if required.*

**BoG-81/21/08** To ratify the decision of Chairperson BoG regarding granting extension of Study Leve to Dr. Lalthazuala Rokhum, Assistant Professor Grade – II, Department of Chemistry for pursuing Post-Doctoral Study at University of Cambridge, UK

Dr. Lalthazuala Rokhum, Assistant Professor Grade – II, Department of Chemistry vide email dated 19.02.2021 requested to grant him extension for another 3 (three) months w.e.f. 06.05.2021 to 05.08.2021 for pursuing Post-Doctoral Study at University of Cambridge, UK.




It may be noted that Dr. L. Rokhum vide office orders No. NITS/Estt/0587/13/Vol-II/18/6637-40 dated 01.08.2019 and No. Estt.0587/13/Vol-II/18/9736-40 dated 11.01.2021 was granted study leave for pursuing Post-Doctoral Study at University of Cambridge, UK from 06.08.2019 to 05.05.2021 i.e. 21 (twenty one) months.

As per Rule 51 (b) of CCS (Leave) Rules The maximum amount of study leave, which may be granted to a Government servant during his entire service, twenty-four months in all (inclusive of similar kind of leave for study or training granted under any other rules).

The Chairperson BoG has granted Dr. L. Rokhum Study leave for additional period from 06.05.2021 to 05.08.2021 i.e. 3 (three) months.

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

#### DECISION

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*The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson*

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BoG-81/21/09

**To ratify the decision of Chairperson BoG regarding granting extension of Extra Ordinary Leave to Dr. Robin Khosla, Assistant Professor Grade – II, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering for pursuing Humboldt Post-Doctoral Fellow Research Position at Technical University (TU), Stuttgart, Germany**

Dr. Robin Khosla, Assistant Professor Grade – II, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering vide email dated 02.12.2020 requested to extend the period of Extra Ordinary Leave for pursuing Humboldt Post-Doctoral Fellow Research Position at Technical University (TU), Stuttgart, Germany for further period from 05.01.2021 to 02.08.2021.

It may be noted that vide Office Order No. Estt.0654/18/6218-21 dated 30.07.2019 and No. Estt.0654/18/2238-42 dated 27.07.2020 Dr. R. Khosla was granted Extra Ordinary Leave from 01.08.2019 to 04.01.2021 for the aforesaid purpose as per Rule 32 (2)(e) and 32(3)(a) of CCS Leave Rules.

Rule 32 (2) (e) of CCS (Leave) Rules states that twenty-four months, where the leave is required for the purpose of prosecuting studies certified to be in the public interest, provided the Government servant concerned has completed three years' continuous service on the date of expiry of leave of the kind due and admissible under these rules.

Further, as per Rule 32 (3) (a) of CCS (Leave) Rules Where a Government servant is granted extraordinary leave in relaxation of the provisions contained in Clause (e) of sub-rule (2), shall be required to execute a Bond in Form 6 undertaking to refund to the Government the actual amount of expenditure incurred by the Government during such leave plus that incurred by any other agency with interest thereon in the event of his not returning to duty on the expiry of such leave or quitting the service before a period of three years after return to duty.

Dr. R. Khosla has executed a bond in form 6 and was granted Extra Ordinary Leave for 18 months 4 days.

It is to be pointed out that R. Khosla has requested to grant him Extra Ordinary Leave from 01.08.2019 to 02.08.2021 i.e. 24 months 2 days and as per Rule

32(2)(e) Extra Ordinary Leave for 24 (twenty four) months can be granted for the purpose of prosecuting studies certified to be in the public interest.

The Chairperson BoG has granted Dr. R. Khosla Extra Ordinary Leave for additional period from 05.01.2021 to 02.08.2021 for the said purpose.

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

**DECISION**

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*The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson*

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**BoG-81/21/10 To ratify the decision of Chairperson BoG regarding approving Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2019 – 20.**

As per Statute 14 (iv) of First Statute of NITs, the Chairperson, BoG has approved the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2019 – 20 (Annexure – X).

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

**DECISION**

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*The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson and decided that ATR on each of the audit observations contained in the SAR and the Management letter, if any, be placed in the next meeting of the FC/BoG.*

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**BoG-81/21/11 To ratify the decision of Chairperson BoG regarding signing of Indo – EU Consortium Agreement.**

As per Statute 14 (iv) of First Statute of NITs, the Chairperson, BoG has accorded approved to signing Indo – EU Agreement. The details of Consortium Agreement is placed at Annexure – XI.

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

**DECISION**

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*The Director, NIT Silchar has intimated that the agreement to be signed by the institute has not been finalised by EU. Hence, the agenda item is withdrawn.*

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**BoG-81/21/12 To ratify the decision of Chairperson BoG regarding procurement and installation of SAMARTH-ERP for the Institute.**

The Finance Committee in its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 21.12.2020 granted financial approval of INR 50,00,000.00 (fifty lakhs) for procurement of Server for SAMARTH – ERP along with 10 (ten) numbers of Desktop PC and other equipment for ERP system.

Since the procurement is to be initiated with 31.03.2021 the Chairpaerson, BoG has granted approval for the same as per Statute 14 (iv) of First Statute of NITs

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

**DECISION**

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*The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairperson*

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**BoG-81/21/13 To adopt Central Civil Services (Implementation of National Pension System) Rules, 2021.**

The Government of India vide Gazette Notification dated 30.03.2021 introduced Civil Services (Implementation of National Pension System) Rules, 2021 (Annexure - XIII). It may be noted that all the employees of the institute who joined after 31.12.2004 are under New Pension Scheme.

As such, the Board is requested to adopt Civil Services (Implementation of National Pension System) Rules, 2021.

**DECISION**

*One of the Honourable members of the board commented that The CCS (Implementation of National Pension System) Rules, 2021 proposed to be adopted is specifically not applicable to autonomous bodies. Also, the said Rules are not to be adopted by autonomous bodies of MoE unless the Ministry circulates for the purpose. Hence, the agenda item is withdrawn.*

**BoG-81/21/14: To approve the recommendations of the 53<sup>rd</sup> FC meetings.**

The recommendations of 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of Finance Committee scheduled on 21.12.2020 will be placed on the table on the day of meeting for approval.

**DECISION**

*The Board approved the recommendations of the 53<sup>rd</sup> FC meetings.*


**BoG-81/21/15A: To approve the recommendations of the 54<sup>th</sup> FC meetings.**

The recommendations of 54<sup>th</sup> meeting of Finance Committee scheduled on 21.04.2021 will be placed on the table on the day of meeting for approval.

**DECISION**

*The Board approved the recommendations of the 54<sup>th</sup> FC meetings.*

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