

INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

Category I Deemed To Be University by MHRD/UGC (2018)

First Elite Status and Centre of Excellence - Government of Maharashtra (2012)

A** Grade by NAAC (CGPA 3.77)

TEQIP Phase III funded

MATUNGA, MUMBAI 400 019

Campuses at : Mumbai, IOC Bhubneswar, Marathwada Jalna

Minutes of the Eighteenth (Emergency) Meeting of the Board of Governors held on Monday 18 March, 2019

The Eighteenth (Emergency) meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) was held in the Board Room on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 10.30 am:

Following members were present:

- (i) Professor G.D. Yadav, Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)
- (ii) Smt. Sandra Shroff, Vice President, United Phosphorous Ltd.
- (iii) Shri S.M. Mokashi, Former Managing Director, Xytel India Ltd., Mumbai
- (iv) Shri U. Shekhar, Chairman, Galaxy Surfactants Ltd.
- (v) Professor P.R. Vavia, Dean, Academic Programmes (AP)
- (vi) Professor Padma V. Devarajan, Sr. Most Professor
- (vii) Professor R.R. Deshmukh, Registrar (Member Secretary)

Following members were granted leave of absence:

- (i) Shri Saurabh Vijay, Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of Maharashtra
- (ii) Shri M.B. Parekh, Chairman and Managing Director, Pidilite Industries Ltd.
- (iii) Shri C.V. Gogri, Chairman Emeritus, Aarti Industries Ltd., Mumbai
- (iv) Shri Sanjiv Singh, Chairman, Indian Oil Corp Ltd. (Invitee)
- (v) Professor Devang Khakhar, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
- (vi) Shri Nikhil Meswani, Executive Director, Reliance Industries Ltd.
- (vii) Professor A.B. Pandit, Dean, Human Research Development (HRD)

Shri Dilip Udas was invited as special invitee, as he was the member of the Sub-committee appointed by the Board.

Registrar of the Institute prescribed the report of the subcommittee constituted by the Board for further inquiry in the matter of Conflict of Interest reported against Professor A.M. Lali and follow up action as proposed in the preliminary inquiry report in the matter.

The Board resolved as follows on the decisions of Vice Chancellors, who were found negligent in the matter.

A. **Professor A.M. Lali**

1. The Board RESOLVED that Professor A.M. Lali be relieved immediately of his charge in DBT-ICT Centre and be assigned only academic responsibility in the Department of Chemical Engineering. His entire charge of the DBT-ICT Centre including all the records related to his present interaction and

commitments with outside agencies (Agreements, Technical Reports etc.) shall be well documented and taken over by another faculty.

2. The Board NOTED that the Professor V.G. Gaikar shall take over the charge from Professor A.M. Lali of Coordinator, DBT-ICT Centre and also that of Head Scientist.
3. Board also RESOLVED that Professor Lali shall be given the Show Cause Notice under the clause 13.7 of Part-B of Schedule-B of the Institute Statutes to explain within 7 days time as to why the following action should not be taken against him.
4. The Board also RESOVLED THAT
 - a. Professor A.M. Lali will not be allowed to deal with any outside agency for entering into any commercial or Research agreements or MOUs as ICT faculty henceforth and whenever required his associates including research students shall also not deal with outside agencies except through the Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering.
 - b. All awards bestowed on him by ICT shall be withdrawn.
 - c. Losses suffered by the Institute and profit earned by him and his family through M/s Vidyan Biocommerce Pvt. Ltd shall be recovered from him.
5. Board further NOTED THAT the Vice Chancellor shall act as prescribed under the clause 13.7(4) and ensure that appropriate action is taken against Professor A.M. Lali as per the recommendations of subcommittee and response by Professor Lali to the show cause notice.
6. The Board AGREED to the following decisions related to M/s Vidyan Biocommerce Pvt. Ltd.
 - a. ICT shall terminate all its understandings, commitments with M/s Vidyan Biocommerce Pvt. Ltd. (VBC) and accordingly blacklist the company for further dealings.
 - b. ICT shall recover all originals, tracings and copies of drawings, documents pertaining to ICT orders along with financial dues, if any, due to termination of ongoing orders. and shall inform VBC that all confidentiality agreement shall survive termination.
7. It has been RESOLVED THAT the external Government and private agencies such as (Central Government offices, State Government offices, BPL, IGL, Kanoria Chemicals, LLC from USA) shall be informed of termination of Professor Lali as authorized representative of ICT/DBT and that they shall interact with the newly appointed Professor V.G. Gaikar as Coordinator and Head Scientist of DBT-ICT centre.
8. The Board also NOTED THAT Professor V.G. Gaikar, new Coordinator of DBT-ICT Centre, Shri Deepak Jadiye, OSD and an expert from Finance and Auditing shall be given the responsibility to ascertain the worth of engineering knowhow gained by the Institute and the price/procurement status of various equipment procured in the Institute along with the amount of revenue generated by the Centre, if any. The worth gained by the Institute and the inventory of procurement items need to match with the total investment value in the Centre. Any discrepancy, if reported under findings shall be appropriately reacted upon and the Board shall be immediately apprised.

B. Professor A.B. Pandit-

- a. The Board NOTED THAT Professor A.B. Pandit is holding two important positions in the Institute, Dean (HRD) and Co-ordinator, DAE-ICT Centre and ADVISED THAT Vice Chancellor shall inform Professor A.B. Pandit of the following decisions in writing.
- b. It has been RESOLVED THAT Professor Pandit shall not be given any authority any Agreements / documents to sign with outside agencies on behalf of ICT and his promotions/up-gradation etc shall be deferred for a period of six months.

C. Professor Bhanage and other chairs of the Purchase Committee-

It has been RESOLVED THAT Professor B.M. Bhanage, Professor K.S. Laddha and Dr. S.M. Mane shall be reprimanded for their assumption that VBC was an Institute Company without verifying any documents related to VBC and remind them about the importance of “getting value” and also following the due and legal procedures before purchase orders of such large value are placed. They shall be also reprimanded for not following the due purchase procedures.

D. The Board then discussed the content of email sent by Professor Laddha to all Board members on the day of scheduled Board Meeting and RESOLVED as following-

Shri U. Shekhar informed that he has received e-mail from Professor K.S. Laddha which is also marked to other Board members wherein he has blatantly blamed the Board members for questioning him during interaction with subcommittee about his ignorance of Purchase procedures. His mail content further indicates his misunderstandings with regard to purchase procedures and responsibilities of various authorities involved in deciding the purchase orders. The Board also noticed that the Professor Laddha is putting wrong facts through his complains in front of high level Government authorities which is maligning the image of Institute and asked the Vice Chancellor to submit factual report in detail to all such authorities for safeguarding the image of Institute. The Board recommended Vice Chancellor to take all precautionary measure to ensure that Professor Laddha desists from such acts.

E. The Board further resolved to take following precautionary measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidences in future-

- a. BoG recommended to consult a senior lawyer to advise on legal aspects of the actions decided as above and to be taken in the future.
- b. Shri S.M. Mokashi suggested that while signing any financial documents like MoUs in future, financial implications like liability should also be attained carefully.
- c. Board recommended to appoint technical committee to frame norms for Technology Transfer/ setting up of Start-ups and also decide clauses of Model MoU/ Agreement based on which further MoUs/ Agreements of the Institute are to be signed. Shri Mokashi suggested to take help of Shri Hirwani from NCL in the matter. The Vice Chancellor suggested the committee as following-

1. Professor Padma Devarajan, President Innovation Council, TEQIP Coordinator and Board Member
2. Professor Rekha Singhal, Dean (RCRM);
3. Professor V.G. Gaikar, Coordinator, DBT-ICT Centre
4. Shri Hirwani, NCL;

The Vice Chancellor suggested that the committee may seek comments / approval of the final draft of model MoU from Shri S. M. Mokashi & Shri C V Gogri.

The Board has given consent to the constitution of above Committee.

The meeting ended with thank to the Chair.

Professor R.R. Deshmukh
Member Secretary and Registrar