

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)

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Matunga, Mumbai 400 019

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**Minutes of the Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Board of Governors held (hybrid mode)
 on Monday, December 12, 2022**

The Twenty Eighth meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) was held in the Board Room (in hybrid mode) of Institute on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 4.00 pm:

Following members were present physically:

- (i) Professor A.B. Pandit, Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)
- (ii) Smt. Sandra Shroff, Vice President, United Phosphorous Ltd.
- (iii) Shri J.R. Shah, Director, Jayvee Organics & Polymers Pvt. Ltd.
- (iv) Shri Nitin Deshmukh, CEO-Private Equity, Kotak Investment Advisors Ltd.
- (v) Professor S.S. Bhagwat, Dean (AP)
- (vi) Professor V.G. Gaikar, Department of Chemical Engineering as Sr. Most Professor of the Institute
- (vii) Professor R.R. Deshmukh, Registrar (Member Secretary)

Following members joined online:

- (i) Professor Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Director, National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE)
- (ii) Dr. Abhay Jere, Chief Innovation Officer, MHRD's Innovation Cell
- (iii) Shri M.B. Parekh, Chairman and Managing Director, Pidilite Industries Ltd.

Following members were granted leave of absence:

- (i) Shri Vikas Chandra Rastogi, Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Government of Maharashtra
- (ii) Shri U. Shekhar, Chairman, Galaxy Surfactants Ltd.
- (iii) Professor Padma Devarajan, Dean (RI)

The Vice Chancellor welcomed all the members present.

Resolutions under agenda item of Twenty Seventh Board meeting dated March 22, 2022.

No.	Item	Resolution
1.	Confirmation of the minutes of the BOG meeting held on March 22, 2022	The minutes were approved by the Board.
2.	Action Taken Report (ATR) against the resolutions of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Board held on March 22, 2022	Board has noted and approved the ATR.
3.	Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings held on 22nd April, 2022, 8th September, 2022 and 23rd November, 2022 The Finance Committee meetings after last Board meeting were held on 22nd April, 2022, 8th September, 2022 and 23rd November, 2022.	The Board noted and approved the minutes.

	The minutes of the meetings are placed as Annexure 2, Annexure 3 and Annexure 4 respectively for the approval of the Board.	
4.	<p>Establishment of “Parimal and Pramod Choudhari Center of excellence and Innovation of Biopolymer” (CoE&I)</p> <p>In successive collaboration with Praj Industries, on the 6th of October 2022, the Institute of Chemical Technology has established a center of excellence for biopolymers named “Parimal and Pramod Chaudhari Center of excellence and Innovation of Biopolymer” (CoE&I). It is the first center of excellence that blossoms through the collaboration of the institute and industry in ICT. The center is established due to the extensive effort and hard work done by Professor S. T. Mhaske. The aforementioned center is going to function through a Principal Investigator (PI) of the project, Professor S. T. Mhaske.</p> <p>The CoE&I center shall generate opportunities for Ph. D scholars, research assistants, and other technical staff to participate in high end research activities in the field of development and enhancement of the properties of biobased polymers synthesized from alkonates (PHA) and lactic acid (PLA).</p> <p>The MoUs were signed between ICT and Dr. Pramod Madhukar Chaudhari, a founder of Praj Industries (Annexure-5) in his personal capacity and also between ICT and Praj Industry (Annexure-6) for the establishment of CoE&I. Center has been granted funding of INR 5.17 crore for the development work through these MoUs at the initial stage and also shown willingness to continue the activities related to this centre in future. Besides the procurement of research equipment worth 3.5 crores (approx.), the funding is also available for renovation/revamping of existing facilities for the conversion into CoE&I. The Praj Industry shall supervise and execute the infrastructural development of CoE&I. The layouts for the proposed development as proposed by the Praj Industry and Financial Quotation finalized by the Praj Industries are attached as Annexure-7 and Annexure-8 respectively.</p> <p>The center of activity will be reviewed periodically. The reviewing panel will consist of Professor A. B. Pandit (Honorable Vice Chancellor, ICT), Dr. Pramod Chaudhary (Executive Chairman, Praj Industries), and Dr. Pramod Kumbhar (Technical Director, Praj Industries).</p> <p>Permission is requested to execute the MoUs for the development of CoE&I and grant the renovation work as per the layouts and quotations accepted by the Praj Industries.</p>	The Board members approved the project, nevertheless subsequently detailed plan showing sustainability and success of project should be submitted to the Board in its next meeting, for detailed discussion.
5.	<p>Establishment of Section 8 Company under promotion from the Institute</p> <p>1) As per recent Supreme Court judgement dated 19th October, 2022, educational institutions can claim benefits of tax exemptions only if they 'solely' engage in education and not in any other activity of profit.</p>	The item will be discussed in the next Board meeting with the submission of all the financial implications.

	<p>2) ICT is having issues with IT authorities who have denied exemption on the income earned by ICT as 1/3rd share of the consultancy fees.</p> <p>3) Considering the above judgement, it is likely that ICT will also be denied exemption in future assessments too.</p> <p>4) In the light of this, it is suggested that ICT promote a Section 8 Company which carries out consultancy/research projects and the activities of ICT are restricted to only imparting education to students.</p> <p>5) The modalities / advantages of such proposal are as under:</p> <p>a) ICT will remain tax exempt as it will carry out only educational activities</p> <p>b) The Section 8 Company will obtain 12A registration and will be required to spend at least 85% on its objects. The surplus in the Section 8 Company can be donated to ICT by virtue of which the Section 8 Company will also not be taxed and funds will be made available to ICT for pursuing its research and development activities of the Institute as is being currently done.</p> <p>c) ICT may surrender its GST registration as the educational activities are not taxable.</p> <p>d) The Section 8 Company will register itself under GST and will be eligible to claim full input in respect of materials/ equipment purchased by it. (Currently ICT cannot claim full exemption as a substantial portion of its income, being fees from students, is exempt and input credit is available only proportionately)</p> <p>6) The Management may consider this proposal and if agreed, the formation of the Section 8 Company will be initiated so that from FY 2023-24, the segregation of activities between ICT and the Section 8 Company becomes operational.</p> <p>Permission is requested to undertake the promotional activities for the establishment of Section 8 Company. The governing modalities of proposed company alongwith the possible field of activities shall be detailed out and submitted for the information of the Board in the next meeting.</p>	
6.	<p>Appointment of private agency for acquiring the property card for civil infrastructure of the Institute from BMC.</p> <p>The Institute was granted the Status of Deemed to be University in the year 2008 and accordingly was separated from the Mumbai University. During the bifurcation of civil infrastructure, University of Mumbai has handed over the existing campus with existing civil structures to the Institute. During the additional development of civil infrastructure on the campus, Institute is facing major hurdle from</p>	<p>The Board appreciated the efforts taken by ICT team and permitted to continue Phase II activity with the same agency, subject to the approval from Finance Committee and Building and Works Committee.</p>

	<p>the sanctioning authorities of the BMC, as the property card for the civil infrastructure is not in the name of the Institute. When Institute approached the BMC for the same, it was further noticed that the original lease agreement of the land between BMC and University of Mumbai was also not available. This has created more hurdles for the transfer of property card and halted the development activities of the civil infrastructure. In view of this, a private liasoning agency named Vallabh Enterprises, Mumbai was hired through the tendering procedure for execution of existing lease plan and NOC to CC for the already started developmental activities through liasoning on urgent basis.</p> <p>The liasoning agency has executed its work and has shown further interest to get extended lease agreement along with required city survey changes, plot boundary demarcation, site boundary demarcation, merging of plots concessional approval for the development of civil structure as per Government norms and acquiring the property card in the name of the Institute.</p> <p>Permission is requested to continue the same agency under same terms and conditions as was finalized through earlier tendering process.</p>	
7.	<p>Status and revenue generation through testing of samples by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Machines</p> <p>As decided vide item no.9 (c) of the last Board meeting the current status and the details of the generation of the revenue are attached in annexure-9 and Annxure-10.</p> <p>Submitted for the information as per the directives.</p>	<p>The Board gave six more months to review testing of samples by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Machines by approaching more industries to improve percentage utilization to 70% to 80% from current 30%.</p>
8.	<p>Financial Assistance to DBT-ICT Centre for carrying out continues trials for MLW and MSW projects at BPCL</p> <p>In deviation to traditional treatment method of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Municipal Liquid Waste (MLW) the DBT-ICT Centre of Energy Biosciences has conceived new cost effective technology called Novel Rapid Anaerobic Digestion Technology to ensure efficient production of biogas (Bio-methane) from MSW and MLW via production of bio crude oil and submitted it to DBT for financial assistance for demonstrating the technology on pilot scale in the year 2016. Through various rounds of presentations and negotiation, the DBT finally sanctioned the project limited to the MSW part but also has gave consent to involve independent industry partner to take care of MLW part of technology. The project was thus decided to be executed at the cost of Rs. 670.39 lakhs (Rs.466.40 lakhs for non-recurring Rs. 203.99 lakhs for recurring) under financial assistant of DBT for MSW operations and Rs.333.33 lakhs + applicable taxes for MLW equipments under financial assistance from BPCL. As per the MoU agreement the responsibility of continuous trials of newly developed technology is on the Institute. As the plants are ready, Institute is in the process of starting continuous trials for which the approximate expenditure for the next six month shall be around Rs. 1 crore. Accordingly, the centre has requested the loan from the Institute General fund. The</p>	<p>The Board suggested to present the detailed financial plan of expenditure and expected revenue generation.</p>

	<p>matter was accordingly put up for the consideration of Finance Committee dated 8th September, 2022 (Annexure-3). In view of commercialization of new technology developed by the Institute, the Finance Committee has recommended to give the financial assistance of Rs. 1 crore to the centre instead of the loan under the approval of the Board.</p> <p>The Board is requested to grant the approval for the recommendation of the finance committee.</p>	
9.	<p>Resignation from the services of the Institute by Dr. Annama Odaneth, Associate Professor, DBT-ICT Centre</p> <p>Dr. Annama Odaneth, Associate Professor, DBT-ICT Centre has resigned from the services of the Institute vice her letter dated 21st November, 2022. As per her letter, the resignation shall become effective from 23rd December, 2022. Coordinator, DBT-ICT Centre for Energy Biosciences has forwarded the resignation letter for necessary approval.</p> <p>Resignation may be accepted by the Board.</p>	<p>The resignation of Dr. Annama Odaneth is accepted by the Board subject to following the detailed procedure of Handing over the charge and NDA and documents related to all the ongoing work currently handled by her.</p>
10.	<p>Redressal of Grievance submitted by Professor Lali</p> <p>The Board of Governors (BOG) at its meeting held on Sept 28, 2020 discussed the request from Prof. Arvind Lali to examine his matter afresh claiming injustice meted out to him while awarding punishment as a outcome of the Departmental Enquiry in the matter of Conflict of Interest reported against him while working as Coordinator of DBT-ICT Centre for Energy Biosciences. The BOG deliberated on the same including reviewing all documents submitted by Prof Lali and reports submitted by various committees appointed by the Vice Chancellor. The BOG also reviewed the detailed opinion of ICT's Legal Advisor on the matter. The BOG concluded that the previous enquiry committee/s had done a thorough job and there was no need to appoint another enquiry committee on the matter.</p> <p>However, in view of the appeal made by Prof Lali on the matter, especially in the context of his grouse of a harsh punishment meted out to him, the BOG on humanitarian grounds decided to appoint a sub-committee of the BOG consisting of Shri Madhukar bhai Parekh, Shri J R Shah and Shri Nitin Deshmukh. The Committee has accordingly submitted the report with recommendation to reject the appeal. The subcommittee report in this regard is attached as Annexure-11.</p> <p>As the Professor Lali was to retired from the services w.e.f.30th September, 2022 Hon'ble Vice Chancellor has accepted the recommendations of the subcommittee and communicated the same to Professor Lali vide letter dated 3rd November, 2022. Institute has accordingly initiated actions as per the recommendations of the subcommittee.</p>	<p>The Board permitted to initiate Departmental Inquiry, as per the rules of Government of Maharashtra, against Professor Lali.</p>

	<p>As Professor Lali was also found involved in corrupt activities related to the diversion of the work orders to his own company which were earlier given to Chemtrols Ltd. by ICT through his own recommendation, a fresh charge sheet is also served and the fresh departmental inquiry is initiated against him vide Institute letter dated 3rd November, 2022. In view of fresh departmental inquiry, the pensionary benefits of Professor Lali are kept on with hold.</p> <p>As the above actions were initiated by the Vice Chancellor under the powers bestowed on him through Institute Statutes No. 11(A) (f), the matter is put up for the approval and ratification by the Board.</p>	
11.	<p>IPR & TT POLICY</p> <p>IPR and TT policy of the Institute is presented for the approval of the Board under Annexure-12.</p> <p>The Board may consider and approve the same.</p>	<p>The Board approved the IPR and TT policy.</p>
12.	<p>Development of both the campuses</p> <p>Hon'ble Vice Chancellor shall brief the development status of both the campuses during meeting.</p> <p>The Board noted the same.</p>	<p>Hon'ble Vice Chancellor briefed the progress of both the campuses during meeting.</p> <p>The Board appreciated the efforts taken by ICT team.</p>
13.	<p>Any other items with the permission of the Chair</p> <p>(1) The Vice Chancellor informed about the appointment of Professor S.T. Mhaske as Dean (Off Campuses) has smoothened the activities and coordination with both the campuses.</p> <p>(2) Dr. Jere informed that a core committee should be appointed to draft "Vision 2050" for ICT. Even a short term vision plan for next 10 years also should be prepared, taking into consideration the Centenary of ICT. The Vice Chancellor informed that Professor R.D. Kulkarni and Professor V.G. Gaikar has been appointed for NEP 20-20 research and academic implementation programme. Professor Tiwari emphasized the Committee should also have alumni on higher academic position in abroad alongwith 1-2 external experts as members. Professor Gaikar explained that strategic plan, perspective plan and its implementation will also be taken into account and has shown his willingness to lead this effort /ability.</p> <p>(3) Dr. Jere probed about the possibility to starting a masters or post graduate diploma course on "Sustainability Engineering" by ICT. He also pointed out that the Department of Design is also the need of this era.</p> <p>(4) Regarding the establishment of Department of Humanities, the Vice Chancellor informed that we are in process of inducting 63</p>	<p>The Board noted.</p> <p>The Board noted.</p> <p>It has been decided that due to lack of infrastructure and man power, we could not start these courses immediately, but we can consider these futuristic programmes.</p>

<p>new faculty positions at ICT, Mumbai. We have already appointed a faculty for communication, softskills, etc. ICT is also in process of signing an MOU with Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) and Jamanalal Bajaj Institute who are willing to share their infrastructure to start MBA course in Entrepreneurship in ICT.</p> <p>(5) Dr. Jere emphasized that an appointment of experienced industry personal as Co-guide naming "Professor of Practice" for post graduate programmes.</p> <p>(6) The Registrar informed that the fire audit of ICT main building is complete. The repairs work in Hostel No. 3 as suggested by the structural auditor like crack feeling, water proofing, etc is going on. The compliance report by fire audit, tax compliance, Administrative compliance were submitted by the Registrar.</p> <p>(7) The Registrar informed that the Laboratory Assistants has two categories (i) Technical and (ii) Non-technical. The technical Laboratory Assistants get higher salary from Govt. Therefore, it is a request from support staff to approach Government of Maharashtra to convert all Laboratory Assistants to Technical category.</p>	<p>A proposal for the <i>virtual</i> Department of Humanities, for all campuses, will be placed before the Board in its next meeting.</p> <p>It has been decided that the involvement of industry in academic programme will be discussed in Academic Council and may be restricted to sponsored projects from industry.</p> <p>The Board noted.</p> <p>The Board approved the request as there is no financial burden on the Institute after revision.</p>
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The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Professor R.R. Deshmukh
Member Secretary and Registrar

Date : July 13, 2023