

Confidential
For members only

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA
UNIVERSITY

FIRST MEETING OF THE COURT

DATE : 17.10.2001

TIME : 11.30 a.m.

VENUE : Raj Niwas

PROCEEDINGS

KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006

FIRST MEETING OF THE COURT

HELD ON 17th October 2001 AT 11.30 A.M.

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE 'COURT'
HELD AT 11.30 AM ON 17TH OCTOBER 2001

The first meeting of the Court was held at 11.30 am on 17th October 2001 at Raj Niwas, 6 Raj Niwas Marg, Delhi-110054 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi/Chancellor of this University.

2. Following members were present: -

- (i) Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University
- (ii) Sh. P.S. Bhatnagar, Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of Delhi
- (iii) Dr. Nitish Sen Gupta, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha), Director General, International Management Institute, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi.
- (iv) Dr. Y.S. Rajan, Scientific Secretary, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to Govt. of India.
- (v) Prof. Ashok Chandra, Special Secretary (Education), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi
- (vi) Dr. R.K. Chauhan, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Jambheshwar University, Hisar, Haryana
- (vii) Prof. S.K. Agarwal, Director-Professor and H.O.D., Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi
- (viii) Prof. K.B. Powar, Secretary General, Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi.
- (ix) Sh. Ramesh Chandra, IAS, Principal Secretary (Finance), Govt. of NCT of Delhi
- (x) Sh. P.R. Mehta, President, Council of Architecture, Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Other Members could not attend the meeting due to their pre-occupation.

3. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. K. K. Aggarwal welcomed the Hon'ble Chancellor and other distinguished Members of the Court and expressed his gratitude for having made it convenient to attend the meeting. While introducing the distinguished members, he hoped that their long and varied experience in the profession would provide the much needed guidance and direction to this young University in achieving its aims and objectives. He wished that the Court in its right earnest will act as a "Think Tank" for the University. The Vice Chancellor subsequently requested the Hon'ble Chancellor, the Lt. Governor of Delhi to kindly address the Hon'ble Members of the Court.

4. Lt. Governor / Chancellor in his address, while welcoming the members highlighted that this University, which was created in response to the need for professional education in Delhi is in the process of shaping its identity and personality. The University, due to its location in Delhi, has many distinct advantages. One advantage being that it can enlist the involvement of illustrious persons as we have with the Court and also in other organs of the University, like the Board of Management, Board of Affiliation and Academic Council etc. The other advantage being that it can interact with Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, I.I.T. and other leading institutions which exist here. He however stated that the University should try to derive strength from these institutions and not rival them.

The Chancellor informed the members that the University, which is having full support of Delhi Government, has already made its presence felt

since more than 5000 students are being taught in its various affiliated institutions. However, feeling that adequate expansion has already taken place, the University now has been very restrictive in allowing any further proliferations. Effort is now focussed on trying to improve the quality and that is one area in which the guidance of the members is solicited.

The Chancellor further expressed that a University cannot simply thrive upon its affiliated institutions. It must have its own academic strengths, in the nature of its own faculty, its own schools or institutions, which the University must start and create the basic academic strength. The Chairman also suggested the introduction of teaching programmes in basic disciplines of sciences, mathematics, languages, literature etc. He felt that professional education without an academic base has its inherent dangers and we should guard against these.

In his concluding remarks, the Chairman stated that the composition of the Court has been deliberately kept small as the idea is that we should meet frequently. He further desired that apart from formal meeting, the members are welcome to convey their suggestions. In this context, he desired the University to be more responsive as also have flexibility to discard or abandon which is not worthwhile.

5. The Agenda items were subsequently put up before the Hon'ble Court and following are the summarised deliberations.

Agenda Item No 1: To Apprise the Hon'ble Members of the Broad Policies and Programmes of the University.

6. The Vice-Chancellor introducing the item briefed the members about the policies, programmes and achievements of the University, since its establishment, as below :-

- The University, which is an affiliating-cum-teaching University, was created with a dominating affiliating role to cater to the needs of NCT of Delhi.
- However, appreciating the fact that a University cannot perform its role effectively just with affiliated institutions, the University has started essential and limited teaching activities in its Schools of Studies, in which integrated programmes in the field of Information Technology, Biotechnology, Chemical Technology, MBA, Environment Management & Software Engineering, have been introduced. The whole emphasis is on programmes of interdisciplinary in nature so that they can draw strength from each other and the schools remain synergic to each other.
- In the affiliated colleges, prominent areas covered are Engineering, Architecture, B.Ed., Physiotherapy, Mass Communication, Management and Computer Application programmes.
- A fully transparent computerised admission system, for the University and affiliated colleges has been developed by the University's own faculty and students. There has been an excellent response to the various programmes, so much so that in Bio-technology, the University received 80 applications for each seat during Academic Session 2001-2002.

- The University's statutory bodies are playing significant role, frequent meetings are being held, 16 meetings each of Board of Management as well as of Board of Affiliation have been held, in which decisions on important matters have been taken.
- The University has constituted Student's Council, under the Chairmanship of Registrar, associating Deans of Schools of Studies, two students from each school, to resolve day to day problems of the students.
- A system has been devised to evaluate the teachers largely by the students and on that basis the Best Teacher's award is declared every year.
- On each Wednesday, a talk by some eminent personality of national and international repute is organised between 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. to interact with the faculty members and students. The topics are of general nature cutting across the disciplines. Fortunately, very eminent personalities like Sh. Raja Ramanna, Prof. Yash Pal, Dr. K. Subramanya, Dr. P.V. Indersan etc., have responded to this Wednesday Colloquium.
- Curriculum revision is undertaken as a continuous exercise of the University and each school reviews its curriculum every year.
- A Corpus Fund, from the first financial year of the University, has been created so that the University becomes self-reliant over a period of five years or so, in so far as its recurring expenditure is concerned.
- A very transparent, rigorous but flexible system of affiliation has been evolved. Since most of the colleges are being established for the first

time, a system of periodic monitoring and guidance has been created in which Standing Review Committees comprising of eminent professionals like Prof. C.S. Jha, Prof. P N Shrivastava, Prof. T.N. Kapoor, Prof. P.K. Ghosh and others, visit every institutions to monitor, guide and motivate the institutions in their programme implementation and development profile. The colleges not showing demonstrative capabilities and not coming to the desired level are placed in "no admission" categories.

— Present thrust of the University is on consolidation and qualitative improvement.

7. Subsequent to the above briefing by the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar gave a visual presentation depicting the major activities, programmes and policies in regard to admissions / affiliation of the University.

Agenda Item No 2: To Apprise the Members Regarding Construction and Development of Campuses of the University.

8. The Chancellor briefed the members that for development of the University campuses, the Government of Delhi has taken possession of two plots, one measuring 60 acre in Dwarka and the other measuring 19.11 acre in East Delhi.

Shri Rajiv Aggarwal, who has been selected as the Consulting Architect for developing Master Plan / Designing of the Dwarka campus, subsequently made a brief presentation of the Model, layout drawings of the new campus comprising of Academic blocks, Hostels, Staff quarters, besides central facilities

like computer centre, library etc. During the course of discussion, the Hon'ble Members made some very useful suggestions regarding approach to staff quarters, parking, and earthquake resistant etc. which were taken note of, for consideration while doing detailed planning.

Agenda Item No 3: To Solicit Advice / Suggestions from the Hon'ble members for the improvement and development of the University.

9. Chairman, while presenting the item solicited the valuable suggestions of the Hon'ble members in regard to the future growth and advancement of the University.

10. The valuable suggestions as given by the Hon'ble members are summarized below: -

- (i) The University, while taking care of the country's need of scientific and technical manpower requirement should ensure quality of education through its well qualified and experienced faculty and well monitored affiliated institutions.
- (ii) The University has so far demonstrated innovativeness and willingness for experimentation. This should not only be maintained but encouraged further.
- (iii) A careful identification of programmes to be introduced should be made. Diversification of the programmes should be carried out by evolving a continuous mechanism or creating instruments for sensing the changes in the market demand, industrial scenario, technology,

occupational patterns / profiles, international situation, etc. The University should consciously and continuously search for new emerging areas.

- (iv) Possibilities be explored to introduce programmes on Disaster Management, Bio-informatics, Industrial Design etc. in phases. Programme on Disaster Management, could be multi-disciplinary, modular in structure, so as to take care of preventive, pre-emptive and post event actions, etc. Appropriate studies on City Planning, conceptualising holistic and comprehensive pattern of city growth and development could also be visualised.
- (v) The programmes, their nomenclature and structure should be broad based, without much rigidity in the course duration. Multipoint entry and flexibility pattern should be followed. The students should have the liberty to learn at their own pace.
- (vi) The University, being new should avail the opportunity of experimentation in regard to the structuring of the courses, try to make them more flexible in terms of the actual implementation of credit systems particularly for the working professionals in their areas of interest or employability
- (vii) The students input should be to the possible extent be multicultural / international in character. Admission of foreign student to the limit specified be encouraged.
- (viii) A very careful strategy for nurturing self-financing institutions be adopted with the ultimate aim to selectively support them to become

autonomous. Appreciating the efforts of the University in involving institutions in academic activities, it was suggested that the University should move in the direction of empowering the institutions.

(ix) University in its role of inter-se-excellence should lead from the front and set benchmarks for quality and in regulating standards in the affiliating colleges by demonstration. Special attention should be given on quality of teachers recruited in the University and to retain them. Measures for motivation, giving incentive to the faculty, adequate promotional advances, should be adopted on a continuous basis. The University should endeavour to take advantage of the intellectual capital available in Delhi for its consolidation, particularly for development of teachers through new inputs programme.

(x) The University schools should become centres of excellence, a radiating point for major academic innovations. It should create facilities for research in emerging areas like Bio-waste management, genome project. Research in the areas of education should also be undertaken.

(xi) It was felt that considering the shortage of scientific and technical manpower in the country as compared to other developed nations, the strategy has to be worked out to meet this short fall. Ways would

have to be found for expanding the teachers and students relationship. Possibilities may be explored to start project for providing technical education through Internet. It will also be desirable to shift the emphasis from "instructions to learning".

- (xii) 'Distance Education' especially the online programme be encouraged; keeping in view the IT savvy courses of the University. In the Xth Plan, several pilot projects on On-Line Education are in the offing. This University being ideally equipped for such a venture, must try for those projects.
- (xiii) The curriculum review should be adopted as a continuing exercise so as to match the changing national/ international job profile. The missing elements in the existing course structure, should be identified and incorporated, e.g., the LL.B.(Hons.) programme should attend to the likely litigation problems in the field of Patency and Intellectual Property Right Act.
- (xiv) The University should prepare a blue print for its vision and philosophy of the University.
- (xv) The University may have active interaction with Industry and other leading institutions, not only for the sake of knowledge but also to generate funds and develop additional resources.
- (xvi) Teaching in Social Sciences in our engineering/ professional programmes, which has been lacking over the years should be

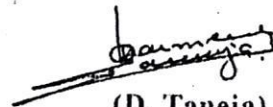
strengthened. It may be appreciated that engineers/ professionals operate in a social context and hence need to be sensitive and more communicative in dealing with the society. A Committee could be constituted to identify what aspects of social sciences need to be brought in to make the programmes more realistic and responsive.

- (xvii) While the University may implement the Corpus Fund Scheme, Govt. should not abdicate its responsibilities of funding the higher education. The Govt. of Delhi should not only continue, but also increase its financial support since quality technical education is crucial for higher growth, requires substantial investment over a prolonged period time for desired returns to be realized later. The University has since already got recognition of U.G.C., it should try to get the matching grants from the U.G.C, to further consolidate its Corpus Fund.
- (xviii) Appreciating the University's efforts to become self reliant, it was felt that it should explore possibilities of revenue generation by getting tax free donations.
- (xix) The University should explore the possibilities of associating itself with the World Bank project being negotiated by the Ministry of HRD and take advantage of this programme. The University, to be eligible to participate, have to demonstrate that it has actively networked with other leading institution, with industries or within its institutions.

(xx) University should also disseminate information, in regard to its activities and programmes so that the people can get the benefit of the courses being run.

11. Concluding the discussion, the Chancellor thanked the members for their excellent contribution. He assured that the University having taken note of the valuable suggestions, will give them shape in their future plans and programmes. He also informed the members of the Government of Delhi's full support to the University. He stated that he did not anticipate any problem in the availability of resources and the willingness to dedicate the resources. He wished that with the generation of worthwhile activities by utilisation of resources, Delhi would become a centre of education.

12. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.


(D. Taneja)
Registrar /
Secretary to the Court