



Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's
Sardar Patel College of Engineering
(Govt. Aided Autonomous Institute Affiliated to Mumbai University)
Bhavan's Campus, Munshi Nagar, Andheri (West), Mumbai – 400058.



**Minute of Board of Governors Meeting held online on 31st Oct 2020
at 2.30 pm via Google Meet Platform**

The following members were present for the meeting:

1. Dr. R. Sessa Iyer,
2. Dr. S. S. Mantha,
3. Mr. Suresh Mhatre,
4. Adv. Asif Mulla,
5. Mr. Dinesh Deshpande,
6. Prof. Dr. B. N. Choudhary,
7. Prof. Dr. Yogesh Desai,
8. Dr. A. A. Bage,
9. Prof. Remadevi,
10. Prof. Dr. M. M. Murudi

Dr. Ranjan Banerjee, Dr. Shivajirao Kadam, Mrs. Vaishali Koparkar were granted leave of absence.

Agenda Items:

1. To approve the minutes of previous BoG Meeting held on 10th August 2020

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on 10th August 2020, were placed.

Action taken: The minutes were approved.

2. Introduction of new external member in BoG

The Member Secretary informed that Dr. Arvind Ankalikar is a new member in the BoG. The Member Secretary introduced Dr. Ankalikar and welcomed him on the BoG of SPCE.

Action taken: The information was noted.

3. Regarding Caste Validity Certificate of Shri. S. M. Shetkar, Carpentry Instructor, Mechanical Engineering Department

The Member Secretary informed that Mr. S. M. Shetkar was appointed as Carpentry Instructor under SC Category, in Mechanical Engineering Department of Bharatiya

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Vidya Bhavan's Sardar Patel College of Engineering, Andheri (West), Mumbai in the year vide appointment letter dated 07.10.1986. He has joined the offered position in the Institute on 05.01.1987.

The Member Secretary further informed the BoG that, on 10.02.2017, Institute received a complaint from Mr. Mukteshwar Manikrao Shetkar, brother of Mr. S. M. Shetkar, stating that in the year 1997, Mr. S. M. Shetkar took part in the BMC elections and hence, he ought to have resigned from the Institute. In this complaint, Mr. Mukteshwar Manikrao Shetkar also asked Principal, SPCE to dismiss Mr. S. M. Shetkar from the job for the said reason. However, in this letter there was no mention regarding Caste issue. With reference to this complaint from Mr. Mukteshwar Manikrao Shetkar the Institute issued a letter to Mr. S. M. Shetkar on 16.03.2017.

It was further informed by the Member Secretary that, on 20.05.2017, the Institute received a letter from the Joint Director, DTE, Maharashtra that they are in receipt of a complaint dated 07.04.2017 from Mr. Mukteshwar Manikrao Shetkar that Mr. S. M. Shetkar is enjoying benefits of reserved category despite being from an open category. The Joint Director, DTE, Maharashtra in this letter asked the Institute to investigate the said complaint and revert.

With reference to this letter from the Joint Director, DTE dated 20.05.2017, the Institute wrote to Mr. S. M. Shetkar on 14.06.2017, to produce and submit his (i) original caste certificate, (ii) caste validity certificate and (iii) other documents related to his contesting the BMC elections in 1997.

On 29.06.2017, Mr. S. M. Shetkar replied to Institute letter 14.06.2017 and submitted the caste certificate and stated that he had previously already submitted the documents relating to his contesting in BMC Election of 1997. However, he did not submit the Caste validity Certificate.

With reference to this reply from Mr. S. M. Shetkar, the Institute informed the Joint Director, DTE on 17.07.2017, that Mr. S. M. Shetkar was asked to produce and submit his (i) original caste certificate, (ii) caste validity certificate and (iii) other documents related to his contesting the BMC elections in 1997, however, he has only submitted the Original Caste Certificate. On the same day, i.e. on 17.07.2017, the Institute replied to the letter of Mr. S. M. Shetkar dated 29.06.2017 and informed him that he has given incomplete information and not provided the documents sought by the Institute. He was once again asked to submit the Caste Validity Certificate and an acknowledgement, if any, of his submission of documents relating to his contesting the 1997 BMC election.



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On 19.07.2017, Mr. S. M. Shetkar replied to Institute letter dated 17.07.2017 asking more time to submit the Caste Validity Certificate.

On 03.08.2017, the Joint Director, DTE wrote to the Institute that since the Institute has submitted the caste certificate of Mr. S. M. Shetkar but not the Caste Validity Certificate and the documents relating to his contesting the 1997 BMC election, the same may be provided to the Joint Director, DTE at the earliest.

On 18.08.2017, the Institute issued a circular asking the concerned teaching and non-teaching staff to produce their caste validity certificates, wherever applicable. Mr. S. M. Shetkar was one of the employees in this list.

On 24.08.2017, the Institute, in response to the letter of the Joint Director, DTE, dated 03.08.2017, replied that vide his letter dated 19.07.2017, Mr. S. M. Shetkar informed that he needed more time to produce the caste validity certificate and that he could not produce the documents relating to his contesting the 1997 BMC election, since the said documents were destroyed in the deluge of 26.07.2005.

On 24.08.2017, the Institute also informed Mr. S. M. Shetkar that his explanation is not found to be satisfactory and that he is being given a period of one month to produce the same, failing which, the Institute will be constrained to initiate the relevant against him.

On 19.09.2017, Mr. S. M. Shetkar wrote the Institute that he was appointed to the post of Carpenter in the Open Category in the Institute and therefore, there is no question of his submitting a Caste Validity Certificate. He further referred to the approval granted by the DTE to his appointment on 27.02.2003.

To the letter from Mr. S. M. Shetkar dated 19.09.2017, the Institute replied on 09.10.2017 that his reply is found to be unsatisfactory.

Further on 23.01.2018, the Institute informed Mr. S. M. Shetkar that the period granted to him for submitting his caste validity Certificate has elapsed on 19.09.2017 and once again asked him to submit his caste validity Certificate, immediately.

Subsequently, on 27.05.2019, the Joint Director, DTE asked the Institute to initiate the proceedings against Mr. S. M. Shetkar as per Govt. of Maharashtra GR dated 18.05.2013 since he is occupying a post reserved for the SC Category and yet, has failed to provide a Caste Validity Certificate to be sent to the Scrutiny Committee.

With reference to this letter of the Joint Director, DTE dated 27.05.2019, the Institute on 03.06.2019 once again asked Mr. S. M. Shetkar to submit his Caste Validity Certificate.

The Institute on 14.06.2019 informed the Joint Director, DTE that the Institute vide letter dated 03.06.2019 has once again asked Mr. S. M. Shetkar to submit his Caste Validity Certificate and sought further guidance in this matter from the Joint Director, DTE.

On 18.07.2019, Mr. S. M. Shetkar wrote to the Institute reiterating the same contents of his letter date 19.09.2017.

On 31.12.2019, the Institute once again asked Mr. S. M. Shetkar to submit his Caste Validity Certificate and warned him that in the event of failure to produce the same, the Institute will be constrained to initiate the action against him as per the guidelines of Govt. of Maharashtra, in this regard.

On 30.01.2020, Mr. S. M. Shetkar wrote to the Institute stating that before his joining to the Institute, one Mr. Ananda Kale was appointed on the post reserved for the SC Category candidate and that he was appointed on 07.10.1986 to the post of Carpenter in the Open Category. Mr. S. M. Shetkar again referred to the approval granted by the DTE to the Institutes teaching and non-teaching staff in the year 2003.

On 03.03.2020, the Institute once again informed Mr. S. M. Shetkar that his explanation is not found to be satisfactory and that he ought to note that his appointment has been made in the reserved category in view of his caste certificate and other documents.

The Member Secretary further informed BoG that the Institute has not received any reply from Mr. S. M. Shetkar to our letter dated 03.03.2020 and there was no further progress in this matter since the Institute was closed from March 2020 due to lockdown on account of COVID-19 pandemic.

When the Institute was resumed after lockdown, on 05.10.2020 the Institute informed the Joint Director, DTE that Mr. S. M. Shetkar is due for retirement from his service on 31.01.2021 and sought guidance whether the papers related to his retirement, pension, etc. can be forwarded by the Institute to the Joint Director, DTE in light of the fact that the explanation submitted by him is not satisfactory and he has failed to submit his Caste Validity Certificate.



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On 15.10.2020, the Institute once again wrote to the Joint Director, DTE and provided all the relevant documents indicating that his initial appointment in the Institute on the post of Carpenter was against the reserved category post. The Institute further sought guidance from the DTE in this matter.

On 15.10.2020, Mr. S. M. Shetkar submitted his application for the voluntary retirement from the service.

On 21.10.2020, this application submitted by Mr. S. M. Shetkar on 15.10.2020 for the voluntary retirement from the service was forwarded to the DTE mentioning that the explanation submitted by him regarding his Caste Validity Certificate is not satisfactory and he has failed to submit the same till date. The Institute also sought guidance from the Joint Director, DTE whether the papers related to his retirement, pension, etc. can be forwarded by the Institute to the DTE since DTE is the final authority in this matter.

Action taken: The information was noted by the BoG. It was resolved that:

An enquiry committee should to be constituted as follows, to ascertain the facts regarding the Caste Validity Certificate of Mr. S. M. Shetkar and recommend the action to be taken, if any, as instructed by the Joint Director, DTE vide letter dated 27.05.2019:

1. Nominee of the DTE, Maharashtra State : 01
2. Member from BoG, SPCE : 01
3. Senior Faculty Member from the Institute : 01

The BoG authorizes Chairman, BoG to nominate the appropriate members for Sr. No. 2 and 3 above and asks the Member Secretary to write to the DTE to seek nomination for Sr. No. 1 in the above committee. Considering the shortage of time available to the committee to complete their work, the BoG, SPCE also authorizes the Chairman, BoG to nominate an Expert as an additional member on this committee in case there is no representation from the DTE, Maharashtra.

This committee to be entrusted with the responsibility to look into the available documents, correspondence and call upon Mr. S. M. Shetkar to put up his says in this matter. This committee has to provide a detailed report on their findings to the BoG, SPCE and recommendation whether the action to be taken or not taken as per the rules and regulations of the Govt. of Maharashtra and guidelines of the DTE, Maharashtra, in this regard.



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4. Regarding absenteeism of Prof. M. M. Maniyar

The Member Secretary informed that Prof. M. M. Maniyar was working in the Institute since 12.01.1998 as Assistant Professor, Structural Engineering Department. DTE has approved his appointment vide letter dated 23.09.2004.

Prof. Maniyar was deputed by the Institute from 06.07.2006 to 05.07.2009 to pursue his Ph. D. at SGSITS, Indore. He resumed his duties at the Institute from 10.11.2008. He worked with the Institute for 10 months after that. After that he applied for earned leave from 02.09.2009 to 25.09.2009 for medical reasons. However, his leave was not approved by the HoD of Structural Engineering Department and Principal of the Institute.

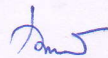
Vide his letter dated 04.10.2009, he has requested to accept his resignation or voluntary retirement or leave without pay w.e.f. 01.11.2009. Since then, w.e.f. 01.11.2009, Prof. M. M. Maniyar is absent from his duties at the Institute without permission of the Institute.

The Chairman, BoG, SPCE has accepted the resignation of Prof. M. M. Maniyar w.e.f. 01.11.2009. The Institute has forwarded his resignation to the Joint Director, DTE vide letter dated 11.02.2020 and requested to accept the same subject to the recovery of the expenses incurred on his salary during the period of his deputation for Ph. D. The Joint Director, DTE vide their letter dated 27.08.2020 has forwarded the resignation of Prof. M. M. Maniyar to The Director, DTE for further necessary action. The further communication in this regard from the DTE is awaited.

Action taken: The information was noted by the BoG. It was resolved that the Member Secretary to follow up with the DTE regarding this matter and after acceptance of the resignation of Prof. M. M. Maniyar by the DTE, the process to fill the post becoming vacant due to his resignation, should be initiated as early as possible to avoid academic loss to the students.

5. Regarding Caste Validity Certificate of ST Category Staff

The Member Secretary informed that the staff members who are belonging to ST Category need to provide Caste Validity Certificate as per the norms of the Govt. of Maharashtra. However, vide their GR dated 24.12.2019, Govt. of Maharashtra has informed that the ST Category staffs who have not yet submitted the Caste Validity Certificate should be treated as excess staff. The process to fill the posts against these staff can be initiated after Govt. of Maharashtra guidelines in this regard.



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This excess staff may be continued in the service with regular salary till 11 months from 01.01.2020. The further action in this regard can be taken as per the guidelines from Govt. of Maharashtra.

The Member Secretary further informed that there are six staff members in the Institute who belong to the ST Category. As the deadline of 11 months from 01.01.2020 is approaching we are waiting for further guidelines from DTE or Govt. of Maharashtra in this regard.

Action taken: The information was noted by the BoG. It was resolved that the Member Secretary to follow up with the DTE regarding this matter and follow the guidelines issued by the DTE or Govt. of Maharashtra in this regard.

6. Regarding TEQIP-III Procurement plan for the re-appropriated PLA of Rs. 70.00 lacs

The TEQIP-III Coordinator informed that NPIU has done minor revision in allocation of funds in wake of COVID-19 pandemic and considering requirements of NEP-2020. As per this revision in PLA, NPIU have reduced allocation of academic activities from 40% to 30% and reallocated this 10% of PLA (Rs. 70.00 lac) for procurement of infrastructure to strengthen digital teaching learning process.

Considering the NPIU guidelines for utilization of this amount, TEQIP-III Committee prepared following procurement plan during the meeting held on 24.09.2020:

Sr. No.	Item	Approx. Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1	Laptops for faculty members and allied departments (Approx. 50 Nos.)	25.00
2	Digital scribbling pads (Approx. 50 Nos.)	5.00
3	Backup Solution for ERP	12.50
4	Online exam software	14.50
5	LMS & Content Management Software	15.00
	Total	72.00

This plan was placed before the BoG for the consideration of the approval. TEQIP-III Coordinator informed the BoG that for preparing specifications of laptops and backup appliance, we have consulted our BoG Member Mr. Suresh Mhatre, BoG Member, since he is nominated by the BoG as a Mentor for ERP and other IT Infrastructure related activities.

Mr. Suresh Mhatre informed the BoG that he has verified that the need for the items with Sr. No. 1, 2, 3 is justified. He also confirmed the specifications of the laptops and the backup appliance. He further informed that after giving laptops to the faculty members, the desktop computers given to the faculty members should be

taken back by the institute to create a separate lab for the students or to replace the non-functional desktop computers in the existing labs.

Action taken: The information was noted by the BoG. The BoG resolved that:

- i. The Institute can proceed with the procurement of items with Sr. No. 1, 2, 3 under TEQIP-III by following the procurement guidelines of the project.
- ii. The procurement of items with Sr. No. 4 and 5 may be deferred, considering the recurring cost after TEQIP-III project is over. These items may be presented again before the BoG with detailed specifications, justification of the need and confirmation that the SAMARTH ERP does not have the modules with functionality offered by items with Sr. No. 4 and 5.
- iii. The faculty members may be given an option to use either a laptop or a desktop and accordingly the same may be allocated to the faculty members.

7. Regarding balance sheet and financial status of the Institute

As advised in the previous BoG Meeting held on 10.08.2020, the Member Secretary presented the balance sheet of the Institute. He also explained the income expenditure of the Institute in UG, PG, Ph. D. Programs, consultancy, TEQIP and the Hotel accounts. The Member Secretary presented the details of the income to the Institute in terms of fee collected and explained the procedure of the assessment carried out by the DTE. He also presented the assessment report and the admissible and in-admissible expenditure of the Institute certified by the DTE for FY 2018-19.

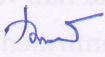
The Member Secretary informed that the Social Welfare Department does not sanction certain portion of the total fees payable by the reserved category students. Therefore, there is a gap between fees received and actual fees receivable to the Institute. He also informed that from year 2016, the DTE is not giving the block salary grant to the Institute. Instead, the DTE sanctions the grant of 90% of the total salary bill submitted by the Institute every month. The deficit of the 10% is borne by the Institute from IRG.

Action taken: The information was noted by the BoG. The BoG advised to follow up with the Social Welfare Department regarding outstanding fees and with Higher & Technical Education Department regarding the fee retention and 100% salary grant.


The meeting concluded with votes of thanks by the Member Secretary.

Place: Mumbai

Date: 31st Oct 2020


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APPROVED


(Dr. R. Seshu Iyer)
Chairman
Board of Governors
SPCE