

**MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS,
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SILCHAR**

The 3rd meeting of the Board of Governors, National Institute of Technology Silchar, was held on 5 April 2004 at 10.00 AM in the Conference Room, NIT Silchar.

The following members were present in the meeting.

1. Prof. Gautam Barua, Director NIT Silchar - Chairman and Secretary
2. Sri Subhash Chandra Das, Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Education, Govt. of Assam.
3. Dr. Ratnabali Bannerjee, Dy. Secretary, UGC (ERO), Kolkata.
4. Dr. A D Sahashrabudhe, Dy. Director, IIT Guwahati.
5. Dr. R Karmakar, Department of Mathematics, NIT Silchar
6. Prof. Rajat Gupta, Department of Mechanical Engineering, NIT Silchar

Item -3.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A number of comments were received from Dr. G. L. Jambhulkar, Deputy Educational Adviser, Ministry of Human Resource Development on the minutes of the second meeting of the Board of Governors. The members however noted that the comments were in the nature of actions to be taken on the resolutions of the meeting. None of the comments mentioned that the minutes did not reflect the deliberations or the decisions that were taken in the meeting. Dr. Jambhulkar was present in the meeting. The minutes as circulated were therefore confirmed.

Item -3.2 TO RECEIVE A NOTE ON THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND PROGRESS MADE ON THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Board noted the actions taken on the minutes of the last meeting.

Item -3.3 TO NOMINATE AN ALUMNUS TO THE BOARD OF NIT SILCHAR

The Institute placed a panel of three names before the Board as follows:

1. Mr. Saumitra Shankar Dutta, Tea Planter
2. Dr. S. Talukdar, Associate Professor, IIT Guwahati
3. Dr. Achinta Chaudhury, Professor, SMIT, Gangtok, Sikkim.

The Board appointed Mr. Saumitra Shankar Dutta as a member of the Board NIT Silchar as per the provisions of the Memorandum of Association and the Rules of NIT Silchar.

Item- 3.4 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIRMAN IN APPROVING BOARD NOMINEES IN THE SELECTION COMMITTEES FOR THE PROMOTION OF FACULTY UNDER CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME.

The Board ratified the action taken by the Chairman in appointing Board nominees to different selection committees and noted that the same nominees can be called for Selection Committees for regular recruitment too as the composition of the Committees for CAS and for regular recruitment are the same. The list of nominees is attached at Appendix 1.

Item – 3.5 **TO RATIFY THE APPROVAL GIVEN BY THE CHAIRMAN TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEES FOR THE PROMOTION OF FACULTY UNDER THE CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHEME.**

The Board ratified the action of the Chairman of approving the recommendations of the selection committees under the Career Advancement Scheme. The list of faculty and their new appointments are given in Appendix 2.

The Board considered the cases of Dr. B K Roy and Sri Amit Kumar Biswas, which were not approved by the Chairman and were placed before the Board for its consideration. The Board decided to defer a decision on these cases in light of the comments from the Ministry in this matter, that a decision on this should be kept pending till action on the report of the enquiry committee is not taken (see Item 3.6).

The Board took note of the circular dated March 4 2004 received from the Ministry, on CAS. The circular states that the date of giving monetary benefits to the faculty promoted under CAS is to be the date of the Board Meeting that approves the recommendations of the CAS committees. The Board however noted that the Chairman, on behalf of the Board, had approved the recommendations before the date of issue of this circular. So in the opinion of the Board this circular will not apply to the cases under discussion. The Board further noted, based on a report by the Chairman, that the CAS selection committees had made their decisions based on the earlier circular of MHRD on this subject dated September 15 2003. The interpretation of the contents of that circular that was made in the selection committees was that arrears would be paid from the date of effect of promotion. The committees therefore took this into account and accordingly fixed the dates of effect of the promotions. The Board therefore resolved that monetary benefits be paid to the faculty from the dates of promotion as recommended by the CAS Selection Committees. However, since this has financial implications, the Board resolved that this would be subject to concurrence of the Ministry.

The Board further resolved that monetary benefits be released with effect from 1st April 2004.

Item- 3.6 **TO CONSIDER PRAYER OF FACULTY MEMBERS REGARDING EFFECT OF CAS.**

A number of faculty members had made an appeal to the Board that the date of effect of their promotions should be as per their date of eligibility for the higher posts rather than the dates recommended by the CAS selection committees. The Board opined that it could either accept or reject the recommendations of the selection committees. It would not be proper to change the recommendations. Therefore the Board did not agree to the prayer made by the faculty.

Item – 3.7 **TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE AGAINST FOUR SUSPENDED STAFF MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE.**

The Board noted that a comment from the Ministry was received requesting deferment of any decision on the report till the Ministry has had time to examine the enquiry report in detail. The Board resolved that copies of the main reports (excluding the evidence sheets and other such documents) be made available to all the Board members, besides the Ministry. The matter may then be taken up in a subsequent Board meeting. The Board noted that the four members have been under suspension for nearly one and half years now. With the enquiry having taken place, continuation of the suspension is not required. Therefore, without prejudice to the departmental proceedings against the four suspended staff, the Board resolved to revoke the suspension order against them with

immediate effect. The Board further decided that the staff will get full salary with effect from the date of reporting for duty and a decision on the salary withheld during the period of suspension is to be part of the action to be taken on the report of the enquiry committee.

Item - 3.8 TO CONSIDER REGULARISATION OF THE SERVICES OF FACULTY AND STAFF DURING THE STRIKE PERIODS IN 2001-02

The faculty and staff who had gone on strike for two periods in the second half of 2001 and the early part of 2002 had made a prayer for releasing their salary during the strike period. Further, the issue of how to treat the strike period as far as the service of the employees was concerned, had yet to be taken. The Board noted the request from the Ministry to defer a decision on this item as this is tied up with the action to be taken on the report of the enquiry committee. The Board therefore resolved to defer a decision on the item.

Item – 3.9 TO CONSIDER STARTING OF PhD PROGRAMMES IN THE INSTITUTE

The Board approved the proposal to start PhD programmes in the following Departments. The Board noted that approval to start M.Tech programmes has already been given in the 2nd meeting of the Board. The Board further noted that the Ministry has been approached to fix the fees and to institute assistantships for the post-graduate programmes of the Institute.

1. Electrical Engineering
2. Civil Engineering
3. Mechanical Engineering
4. Applied Mechanics
5. Physics
6. Chemistry
7. Mathematics

Item – 3.10 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMMES IN THE INSTITUTE

The Board considered the proposals placed before for the construction programme in coming years. After an examination, the Board agreed with the plan of action. The Board noted that a tender for the Boys' hostel has already been floated in anticipation of the Board's approval. The Board therefore resolved to grant administrative approval to the construction programme as detailed in the table below, subject to availability of funds from the Ministry or from other sources.

No.	Item	Area (sqm)	Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Reqmt in 2004-2005 (Rs. Lakhs)	Completion Date
1.	300 seat Boys' Hostel	10,000	715	350	January 2006
2.	300 seat Boys' Hostel	10,000	800	0	January 2007
3.	80 seat Girls' Hostel Exp.	2,400	168	50	January 2006
4.	Security Wall & road	8 km	380	200	December 2005
5.	Canteen	1200	85	50	January 2005
6.	Academic Area Expansion	20,000	1800	200	July 2007
7.	Sports Facilities		415	150	December 2006
8.	Special Repairs & other works		175	175	March 2005
			4538	1175	

Item-3.11 **TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE DOWN THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MECHANICS AND TO MERGE ITS ACTIVITIES, FACULTY AND RESOURCES WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF CIVIL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.**

The Board resolved that the Applied Mechanics Department be merged with Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering Departments and Rule 15 of the Rules of NIT Silchar be amended by dropping Applied Mechanics Department from the listed Departments. The Board further resolved that the approval of the Ministry be taken to amend the said Rule as per the provisions of the Rule.

Item -3.12 **TO CONSIDER ENHANCEMENT OF THE RATE OF INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIP.**

The Board noted and agreed that the current rate of merit and merit-cum-means scholarship of Rs. 120.00 per month is too low to be able to meet the goals of these scholarships. The Board recommended that the rate of scholarships be enhanced to Rs. 500/- per month and further recommended that a student be eligible to apply for the merit and merit-cum-means scholarship provided the income of his/her parent is less or equal to Rs 1 lakh per annum. The Board resolved that the above recommendations be sent to the Ministry for its consideration and approval.

Item- 3.13 **TO TAKE A NOTE ON THE MINUTES OF THE 2ND BUILDING & WORKS COMMITTEE.**

The Board noted the minutes of the 2nd meeting of B&WC committee.

Item -3.14 **TO CONSIDER THE M.TECH AND PHD REGULATIONS OF THE INSTITUTE**

The Board examined the proposed Regulations for the M.Tech and PhD programmes of the Institute. The Board made some revisions to the proposals and resolved to approve the Regulations for the M.Tech and PhD programmes of NIT Silchar as detailed in Appendix 3.

Item -3.15 **ANY OTHER MATTERS :**

(A) TO CONSIDER SPECIAL COMPENSATORY (REMOTE LOCALITY) ALLOWANCE

The Board noted that this allowance is applicable to all employees employed by the Central Govt. in the North-East region. The Board further noted that Assam University and Tezpur University, both central Universities and located in this region pay this allowance to their employees. The Board therefore recommended that the special compensatory (remote locality) allowance be paid to the staff of NIT Silchar and the amounts to be paid be as per the prevailing rules. The Board resolved that the above recommendation of the Board be sent to the Ministry for its consideration and approval.

(B) TO RATIFY ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIRMAN IN APPOINTING AN ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ON DEPUTATION

The Board in its 1st meeting Board held on July 19 2003, approved the appointment of technical staff on deputation for the Estate Section (vide resolution 1.10). Accordingly action was initiated, and the approval of the Chairman of releasing an advertisement for a number of posts was ratified by the Board in its 2nd meeting held on December 23 2003. As a consequence to this, a selection committee was instituted and selections for the advertised posts were made. The Chairman approved the appointments of the following persons on deputation for a period of two years:

1. Mr. Dipak Goswami, Assistant Executive Engineer
2. Mr. Abhijit Deb, Assistant Executive Engineer
3. Mr. S. Talukdar, Junior Engineer

The Board noted that Mr. Dipak Goswami has joined service but that the other two are unlikely to join. The Board resolved to ratify the actions of the Chairman in this issue.

The meeting ended with a thanks to the chair.



(Gautam Barua)
Chairman & Secretary
Board of Governors
NIT, Silchar