

**Minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Academic Council held on
12th July 2024 at Conference Hall, Barad Sadan Academic Block**

32nd meeting of the Academic Council was held on 12th July 2024 at 11 AM at Conference Hall, Barad Sadan Academic Block. Following were present:

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| 1. | Prof. Avinash Khare
Vice-Chancellor | - Chairperson |
| 2. | Prof. D.N. Gupta
Department of Physics and Astrophysics
University of Delhi | - Member
(Attended online) |
| 3. | Prof. Suresh C. Sharma
Department of Applied Physics
Delhi Technological University | - Member
(Attended online) |
| 4. | Dr. Passang D. Phempu
Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology

Represented by
Mrs. Angee Denzongpa
Administrative Officer
Namgyal Institute of Tibetology | - Member |
| 5. | Prof. B.B. Pradhan
Principal
Sikkim Institute of Science & Technology
Chisopani, Namchi District, Sikkim | - Member |
| 6. | Prof. Yodida Bhutia
Dean, School of Professional Studies | - Member |
| 7. | Prof. Rosy Chamling
Dean, School of Languages & Literature | - Member |
| 8. | Prof. V. Krishna Ananth
Dean, School of Social Sciences | - Member |
| 9. | Prof. Swarup Roy
Dean, School of Physical Sciences | - Member |
| 10. | Prof. Sanjay Dahal
Dean of Students' Welfare | - Member |
| 11. | Dr. S. Murali Mohan
Controller of Examinations | - Member |

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| 12. | Prof. Nawal K. Paswan
Head, Department of Peace & Conflict Studies
and Management | - Member |
| 13. | Prof. Snehlata Jaswal,
Head, Department of Psychology | - Member |
| 14. | Prof. Vijay Kumar Thangellapali
Head, Department of History | - Member |
| 15. | Prof. Dhani Raj Chhetri
Head, Department of Botany | - Member |
| 16. | Prof. Durga Prasad Chhetri
Head, Department of Political Science | - Member |
| 17. | Prof. Praveen Mishra
Head, Department of Law | - Member |
| 18. | Prof. Pradeep K. Sarma
Head, Department of Hindi | - Member |
| 19. | Prof. Amit Chakraborty
Head, Department of Mathematics | - Member |
| 20. | Prof. A.N. Shankar
Head, Department of Commerce | - Member |
| 21. | Prof. K.R. Rama Mohan
Head, Department of Anthropology | - Member |
| 22. | Prof. Manesh Choubey
Head, Department of Economics | - Member |
| 23. | Prof. Sandhya Thapa
Head, Department of Sociology | - Member |
| 24. | Prof. Niladri Bag
Head, Department of Horticulture | - Member |
| 25. | Dr. Bilambita Banisudha
Head, Department of Music | - Member |
| 26. | Dr. Mohan Pratap Pradhan,
Head, Department of Computer Applications | - Member |
| 27. | Dr. Nipun Chaudhary,
Head, Department of English | - Member |

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| 28. | Dr. Rakesh Kumar Ranjan,
Head, Department of Geology | - Member |
| 29. | Dr. Nagendra Thakur
Head, Department of Microbiology | - Member |
| 30. | Dr. Ajay Tripathi
Head, Department of Physics | - Member |
| 31. | Dr. Bisu Singh
Head, Department of Zoology | - Member |
| 32. | Dr. Dhriti Roy
Head, Department of Chinese | - Member |
| 33. | Dr. T.J.M.S. Raju
Head, Department of Education | - Member |
| 34. | Dr. Amit Kumar Singh
Head, Department of Tourism | - Member |
| 35. | Prof. S.S. Mahapatra
Professor, Department of Commerce | - Member |
| 36. | Prof. Veenu Pant
Professor, Department of History | - Member |
| 37. | Prof. Ratika Pradhan
Professor, Department of Computer Application | - Member |
| 38. | Prof. Amit Kumar
Professor, Department of Geography | - Member
(Attended online) |
| 39. | Dr. Rajesh Raj S.N.
Associate Professor
Department of Economics | - Member |
| 40. | Dr. Krishnendu Dutta
Associate Professor
Department of Music | - Member |
| 41. | Dr. Sujata Upadhyay
Associate Professor
Department of Horticulture | - Member |
| 42. | Dr. Gorakh Nath Tiwari
Associate Professor
Department of Hindi | - Member |

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| 43. | Dr. Abdul Hannan
Associate Professor
Department of Geography | - Member |
| 44. | Dr. Nishchal Wanjari
Associate Professor
Department of Geology | - Member |
| 45. | Prof. Satyananda Panda
Director
FYUG programme – NEP 2020 | - Member |
| 46. | Prof. Laxuman Sharma
Registrar (I/C) &
Dean, School of Life Sciences | - Secretary &
Member |

The following members could not attend the meeting because of their pre-occupation and sought leave of absence:

1. Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Senior Professor, Department of Microbiology
2. Prof. Sohel Firdos, Dean, School of Human Sciences
3. Prof. Kabita Lama, Head, Department of Nepali

Dr. S.K. Gurung, Joint Registrar (Acad.) was present to assist the Council.

The Chairperson welcomed all members present in the 31st meeting of the Academic Council and especially welcomed the following new members who were attending the meeting for the first time.

1. Prof. Suresh C. Sharma, Professor, Department of Applied Physics, Delhi Technological University
2. Prof. K.R. Rama Mohan, Head, Department of Anthropology
3. Dr. Bisu Singh, Head, Department of Zoology
4. Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, Head, Department of Tourism
5. Prof. Veenu Pant, Professor, Department of History
6. Prof. Ratika Pradhan, Professor, Department of Computer Applications
7. Prof. Amit Kumar, Professor, Department of Geography
8. Dr. Rajesh Raj S.N., Associate Professor, Department of Economics
9. Dr. Abdul Hannan, Associate Professor, Department of Geography
10. Dr. Nischal Wanjari, Associate Professor, Department of Geology

The Chairperson also put on record the contributions of the following outgoing members and thanked them for their support and valuable suggestions during their tenure as the member of the Academic Council:

1. Prof. Swati A. Sachdeva, Professor, Department of Sociology
2. Prof. Bhoj Kumar Acharya, Professor, Department of Zoology
3. Prof. Nitish Mondal, Professor, Department of Anthropology
4. Prof. Satyananda Panda, Professor, Department of Psychology
5. Prof. Hardeep Singh, Former Head & Professor, Department of Hindi

Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up as under:

SECTION-1 **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES & ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

AC 32.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 31st meeting of the Academic Council held on 21st February 2024

The Academic Council noted that the minutes of the 31st meeting of the Academic Council held on 21st February 2024 was circulated to all the members on 26th March 2024. Two members reverted with their comments on the minutes which are submitted below:

- 1) Prof. V. Krishna Ananth, Dean, School of Social Sciences made the following submissions:
 - i. Minutes pertaining to Agenda Item AC 31.4.C1 does not reflect the discussion and the decision taken at the meeting. The meeting did agree that the New Regulations, as presented in the meeting, were not consistent with OC-7 of the SU Ordinances and that until the said Ordinance is amended, which ought to be done by the EC, the Regulations shall not be amended/changed.
 - ii. There was no discussion, in the AC that day, with regard to Statute 40(2); the minutes, however, talk of this. In the event, reading Statute 40(2) takes us to Statute 30, which is restricted to disciplinary proceedings involving students in affiliated colleges. In this sense, the said Statute 40(2) has no relevance to the issue on hand, which is about PhD Regulations and OC-7. The relevant provision here is Section 30(2) of the Sikkim University Act, 2007 and it clearly vests the power to amend Ordinances only with the EC.
- 2) Dr. Ajay Tripathi, Head, Dept. of Physics stated that towards the end of the meeting, there was a discussion regarding duty leave and support for attending conferences twice within an academic year. However, both the topics were omitted from the minutes. Hence, he has requested that these discussions are included in the minutes for accurate documentation.

Joint Registrar addressed both the comments raised by the members. In respect of the comment of Prof. V. Krishna Ananth, it was clarified

that Section 30(1) mentioned at Statute 40(2) refers to the Sections under the Act and not that of the Statutes. Section 30(1) of the Act mentions the matters under which the Ordinances of the University are to be framed. Thus the Council resolved that the contents recorded in the minutes AC 31.4.C1 remains the same and no revision required.

In respect of the comment of Dr. Ajay Tripathi, the House was informed that a committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.S. Sharma, Sr. Professor (Retd.) was constituted to look into the matter of duty leave for teachers. The committee has observed that the University has already adopted the UGC Regulations 2018 in the 32nd meeting of the Executive Council held on 08.02.2019 which were subsequently notified. The duty leave rules are very much part of these regulations and thus duty leave upto 30 days in an academic year have already come into force and so no further action is required. The Council took note of the observations of the committee and resolved that duty leave upto 30 days in an academic year is already implemented in the University subsequent to adoption of UGC Regulations 2018 in the 32nd meeting of the Executive Council.

The Council, thereafter, confirmed the minutes of 31st meeting of the Academic Council held on 21st February 2024.

AC 32.1.2: Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 31st meeting of the Academic Council held on 21st February 2024

The Secretary presented the action taken report on the minutes of the 31st meeting held on 21st February 2024. The Academic Council noted the action taken report.

**SECTION-2
REPORTING ITEMS**

AC 32.2.1: Synopses for Ph.D registrations in the University

The Council noted the number of synopses for Ph.D registrations in the University under each School of Studies.

AC 32.2.2: MoU with Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune

The Council noted that Sikkim University entered into an MoU with Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune on 26.03.2024 for scientific collaboration in the fields of mutual interest between the two Institutes. The following is the purpose and objectives of the said MoU:

1. The broad purpose of this MoU is to promote cooperation in scientific education and research between IITM and Sikkim University. The mutual collaboration will enable the utilization of each other's strength in teaching and research, which in turn, will mutually benefit the research scholars and faculty members of both

the Institute/University and to create a framework for such a platform of collaboration.

2. The specific purpose of the MoU is to measure various gases and particulate matter, aiming to assess the air quality of the region as part of the Modelling Air Quality and Networking (MAPAN) project initiated by the Government of India. IITM shall sponsor and facilitate installation of scientific instruments at Geological Museum Building in Sikkim University campus at Yangang for Air Quality Monitoring System.

The Council also noted that the Scientists from IITM, Pune visited the University on 8th – 9th March 2024 and installed the Air Quality Monitoring System at the Yangang campus.

After deliberations, the Council ratified the action taken by the competent authority.

AC 32.2.3: MoU between Sikkim University and Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University

The Council noted that Sikkim University entered into MoU with Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University on 01.12.2023 for academic collaboration and research. The scope of collaboration under this MoU includes the following:

- i. Promoting higher education and effective implementation of NEP-2020
- ii. Facilitation of research and education, projects, and programs in various academic disciplines
- iii. Student and Faculty Development
- iv. Exchange of Faculties, Research Scholars, and PG students
- v. Sharing of knowledge and academic research resources, and cooperation for synthesizing knowledge on mutually identified subjects/topics
- vi. Mutual organization of workshops, conferences, meetings, trainings, capacity building, and literacy and awareness campaigns for stakeholders/society.
- vii. Seeking funding and in-kind resources for these cooperation activities
- viii. Transfer of Course Credits and Credit Sharing
- ix. Launch of New Academic programmes and courses
- x. Bring out joint publications, policy recommendations, documents etc.

After deliberations, the Council ratified the action taken by the competent authority.

SECTION-3 **RATIFICATION MATTERS**

AC 32.3.1: Fee structure for International Students in Ph.D programme

The Council noted that UGC Regulations 2022 for Ph.D programme has provided for direct admission of international candidates for Ph.D programme. Further, each eligible supervisor has been given two supernumerary seats to guide these international scholars over and above the permitted number of Ph.D scholars as per UGC guidelines. The matter was discussed in the First Central Admission Committee (CAC) meeting held on 01.04.2024 at Barad Sadan and decided to constitute a three-member committee consisting of Prof. K.R. Rama Mohan, Prof. Sohel Firdos and Prof. Amit Chakraborty to explore the fee structure of the international students in Central Universities in the NEER and others and draft a standard norm for admission and suggest the amount of fee to be charged from them.

The Council also noted that the Committee submitted its report in the Second CAC meeting held on 16.04.2024 at Barad Sadan proposing the following.

- a) To charge two times more than the normal fee chargeable from a domestic student for a student belonging to SAARC, Asia Pacific, Africa and South America.
- b) Four times more than the normal fee chargeable from a domestic student for Europe and North America.
- c) Tuition fee shall be charged on semester basis.

After deliberations, CAC consider the proposal and accordingly published the fee structure as follows for international students in the Prospectus 2024 for admission to Ph.D programme with the administrative approval.

Fee for International students

Sl. No.	Zone	One-time admission Fee (INR)			Tuition Fee (Sem- wise) (INR)		
		Non-lab	Lab based	Professional	Non-lab	Lab- based	Professional
1	SAARC/Asia Pacific/Africa/ South America	9,716/-	14,352/-	25,112/-	2480/-	7320/-	7320/-
2	Europe / North America	19,432/-	28,704/-	50,224/-	4960/-	14640/-	14640/-

The Academic Council, after deliberation, ratified the above action taken by the competent authority.

SECTION-4
MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

A. PANEL OF EXAMINERS, ETC.

AC 32.4.A1: Panel of External Examiners

The Council approved the panel of examiners as per the details given below as recommended by the concerned School Board for the purpose as mentioned in the table:

Sl. No.	Name of the School	Name of the Department	External examiners to be invited for
1)	School of Physical Sciences	Physics	MSc practical examination and dissertation
2)	School of Languages & Literature	Chinese	2 PhD theses
		Nepali	2 PhD theses
		Hindi	3 PhD theses
3)	School of Life Sciences	Microbiology	6 PhD theses
		Botany	1 PhD thesis
		Horticulture	1 PhD thesis
4)	School of Human Sciences	Psychology	2 PhD thesis; PG dissertation, Internship reports, practical examination and viva-voce
		Geography	4 PhD thesis
5)	School of Professional Studies	Commerce	1 PhD thesis
		Education	2 PhD thesis
		Tourism	3 PhD thesis
		Music	1 PhD thesis
		Management	2 PhD thesis
		Library & Information Science	PG Practical Examinations July 2024
		Pharmacy (HPI)	B.Pharm & M.Pharm Practical Examinations, July-2024.
		Pharmacy (GPC)	
6)	School of Social Sciences	PCSM	5 PhD thesis
		Political Science	1 PhD thesis
		International Relations	1 PhD thesis
		Law	4 PhD thesis

B. SYLLABUS MATTERS/COURSES ETC.

AC 32.4.B1: Updated MA Syllabi from the Department of History based on a mandate from the NEP Committee

The Council noted that the Syllabus for History MA programme was taken up at the 30th meeting of the Academic Council held on 25.08.2023 and approved as well (AC30.4.B2). However, the NEP Committee of Sikkim University found that there was no uniformity

with the syllabi of other Departments of Sikkim University and the syllabus did not comply with the components of LOCF as suggested by the UGC. Therefore, the Syllabus was updated at the level of the Department to meet the requirements. However, since the present Second Semester students have already taken first and second semesters, two syllabi were prepared; one for the 2023-24 batch and another for batch beginning 2024-25 onwards

After deliberations, the Academic Council approved the following two sets of Syllabi for the History MA Programme as recommended by the School Board of Social Sciences in its meeting held on 28.06.2024:

- a. Syllabus for Academic Session 2023-24 only, and
- b. Syllabus with effect from Academic Session 2024-25.

AC 32.4.B2: New course on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights LAW

Based on the recommendations of the School Board of Social Sciences in its meeting held on 28.06.2024, the Academic Council approved inclusion of a new course, titled '**Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights Law**' as an Open Course in the Second Semester of the LLM Programme. The HoD, Dept. of Law clarified the matter before the House. The Council also approved the syllabus of the said course and advised the HoD, Department of Law to assign the Code for the Course in accordance with the NEP Guidelines.

AC 32.4.B3: UG, PG and PhD Syllabi of the Hindi Department as per NEP Framework

The Council noted that the existing syllabi of the department of Hindi are not aligned with the NEP 2020 guidelines. Accordingly, the department drafted its UG, PG and PhD syllabi as per NEP framework and the same were recommended for approval by the School Board of Languages & Literature in its meeting held on 01.07.2024.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved the UG, PG and PhD syllabi of the department of Hindi prospectively to be implemented from the 2024-25 academic session.

AC 32.4.B4: Revised Syllabi of UG, PG and PhD of the Department of Psychology

The Council noted that the department of Psychology has revised the syllabi of UG, PG and PhD programmes in accordance with the NEP Guidelines. The School Board of Human Sciences in its meeting held on has recommended the revised syllabi for approval of the Academic Council considering that refined/updated curriculum widens the scope of specialised subjects and provides a wider choice to the students while opting for papers in the discipline.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved the revised syllabi of UG, PG and PhD programmes of the department of Psychology prospectively to be implemented with effect from the 2024-25 academic session.

AC 32.4.B5: Course Curriculum of a paper titled ‘Hydrology and water Resources Management’ to be introduced in 3rd semester of MA/MSc in Geography

Based on the recommendations of the School Board of Human Sciences in its meeting held on 24.06.2024, the Academic Council approved inclusion of a new paper, titled **‘Hydrology and water Resources Management’** as an open paper in the 3rd Semester of MA/MSc in Geography and also approved its syllabus.

AC 32.4.B6: Items from UG programmes of Sikkim University

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved the following items from UG programmes of Sikkim University as proposed by the Chairperson, NEPCSU:

1. Curriculum of UG Ability Enhancement Course (AEC) – 10 courses
2. Curriculum of Multi-disciplinary courses – 2 courses
3. Curriculum of Skill Enhancement Course – 2 courses
4. Curriculum of Minor courses in the Chinese Department

C. RULES AND POLICY MATTERS

AC 32.4.C1: Revised University Ordinance OC-7 on the Doctor of Philosophy programme

Prof. N.K. Paswan, the Chairman of the drafting committee presented the revised University Ordinance OC-7 on the PhD programme before the House. The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended the revised University Ordinance OC-7 on the PhD programme to the Executive Council for approval noting that the date of implementation of the Ordinance should be mentioned while notifying the same.

AC 32.4.C2: Revised Regulations on conduct of Ph.D programme

Prof. N.K. Paswan, the Chairman of the drafting committee presented the revised Regulations on conduct of PhD programme before the House. The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended the revised Regulations on conduct of PhD programme to the Executive Council for approval noting that the date of implementation of the Regulations should be mentioned while notifying the same.

AC 32.4.C3: Change of Board of Studies of Nursing programme from School of Life Sciences to School of Professional Studies

The Academic Council noted that in its 30th meeting held on 25.08.2023, the Board of Studies of Nursing programme was assigned

to the School of Life Sciences as notified vide Notification – 146/2023. A request has been received from the Principal, Sikkim Government College of Nursing for changing the Board of Studies (Nursing) from School Board of Life Sciences to School Board of Professional Studies. The Principal has stated that the Nursing programme is a purely professional course under the Indian Nursing Council (INC) which is the regulatory body for nursing programme. Like in other professional programmes, INC also follows marks distribution as 25/75 (i.e., IA/University) for all Nursing programmes across the country.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved change of board of studies of Nursing programme from School of Life Sciences to School of Professional Studies.

AC 32.4.C4: Revised Regulations on conduct of Examinations

The Controller of Examinations, Chairperson of the committee presented the matter before the House. He informed that a committee under his Chairpersonship with Prof. Yodida Bhutia, Prof. Laxuman Sharma, Prof. Sanjay Dahal and Dr. Sebastian N. was constituted to prepare a framework of the credit and grading for evaluation of the NEP courses. Later the committee co-opted Dr. Kanagaraj K. and Sh. Sonam Wangchuk as members. The committee drafted the framework of the credit and grading for evaluation of the NEP courses on the following parameters as per the UGC guidelines for UG and PG courses:

- i) On absolute grading system
- ii) On passing criteria
- iii) On display of absolute marks and grade points in the mark sheets and transcripts
- iv) Indication of overall letter grade in certificates and final semester mark sheets
- v) On distribution of formative and summative assessment marks.

Accordingly, the committee proposed for revision of the Regulations on conduct of examinations on the basis of the above framework of the credit and grading for evaluation of the NEP courses. The COE informed that the Revised Regulations on conduct of Examinations is very essential for issuing results as students are already enrolled under the new curricula (NEP 2020).

The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended the Revised Regulations on conduct of Examinations to the Executive Council for approval. Further, the Academic Council directed the NEP Core Committee to revise the relevant section of the University Ordinance. It was suggested to issue a circular requiring the HoDs/Colleges to provide attendance details of the examinees.

Further, students obtain the percentage from the absolute marks provided in the marksheet.

AC 32.4.C5: Terminologies for the four-year Bachelor's degree courses

The Academic Council noted that the NEP Committee suggested that the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme may be written in the marksheet of students undertaking the Four-Year UG programme. It also noted that if the students exit after 1st year, then the students will receive an Undergraduate Certificate in a particular subject for example Undergraduate Certificate in Psychology. However, before issuing certificates and degrees, the regulation for exit must be adhered to. Similarly, if they exit after 2nd year, then the students will receive an Undergraduate Diploma in the particular subject, if they exit after 3rd year then they will receive a Bachelor's Degree in the particular subject for example Bachelor's degree in Psychology. If they exit after 4th year either doing honours or honours and research, they will accordingly receive a Bachelor's degree with honours or with honours and research in a particular subject.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved the Terminologies to be used for the Four Year Bachelor Degree mark sheets as recommended by the NEP Committee.

AC 32.4.C6: Biannual admission in Sikkim University at the PhD level

The Council noted that the University Grants Commission in its 580th meeting has approved the policy of allowing HEIs to admit students twice a year, in July/August and January/February. However, admitting students twice a year is optional for the HEIs, depending on their preparedness to handle such biannual admissions.

In pursuance to the above UGC notice dated 19.06.2024, the NEP committee in its meeting held on 26.06.2024 has proposed for biannual admission in Sikkim University at the PhD level at the moment.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended to the Executive Council for biannual admission in Sikkim University at the PhD level keeping it optional to the Department for admission against the vacancy.

AC 32.4.C7: Deletion of OC-6 from the University Ordinance

The Council noted that the National Educational Policy – 2020 has discontinued M.Phil programme from the University. The matter for discontinuation of M.Phil programme was deliberated in the 28th meeting of the Academic Council held on 10.12.2021 and approved for discontinuation of the M.Phil programme in the University from the Academic Session 2022-23. The Executive Council

approved discontinuation of M.Phil programme in its 39th meeting held on 23.12.2021 on the recommendations of the Academic Council.

The Council also noted that OC-6 of the University Ordinances provides for Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) programme in Sikkim University. Based on the approval of the Executive Council, OC-6 needs to be deleted from the list of Ordinances.

The Academic Council recommended deletion of Ordinance OC-6 for approval to the Executive Council.

D. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

AC 32.4.D1: Follow-up action regarding the Renaming of Two Departments

The Council noted that the renaming of the Departments of Geology and Computer Applications has been long-pending at the Ministry of Education/office of the Visitor although it has been approved by the Academic Council and the Executive Council. The Academic Council directed the University to follow-up the matter with the Ministry of Education and also send a reminder letter.

AC 32.4.D2: Per Diem for conducting field work

The Council observed that field work is a compulsory component for completion of Master's degree in the Departments under the School. However, the per diem of the students going for field work has not been revised since 2013 while the prices of food and accommodation have gone up substantially. Presently, the rate of per diem for students is ₹250/- which is felt not adequate to cover the expenses. Also, the per diem of the faculty member accompanying the students, should be increased as per the actuals or the entitlements whichever is less.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, constituted a two member committee comprising of Prof. Nawal K. Paswan, Head, Dept. of Peace & Conflict Studies and Management and Dr. Abdul Hannan, Associate Professor, Dept. of Geography with the mandate to immediately work on the above matter and submit its report within 10 days, i.e., by 22nd July 2024.

AC32.4.D3: Prohibited/restricted use of recommended software for plagiarism for MA/Msc Dissertation

The Council decided to defer this item as it requires further deliberation with the Librarian (I/C) and his staff to arrive to a logical decision.

SECTION 5
MINUTES OF AUTHORITIES/COMMITTEES

AC 32.5.1 Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 24th June 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 24th June 2024.

AC 32.5.2 Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 1st July 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 1st July 2024.

AC 32.5.3 Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 26th June 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 26th June 2024.

AC 32.5.4 Minutes of the 19th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 27th June 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 19th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 27th June 2024.

AC 32.5.5 Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 28th June 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 20th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 28th June 2024.

AC 32.5.6 Minutes of the 14th meeting of the School Board of Life Sciences held on 25th June 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 14th meeting of the School Board of Life Sciences held on 25th June 2024.

AC 32.5.7 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the College Development Council held on 3rd July 2024

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the College Development Council held on 3rd July 2024. The Council after deliberations recommended the following items for approval by the Executive Council:

- i) Extension Centre of Sikkim University for PG Courses at NBBGC, Tadong, Sanchaman Limboo Govt. Degree College, Gyalshing and Sikkim Govt. College, Namchi to bring under the affiliating authority of the University following due process of admission as per OD-1 and grant temporary affiliation and renewal of the same on annual basis as per the provisions of University Ordinance OD-1.
- ii) Starting of Sikkim Government Medical College, Sochakgang

- iii) Renewal of Temporary Affiliation of (13) Colleges/Institutions/
Subjects/Courses for the Academic Session 2024-25

SECTION - 6
ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

AC 32.6.1 Report of the Committee for drafting rules for Maternity Leave for students of UG and PG programmes in Sikkim University and its affiliated colleges

Prof. S.S. Mahapatra presented the item before the House. He informed that a committee under his Chairmanship was constituted for drafting of rules/norms with regard to granting maternity leave to the women students enrolled in Sikkim University/affiliated colleges and also as regards providing all relaxations/exemptions relating to attendance, extension in date for submitting examination forms or any other facility deemed necessary for women students pursuing Under Graduate and Post Graduate Programmes.

The committee drafted the rules/norms for Maternity Leave for students of UG and PG programmes in Sikkim University and its affiliated colleges and the same was placed for consideration of the Academic Council.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended the draft rules/norms to the Executive Council for approval.

Before ending, the House noted that the tenure of Prof. Avinash Khare, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor is ending on 31.07.2024 and this is his last Academic Council meeting. The House applauded and appreciated the indispensable services and contributions of Prof. Avinash Khare, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and Chairperson of the Academic Council towards the development and growth of the University.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
(Prof. Laxuman Sharma)
Registrar (I/C) & Secretary
Academic Council

Sd/-
(Prof. Avinash Khare)
Vice-Chancellor & Chairman
Academic Council