

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE FIRST EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
HELD ON AUGUST 8, 2008 FRIDAY**

The first meeting of the First Executive Council of Sikkim University was held on 8th August, 2008 (Friday) at Hotel “The Royal Plaza”, Gangtok. The following members were present:

1. Prof. Mahendra P Lama
Vice-Chancellor : Ex-officio Chairman
2. Prof. Mrinal Miri
Former Vice-Chancellor, NEHU : Member
3. Shri M P Bezbarua
Former Secretary, Govt. of India : Member
4. Prof. Gautam Barua
Director, Indian Institute of Technology
Guwahati : Member
5. Dr. M. Anandakrishnan
Chairman, IIT, Kanpur : Member
6. Dr. Shiv Raj Singh
Professor & Chief Scientist
Institute of Agricultural Sciences
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi : Member
7. Shri Nawang Gombu
Former Director
Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI)
Darjeeling : Member
8. Dr. S.A. Suryawanshi
Former Vice-Chancellor
Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada Univ.
Nanded (Maharashtra) : Member
9. Mr. Tsegyal Tashi, Director (Technical
Education) – Rep. Secretary (Education) : Member

Prof. E Hasnain, Vice-Chancellor, University of Hyderabad and Prof. Madhura Swaminathan, Economist, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, expressed their inability to attend the meeting.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed all the esteemed members to this historic meeting of the Sikkim University. He introduced all the members of the Committee to one another and also introduced the University team to the Executive Council. He made a power point presentation on the progress made by the University during the last twelve months since its inception in July 2007. The members congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for the immense progress made by the University so far and the members remained impressed by the envisaged objectives and mission of the University. Members urged the Vice-Chancellor that such presentations may be made every time before starting the business of the Executive Council Meeting.

Before taking up the agenda for discussion, the Council recalled with gratefulness and thanks the association, guidance and contribution of the first Chancellor of this University, Late Prof. Ashesh Prosad Mitra, a renowned Scientist, National Physical Laboratory, CSIR, who passed away on September 3, 2007. A draft resolution of condolence was read out by the Chairman expressing grief and sorrow in the sad and sudden demise of Prof. Mitra. The Council endorsed the condolence message as read out and resolved that the same may be sent to the bereaved family.

After that agenda items were taken up for discussion.

EC:01:01 To consider nomination to the First Finance Committee

The Executive Council noted that as per Section 17 (1) of the Statute of Sikkim University Act, 2006, the Finance Committee shall have the following members:

1. Vice-Chancellor
2. Pro Vice-Chancellor
3. One person to be nominated by the Court
4. Three persons to be nominated by the Executive Council, out of whom at least one shall be a member of the Executive Council; and
5. Three persons to be nominated by the Visitor

After detailed discussion, the Council nominated Mr. M P Bezbarua as a member of the Finance Committee to represent the Executive Council. The Council considered the names proposed by the Chairman and nominated Mr. T T Dorjee, Additional Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Sikkim and Mr. Arjun Syangden, former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of West Bengal also as members of the first Finance Committee under the cited provisions.

EC:01:02 *To consider the Annual Budget of 2008-09*

The Council noted that the University had received a sum of Rs.13.00 crore from UGC during 2007-08 in three instalments and it has been managing its affairs out of the said grant since its inception. The Council also noted that the XI Plan Proposal has been submitted to the UGC to the tune of Rs.632.54 crore in the month of March 2008 (revised in May 2008) and allocation from UGC awaited.

The Council considered the Annual Budget for the year 2008-09 and approved the same. However, it was suggested that the budget be recast and provision for more allocation under Capital Expenditure for Campus Development and under Information Technology may be kept. **The budget incorporating the suggestions shall be sent at a later date.**

EC:01:03 *To consider appointment of the Chancellor of Sikkim University*

The Council noted that as per transitional provisions contained in clause 46 (a) of the Sikkim University Act, 2006, Prof. Ashesh Prosad Mitra, a renowned Scientist, National Physical Laboratory, CSIR, was appointed as the first Chancellor of this University by the Visitor for a period of five years. Unfortunately, Prof. Mitra passed away on September 3, 2007 and since then the post has been lying vacant.

The Council also noted that as per clause 1 (1) of the Schedule of the Sikkim University Act, 2006, the Chancellor shall be appointed by the Visitor from a panel of not less than three persons recommended by the Executive Council from amongst persons of eminence in the academic or public life of the country.

Keeping the above provision in view, the Council considered the bio-data of the following eminent scholars as proposed by the Chairman:

1. Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, New Delhi; and Chairman, Asian Development Research Institute, Patna
2. Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, MP (Rajya Sabha) and well known educationist & Writer
3. Prof. M S Swaminathan, a distinguished scientist and MP (Rajya Sabha)

After deliberations in great detail, it has been resolved that the panel of three names as proposed be drawn in the same order as above and endorsed to MHRD along with their bio-data for selecting the Chancellor by the Visitor.

EC:01:04 To consider creation of teaching positions

The Council considered the proposal to start the Post-graduate courses under semester system in the following Centres/Schools with effect from the session 2008-09:

- Sociology (School of Social Sciences)
- International Politics/Relations (School of Global Studies)
- Peace, Conflict Studies & Management (School of Peace, Conflict & Human Security Studies)
- Microbiology (School of Life Sciences)

The Council noted that private buildings have been hired in the vicinity of the Administrative Building of the University and teaching positions advertised to appoint on contractual/deputation basis.

After threadbare discussion and considering the necessity of appointment of quality teachers at various levels and also to enable the University to start research programmes at M.Phil and Ph.D levels with effect from the session 2009-10, it has been resolved that the following teaching positions be created for the smooth functioning of the teaching programmes :

Centre/Department	Name of the posts	No. of posts
Social Systems & Anthropology	Professor	01
	Associate Professor	02
	Assistant Professor	04
International Politics/ Relations	Professor	01
	Associate Professor	02
	Assistant Professor	04
Peace, Conflict Studies & Management	Professor	01
	Associate Professor	02
	Assistant Professor	04
Microbiology	Professor	01
	Associate Professor	02
	Assistant Professor	04
Total		28

However, the Council suggested that utmost care be taken while structuring the schools and centres. It has also suggested exploring possibility of merging the school and centre together and appointment of core faculty.

The Council further suggested that the Schools and Centres proposed as at **Annexure-II** may be discussed at length in the Academic Council to evolve a

long term policy decision and may be reported to the Executive Council for approval.

EC:01:05 To consider creation of non-teaching positions

The Council noted that the University has been functioning with officers and staff totaling 18 nos. on deputation from other institutions and organizations like the Govt. of Sikkim, Central University and College and appointed on contractual basis with fixed remuneration.

The Council appreciated the steps taken by the University to start the teaching programmes at PG level and to set up the Library. The Council also appreciated for starting the semester system at undergraduate and PG levels.

Considering the necessity of creating the non-faculty positions for the smooth functioning of the University administration and conduct of the first semester examinations in December 2008, the Council considered creation of the following posts:

Sl. No.	Name of post	Scale of Pay	No. of posts	Mode of appointment
1.	Deputy Registrar (Adm)	Rs.12000-420-18300/-	01	Direct/ Deputation
2.	Deputy Librarian	-do-	01	-do-
3.	Asst. Registrar (Eval)	Rs.8000-275-13500/-	01	-do-
4.	Asst. Registrar (Fin)	-do-	01	-do-
5.	External Relations Manager	-do-	01	-do-
6.	PS to Vice-Chancellor	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
7.	PA to Vice Chancellor	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	01	-do-
8.	Sr. PA to Registrar	Rs.5000-150-8000/-	01	-do-
9.	Sr. PA to F O	-do-	01	-do-
10.	Sr. PA to Coordinator (Evaluation)	-do-	01	-do-
11.	PA to Centre Chairpersons	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	04	-do-
12.	Laboratory Asst.	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	02	-do-
13.	Jr. Professional Assistant (Library)	Rs.5000-150-8000/-	02	-do-
14.	Library Support	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	02	-do-

15.	U D C (Adm)	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	01	-do-
16.	U D C (Evaluation)	-do-	04	-do-
17.	U D C (Finance)	-do-	01	-do-
18.	UDC (Academics)	-do-	01	-do-
19.	Front Officer (Executive)/ Receptionist	-do-	01	-do-
20.	Section Officer (Evaluation)	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
21.	Section Officer (Adm)	-do-	01	-do-
22.	Section Officer (Academics)	-do-	01	-do-
23.	Driver (VC/Reg/FO/ CoE)	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	04	-do-
24.	Cook for VC's Bungalow	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	01	-do-
25.	Office Support (VC/Reg/FO/Centres/ Library/Adm/Evaluation)	Rs.2550-55-2600-60-3200/-	07	-do-
26.	Gardener for VC's bungalow	-do-	01	-do-
27.	Support for VC's bungalow	-do-	01	-do-
Total			45	

Even though the posts required to be created are more than the UGC approved ratio of faculty-non faculty positions, the Council justified the requirement of having more non-faculty positions at the initial stage of establishment of the University and approved the creation of 45 non-faculty positions as above. However, the Council suggested that the faculty-non faculty ratio may be strictly followed while creating the posts in the remaining period of the XI Five Year Plan. The Council also suggested that appropriate designations may be given to the supporting staff as is in existence in other Universities/Govt. of India.

EC:01:06 To consider creation of teaching positions for the upcoming programmes during the XI Plan Period

The Council noted that Sikkim University would conduct three distinct yet interdisciplinary academic programmes consisting of Traditional Programmes, Non-traditional Programmes and Policy Studies Programmes in the coming years. It also noted the University's desire to start the following Schools/Centres selected on a priority basis from the list of proposed courses submitted to the University Grants Commission from the session 2009-2010 onwards:

I. Traditional Programmes

These courses are mainstream courses also taught in many other universities in India and abroad. This will have a strong dose of fundamental research. Each School will also have 3-9 centres (departments) depending upon the demand, national and international requirements. These centres located in various Schools will introduce both master and integrated M Phil/Ph D Programmes

1 School of Social Sciences

- i) Centre for Social Systems and Anthropology (MA)
- ii) Centre for Education Planning and Development (MA)
- iii) Centre for Psychology Studies (MSc)

2 School of Global Studies

- i) Centre for Neighbourhood Studies: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Central Asia including Tibet, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand (MA)

3 School of Law and Governance

- i) Centre for Human Rights Studies (MA)
- ii) Centre for Environmental and Biodiversity Laws (MSc)

4 School of Linguistics and Languages

- i) Centre for Asian Languages: Japanese and Chinese (Integrated BA and MA - five year degree programme)

5 School of Management

- i) Centre for Business Administration (Integrated BBA and MBA - five year degree programme)

6 School of Media, Communication and Information Sciences

- i) Centre for Journalism (MA)

7 School of Computer Sciences

- i) Master of Computer Applications (Integrated BCA and MCA - five year degree programme)

8 School of Environmental Studies

- i) Centre for Environmental Sciences (MSc)

9 School of Biotechnology

- i) Biotechnology (Integrated BSc and MSc - five year degree programme) (MSc)

10 School of Life Sciences

- i) Plant Sciences (MSc)

11 School of Physical and Chemical Sciences

- i) Centre for Physical Science (MSc)

12 School of Planning, Architecture and Engineering

- i) Centre for Urban Regional and Environmental Planning (Integrated BPlan and MPlan - five year degree programme)

13 School of Medicine

- i) Centre for Pharmacy Studies (Integrated BPharm and MPharm - five year degree programme)

II. Non-Traditional Programmes

These programmes are non-traditional in nature. This also means that these courses are not generally taught as full fledged discipline in other universities both in India and abroad. These programmes will mostly involve skill oriented disciplines, professional pursuits and specialised courses which have a global perspective and the regional and local contexts.

14 School of Indigenous and Folk Studies

- i) Centre for Food Science, Technology and Nutrition Management (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Handicrafts, Art, Design and Fashion Technology (MA)
- iii) Centre for Folk Music/Theatres/Literature (MA)

15 School of Sustainable Development and Livelihood Management

- i) Centre for Energy Studies (MSc)
- ii) Centre for Sustainable Mountain Development (MSc)
- iii) Centre for Tourism Development and Management (MA)
- iv) Centre for Floriculture and Horticultures Management (MSc)

16 School of Peace, Conflict and Human Security Studies

- i) Centre for Military Science and Defence Studies (MSc)

- ii) Centre for Disaster Prevention and Management (MSc)
- iii) Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and Management (MA)

III. Policy Studies Programmes

17 School of Policy Planning and Studies

A major portion of the academic programmes will be devoted to policy research that will cater to larger issues of national interest and are directly relevant to the management of regional and local issues including in the arena of public affairs, national security, livelihood and indigenous people, cross border interactions, disaster management and natural resources.

The University is already consulting with a number of institutions both in India and abroad in both developing these programmes and identifying the potential sources of faculty recruitment.

While appreciating the desire of the University to start 25 teaching and research programmes, the Council felt that it would not be possible to start all these courses at a time. Hence, it is suggested that the requirements may be phased out in the next three years. The courses and structure may be discussed in the Academic Council meeting and the concrete recommendation may be put up before the Executive Council. While creating the faculty posts, the pupil-teacher ratio of 1:10 as suggested by UGC may also be kept in mind.

With this observation, the Council considered the requirements of creation of the following faculty and non-faculty positions:

I. Teaching positions

Name of the School	Centre/Department	Name of the posts	No. of posts
School of Social Sciences	Social Systems & Anthropology	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Education Planning and Development (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Global Studies	Neighbourhood Studies: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Central Asia including Tibet, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Law and Governance	Human Rights Studies (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02

		Assistant Professor	04
	Environmental and Biodiversity Laws (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Linguistics and Languages	Asian Languages: Japanese and Chinese (Integrated BA and MA - five year degree programme)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Management	Business Administration (Integrated BBA and MBA - five year degree programme)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Media, Communication and Information Sciences	Journalism (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Computer Sciences	Master of Computer Applications (Integrated BCA and MCA - five year degree programme)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Environmental Studies	Environmental Sciences (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Biotechnology	Biotechnology (Integrated BSc and MSc - five year degree programme) (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Life Sciences	Plant Sciences (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Physical and Chemical Sciences	Physical Science (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Planning, Architecture and Engineering	Urban Regional and Environmental Planning (Integrated BPlan and MPlan - five year degree programme)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Medicine	Centre for Pharmacy Studies (Integrated BPharm and MPharm - five year degree programme)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	03
		Assistant Professor	06
School of Indigenous and Folk Studies	Food Science, Technology and Nutrition Management (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04

	Handicrafts, Art, Design and Fashion Technology (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Folk Music/Theatres/Literature (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Sustainable Development and Livelihood Management	Energy Studies (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Sustainable Mountain Development (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Tourism Development and Management (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Floriculture and Horticultures Management (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Peace, Conflict and Human Security Studies	Military Science and Defence Studies (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Disaster Prevention and Management (MSc)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
	Peace and Conflict Studies and Management (MA)	Professor	01
		Associate Professor	02
		Assistant Professor	04
School of Policy Planning and Studies*	Senior Fellow	02	
	Fellow	04	
	Associate Fellow	08	
Total			207

* Apart from the Faculty positions indicated, Research Associates and Research Assistants will be appointed as and when required

II. Non-teaching positions

Sl. No.	Name of post	Scale of Pay	No. of posts	Mode of appointment
1	Deputy Registrar (Evaluation)	Rs.12000-420-18300/-	01	Direct/ Deputation
2	Deputy Registrar	-do-	01	-do-

	(Academics)			
3	Asst. Registrar (Evaluation)	Rs.8000-275-13500/-	02	-do-
4	Asst. Librarian	-do-	01	-do-
5	Accounts Officer for the Schools	Rs.6500-10500/-	17	-do-
6	Sr. PA for Deans	Rs.5000-150-8000/-	17	-do-
7	PA to Centre Chairpersons	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	27	-do-
8	Laboratory Asst.	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	10	-do-
9	Jr. Professional Assistant (Library)	Rs.5000-150-8000/-	02	-do-
10	Library Support	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	03	-do-
11	Assistant (Adm)	Rs.5000-8000/-	04	-do-
12	Assistant (Evaluation)	-do-	06	-do-
13	Assistant (Finance)	-do-	04	-do-
14	Assistant (Academics)	-do-	04	-do-
15	Jr. Assistant (Adm)	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	04	-do-
16	Jr. Assistant (Evaluation)	-do-	06	-do-
17	Jr. Assistant (Finance)	-do-	04	-do-
18	Jr. Assistant (Academics)	-do-	04	-do-
19	Section Officer (Evaluation)	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	03	-do-
20	Section Officer (Adm)	-do-	03	-do-
21	Section Officer (Academics)	-do-	02	-do-
22	Office Support for the Centres & Schools	Rs.2550-55-2600-60-3200/-	07	-do-
23	Gardener	-do-	05	-do-
24	Caretaker Guest House	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	01	-do-
25	Estate Officer	Rs.8000-275-13500/-	01	-do-
26	Section Officer in Estate Office	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
27	Assistant in Estate Office	Rs.5000-8000/-	01	-do-
28	Jr. Assistant in Estate Office	Rs.4000-100-6000/-	02	-do-
29	Deputy Registrar (Stores & Purchase)	Rs.12000-420-18300/-	01	-do-
30	Section Officer (Stores & Purchase)	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	02	-do-
31	Store Keeper	Rs.5000-8000/-	01	-do-
32	Jr. Storekeeper	Rs.4000-6000/-	02	-do-

33	Deputy Registrar (Audit & Budget)	Rs.12000-420-18300/-	01	-do-
34	Section Officer (Audit)	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
35	Section Officer (Budget)	-do-	01	-do-
36	Assistant (Audit)	Rs.5000-8000/-	02	-do-
37	Assistant (Budget)	-do-	02	-do-
38	Jr. Assistant (Audit)	Rs.4000-6000/-	02	-do-
39	Jr. Assistant (Budget)	-do-	02	-do-
40	Support staff for the Administrative branches	Rs.2550-55-2600-60-3200/-	05	-do-
41	Laboratory Support	Rs. 3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	14	-do-
42	Assistant Registrar (SC/ST Cell)	Rs.8000-275-13500/-	01	-do-
43	Section Officer (SC/ST Cell)	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
44	Senior Assistant (SC/ST Cell)	Rs.5000-8000/-	01	-do-
45	Jr. Assistant (SC/ST Cell)	Rs.4000-6000/-	01	-do-
46	L D C/Computer Operator for various branches	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	10	-do-
47	Assistant Director (Physical Education)	Rs.8000-13500/-	01	-do-
48	Statistical Officer	Rs.6500-200-10500/-	01	-do-
49	Statistical Assistant	Rs.5000-8000/-	01	-do-
50	Computer Operator	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	02	-do-
51	Cook for the Guest House	Rs.3050-75-3950-80-4590/-	01	-do-
52	Helping staff in the Guest House	Rs.2550-55-2600-60-3200/-	02	-do-
Total			201	

The faculty-non-faculty ratio of the created posts is 1:1.04. The faculty-non-faculty ratio prescribed by the UGC is 1:1.2.

The Council approved in principle creation of the 207 faculty positions and 201 non-faculty positions as indicated against I & II above during the XI Plan Period.

EC:01:07 *To consider adopting Logo, Motto & Flag of the University*

The Council noted that Sikkim University had put out an advertisement for designing its logo, flag and coining its motto in the local and national newspapers in the month of April 2008. Cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- has been announced for each of the winning entries. Over 283 entries were received, which were then displayed in the four district head quarters in Gangtok, Namchi, Mangan and Geyzing. This was done to involve the general public and other direct stakeholders and to garner their opinion in the process of selecting the best one. A large number of people participated and polled their opinions to rank and choose these entries.

The Council at the outset appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for the democratic process adopted through advertisement in newspapers and exhibitions/opinion polls in the district headquarters of the state of Sikkim for selecting the best logo, flag and motto of the University. The esteemed members were delighted to go through the best ten Logos, Flags and Mottos selected by the people through opinion polls and resolved to adopt the Logo designed by Ms. Sashi Giri (Corrie), Lily Gardens, P T Jacob Road, P O Thoppumpady, Kochi – 682 005 (Kerala). However, it was suggested that the Logo designer may be asked to make a few modifications. The modified Logo will be sent to the members for their perusal and approval.

EC:01:08 *To consider the draft Statutes, Ordinances Regulations and Rules*

The Council considered the first set of draft Ordinances/Statutes and Regulations on the following heads/subjects:

1. Ordinance on Bachelor of Arts (General)
2. Ordinance on Bachelor of Science (General)
3. Ordinance on Bachelor of Commerce (General)
4. Ordinance on Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
5. Ordinance on Bachelor of Science (Honours)
6. Ordinance on Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)
7. Ordinance on Bachelor of Education (B.Ed)
8. Ordinance on Bachelor of Library & Information Science
9. Ordinance on Bachelor of Law
10. Ordinance on Bachelor of Pharmacy
11. Ordinance on Master of Arts, Science and Commerce
12. Ordinance on Master of Philosophy
13. Ordinance on Doctor of Philosophy
14. Ordinance on Medium of Instruction
15. Ordinance on Equivalence Committee
16. Ordinance on Affiliation of Colleges
17. Ordinance on Notification of Vacancies

18. Ordinance on Conduct of Executive Council Meeting
19. Ordinance on Selection Committee Procedures
20. Ordinance on the Establishment of Schools
21. Ordinance on the Establishment of Centres/Departments
22. Ordinance on Boards of Studies of School
23. Ordinance on Centre of Studies
24. Ordinance on Assignment of Centres
25. Ordinance on Deans' Committee
26. Ordinance on Students' Aid Fund
27. Ordinance on Boards of Undergraduate Studies
28. Ordinance on Functioning of Centres
29. Ordinance on the Award of Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other Distinctions
30. Ordinance on Conduct of Examinations
31. Ordinance on Utilization of Fund for Seminar, Conference, etc.
32. Ordinance on Service Conditions of Non-Teaching Employees
33. Statutes on Powers and Functions of Deans of Students
34. Statutes on Powers of Deans of Schools
35. Statutes on Terms and Conditions of Registrar
36. Statutes on Terms and Conditions of Finance Officer
37. Statutes on Terms and Conditions of Director (Evaluation)
38. Statutes on Service Matters of Teachers
39. Statutes on Minimum Qualifications of Teachers
40. Statutes on Leave Rules of Teachers
41. Statutes on Powers and Duties of the Vice-Chancellor
42. Statutes on the Service Conditions of the Vice-Chancellor
43. Regulation on Conduct of Academic Council Meeting
44. Rules on Appointment of Supervisory Staff for conducting Examinations
45. Rules on Use of Library

The Council felt that the number of Ordinances may be reduced to 5-6 so that there are no operational problems faced by the University later. The Council opined that the mission of the University be reflected in all its Ordinances. The Ordinances should be simple as far as possible and should not provide scope for misinterpretation. Some of the members suggested that many of the Universities have done away with Honours and Pass courses and a common course only is taught. Hence, the Council suggested that a small committee may be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor for assessing the necessity of having separate courses like Honours and Pass (General). With these suggestions, the Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to endorse the final draft of ordinances to the MHRD.

EC:01:09 *To consider fixation of sitting allowance to external members of the Statutory Bodies, Selection Committees for Teachers and Officers, Building Committee and such other Committees to be notified by the University from time to time*

The Council approved the proposal of payment of Rs.2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) as sitting fee per sitting in a day to the external members of Statutory Bodies, Selection Committees for appointment of teachers and officers, Building Committee and such other Committees to be notified by the University administration w.e.f. the date of the first meeting of the Executive Council.

EC:01:10 To declare the Vice-Chancellor as Controlling Officer of himself/herself

The Council approved the proposal to declare the Vice-Chancellor as the Controlling Officer of himself/herself for sanctioning various kinds of leave and claims like TA, DA, etc.

EC:01:11 To authorize the Vice-Chancellor/Registrar for hiring of private buildings for running the PG classes, Guest House, accommodation for faculty and non-faculty members, etc.

The Council noted that the land for the permanent campus of the Sikkim University is in the process of acquiring by the State Government. About 300 acres of land is likely to be given to the Sikkim University at Yangang about 56 kms from Gangtok. The construction of faculty buildings, library, administration, residential accommodation, etc. will take time. This is more so given both the geographical location and long spell of rainy season in the State. Till then, the University needs to hire buildings to run the academic programmes and also to accommodate faculty and non-faculty members.

The Council also noted that the University administration has already hired two floors of a building to accommodate its Library at a rent of Rs.25,000/- per month. Class rooms for the proposed four teaching programmes in the University, accommodation for Registrar, Finance Officer, Controller of Examinations, Librarian, Faculty Members, Officers, Staff Members and a small Guest House are urgently required for the smooth functioning of the University.

Considering the above facts, the Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor/Registrar to hire private buildings for various purposes of the University at the market rate prevailing in Gangtok.

EC:01:12 To consider recommending renaming of Sikkim University as Central University of Sikkim/Sikkim Central University

The Council considered the proposal of renaming Sikkim University as the Central University of Sikkim (CUS) or Sikkim Central University (SCU). After an elaborate discussion, the Council felt that the present name should be retained.

EC:01:13 To consider appointment of teaching and non-teaching positions on contractual/deputation basis

The Council resolved to endorse the decision taken by the University Administration in advertising the following Group 'A' and Group 'C' positions for appointment on contractual/deputation basis for a short term:

I. Faculty positions

- Professor/Associate Professor in Sociology (School of Social Sciences)/International Politics (School of Global Studies)/Conflict Studies & Management (School of Peace, Conflict & Human Security Studies)/Microbiology (School of Life Sciences) on deputation or retired persons on contractual basis; and Assistant Professor on deputation or on contractual basis from among the fresh Postgraduates.

II. Non-faculty positions

- Coordinator (Evaluation)/Controller of Examinations on deputation or retired persons on contractual basis
- Librarian/Deputy Librarian/Assistant Librarian on deputation or retired persons on contractual basis
- Library professionals (Group C)
- Laboratory Technicians (Group C)
- Assistant Executives (Group C)

The Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to mobilize faculty members from Universities within India and abroad on short term basis. The Council suggested that such faculty members be paid adequate incentives for their visit to Sikkim University.

EC:01:14 To consider formation of consortium of architects, building designers and land mapping experts

The Council considered the proposal of setting up of a consortium of architects, building designers, and land mapping experts from both within and outside country to conduct the entire construction activities at Yangang, the permanent site of the University. It has been noted that the University plans to have an earthquake proof, energy efficient and differently-abled friendly "green" building with a profuse mix of Sikkimese, oriental and occidental designs.

This was discussed at great length. The Council suggested that a panel of Architectural firms instead of Consortium of Architects, designers, etc. may be made after floating tenders at national level. The competitive firm may be appointed as consultant for a specific period. The Council also suggested that

the Master plan of the Permanent Campus may be made before starting of any construction work so that the Campus is set up in a systematic way.

EC:01:15 To consider fencing work of the permanent Campus

The Council noted that the land acquisition process for the University at Yangang has gained momentum following several meetings of the Vice-Chancellor with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim and also after the proposed land site visits by Vice Chancellor. The University Administration is hopeful to get the land allotted by the end of August or in the first part of September 2008. In the event of allotment, the boundary of about 300+ acres of land has to be fenced with iron angle and barbed wire and with brick wall in some areas to avoid encroachment.

The Council approved the proposal with the suggestion that the boundary wall may be designed nicely.

EC:01:16 To consider for sharing the resources of the University for funding the faculty members of the affiliated colleges to conduct seminars/conference/symposia and minor research projects

The Council noted that there are not much of academic activities in the State. To encourage research and other academic activities of the faculty members of the affiliated colleges, the University wishes to support them financially for conducting seminar/conference/symposia, field interactions and public lectures; and minor research projects in respective colleges. The Council also noted that as a part of this, three Departments of the Sikkim Government College have been financed by the University for conducting two seminars – 1) Modern Trends in Indian Nepali Literature; & 2) Recent Advances in Mathematics and its Application - and one on-going minor project entitled "Institutional Assessment of Colleges in Sikkim". The fund was released through the Principal of the College.

The Council appreciated the concern of the Vice-Chancellor to improve the academic activities in the affiliated colleges and approved earmarking a sum of Rs.20.00 lakh per year for the said purpose.

EC:01:17 To consider enhancement of remuneration in respect of contractual employees

The Council considered and approved enhancement of the remuneration of the following contractual employees with effect from the date of approval of the Executive Council, i.e., August 8, 2008 as indicated against each name:

Name	Designation	Present	Proposed
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		Remuneration	Remuneration
Mr. Vimal Khawas	Associate Fellow	Rs.23000/-	Rs.25000/-
Ms. Sangeeta M Rasaily	Executive (Programme)	Rs.18000/-	Rs.20000/-
Mr. Om Prasad Gadde	-do-	Rs.18000/-	Rs.20000/-

EC:01:18 To consider payment of fixed medical allowance in lieu of reimbursement for treatment as out -patient

The Council noted that the employees of Sikkim University have been paid medical reimbursement as per Medical Attendance Rules of the Govt. of India for taking treatment for self and family members as out-patients in the government/private hospitals. Even for reimbursement of a petty amount, lengthy formalities are to be followed and it also involves a lot of administrative work. As the University Administration is functioning with only five executives, it hardly finds time to do such minor works on time.

The matter was discussed at length and resolved that the employees – both regular and contractual – may be paid a fixed medical allowance of Rs.500/- per month on purely temporary basis in lieu of reimbursement for treatment of self as out-patients with effect from September 1, 2008. The Council suggested that this may be reflected in the appointment letter of new employees. It has also been suggested that hospitalization and referral cases should be dealt as per Medical Attendance Rules of the Govt. of India.

EC:01:19 To consider payment of fixed per diem to the employees of the University while on official tour

The Council noted that as per the Govt. of India TA rules, an employee is entitled for a paltry sum as Daily Allowance (DA) while on tour. Some time, this amount is not enough even for a decent meal. In an unclassified city or a town, one has to pay at least Rs.500/- for a cheap hotel accommodation whereas the entitlement of a Group A officer ranges from Rs.225/- to Rs.335/- only.

It has also been noted that Sikkim University is greatly dependent on Siliguri, the nearest commercial town, for procuring stationery, equipment, basic amenities etc. When an officer is sent on official tour for such purposes to Siliguri, she/he is entitled only for Rs.84/- only as DA.

The Council considered and approved the proposal, subject to the condition that the Vice-Chancellor shall work out the quantum of amount to be paid as fixed per diem per day to various categories of employees. The Council suggested that while working out the quantum of per diem, special provision may be kept for the Vice-Chancellor and other statutory officers.

EC:01:20 To consider re-designation of posts

The Council considered the proposal of re-designation of the following posts:

Existing Designation	Proposed designation
Vice-Chancellor	Vice-Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellor	Rector
Dean	Dean
Professor	Professor
Reader	Associate Professor
Lecturer	Assistant Professor
Registrar	Chief Executive (Administration)
Finance Officer	Chief Executive (Finance)
Controller of Examinations	Coordinator (Evaluation)
Librarian	Librarian
Deputy Registrar	Deputy Chief Executive (Adm/Fin)/ Deputy Coordinator (Evaluation)
Deputy Librarian	Deputy Librarian
Assistant Registrar	Assistant Chief Executive (Adm/Fin)/ Assistant Coordinator (Evaluation)
Assistant Librarian	Assistant Librarian

After detailed discussion, it was resolved to defer the proposal.

EC:01:21 To consider approval of the First Annual Report 2007-08

The Council considered the first Annual Report of the University for the year 2007-08 as placed at **Annexure -** and approved

EC:01:22 Annual Accounts, Receipt and Payment and Balance sheet of the University for the year 2007-08

The Council considered the Annual Accounts consisting of Receipt and Payment and Balance sheet for the year 2007-08 as placed as **Annexure –** and approved.

EC:01:23 To consider setting up of a Constituent College at the Permanent Campus (Yangang)

The Council felt that since the University is planning to start integrated courses at the University level itself, the proposal for setting up a constituent college under the University could be discussed at a little later stage.

EC:01:24 To consider acquiring 5 (five) acres of land at Gangtok for extension activities

The Council approved the proposal of acquiring approximately 5 acres of land at Gangtok for extension activities and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to identify a suitable plot and acquire it in the prevailing market rate with intimation to FC/EC.

EC:01:25 To consider and accord approval for starting integrated courses

The Council approved the proposal to start integrated courses w.e.f. the session 2009-10 in some of the disciplines which have high demand and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take steps for the same.

EC:01:26 To consider appointment of faculty on need basis purely on contract and Visiting Faculty on short term basis

The Council resolved to accord approval for appointment of faculty members on contract basis and appointment of Senior Visiting Fellow, Visiting Fellow and Visiting Associate Fellow (Adjunct) from India and abroad on short term basis in the event of delay in appointment of regular faculty in the Centres that the University proposes to start in the next academic session, 2009-10.

EC:01:27 To consider setting up of a Central School (Kendriya Vidyalaya) at the permanent campus

The Council noted that the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, is encouraging all the Central Universities to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in the Campus to facilitate quality education to the wards of the employees and also a quality catchment area for higher studies. For this, the Universities are required to provide requisite land, play ground and other infrastructure. This is very much within the plan of Sikkim University to have a complete and compact campus at Yangang.

The Council approved the proposal and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to negotiate with the MHRD for setting up the Central School at Yangang and provide required land, play ground and other infrastructure. However, the Council advised that the school may be set up under the scheme 'higher learning mode' of MHRD which will lessen the financial burden on the University.

EC:01:28 To consider setting up a unit of Central Government Health Service (CGHS) at the permanent campus at Yangang

The Council approved the proposal and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to negotiate with the Central Government for setting up the unit and also availing various health schemes available in the concerned Ministry.

EC:01:29 To authorize the Vice-Chancellor to explore mobilization of fund from private agencies, NGOs and other institutions within India and abroad

The Council approved the proposal of raising funds for academic research and other activities from private agencies, development agencies and donor agencies operating within India and abroad to supplement the Governmental development fund support and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to explore the possibility within the frame work of the Sikkim University Act and rules of Govt. of India. However, the Council suggested that care may be taken while accepting donations from these agencies so that no business interests are imposed on the University.

EC:01:30 To consider operation of the Sikkim University Bank Accounts jointly by the Finance Officer and the Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) or any other designated officer not below the rank of Group B Officer

The Council approved the proposal of jointly operating the existing University Bank Accounts and accounts to be opened in future between the Finance Officer and the DDO or any other officer not below the rank of a Group B Officer and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to delegate this power to suitable officers from time to time.

EC:01:31 To consider and accord approval of the affiliation of the Government and Private Colleges situated in Sikkim with Sikkim University

In view of the provisions contained in clause 6 (1) & (2) of the said Act, the Council accorded approval for affiliating the following colleges with Sikkim University without charging affiliation fee for the session 2008-09:

Sl. No.	Name of the College	Courses offered	Remarks
1	Sikkim Govt. College, Gangtok	Under graduate Honours & General courses	
2	Govt. College, Namchi	-do-	
3	Govt. College, Rhenok	-do-	
4	Govt. Law College, Gangtok	LLB & LLM courses	

5	Harkamaya College of Education, Gangtok	B.Ed and M.Ed	Private College
6	Dambar Singh College, Gangtok	Under graduate Honours & General courses/BLib.	-do-
7	Loyola College of Education, Namchi	B.Ed	-do-
8	Paletine College, Pakyong	Under graduate Honours & General courses	-do-
9	Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Majhitar	B.Pharm & M.Pharm	-do-

However, the Council noted that the Govt. of Sikkim (vide letter No.135/Secy/HRD dated July 1, 2008) has requested Sikkim University to de-affiliate the Government Colleges as they are said to be not fully prepared both administratively and infrastructurally to take up college reforms. Since it requires the approval of the Central Government, the matter has been referred to MHRD and its reply awaited. The Vice Chancellor mentioned that Sikkim University was prepared to adapt to both ways in terms of affiliation and disaffiliation, whichever may be the decision taken by the MHRD.

The Council also noted that the Private colleges have started functioning fully under Sikkim University from the ongoing academic session 2008-09.

The Council, however, suggested that the affiliation ordinance should be framed in such a way that – (1) the affiliation is given on an yearly basis so as to ensure the quality teaching and basic facilities in the colleges both government and private; (2) adherence to the ordinance in terms of quality of teaching, evaluation norms, attendance, academic period, teaching schedules, teacher training, physical infrastructures must be made strict and compulsory and the provision for disaffiliation of colleges flouting such norms and rules clearly be laid down by the University; (3) there should not be any loophole for misinterpretation and the same should be routed through the Academic Council; (4) While granting affiliation to a private college, the enrolment capacity, regional imbalances, social imbalances, courses propose to be started, etc. should be taken into account; and (5) all these facts require to be reflected in the ordinance.

EC:01:32 To consider fixation of remuneration for question paper setting, evaluation, invigilation, supervision, coordination and support staff; and tabulation work

The Council considered the proposal to pay remuneration to the following category and approved the same as indicated against each w.e.f. the semester examination of December 2008:

Sl. No.	Category	Amount proposed	Remarks
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1	Coordinator (Principals of the respective colleges)	Rs.1500/- for each Semester	
2	Paper setting, invigilation, evaluation and tabulation of undergraduate papers	Rs.20/- per student, per semester & per paper	
3	Tabulation work for UG and PG examinations	Rs.10/- per student subject to a minimum of Rs.200/- per paper	For each paper, there shall be two Tabulators

EC:01:33 Ratification items

(i) Opening of Account with Axis Bank

The Council ratified the action taken by the University authority in opening and operating the University Account with Axis Bank, Gangtok.

However, the Council suggested that an account in the nationalized bank may also be opened.

(ii) Appointment of Mr. S K Pradhan, Additional Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim, as Officer on Special Duty

The Council ratified the appointment Mr. S K Pradhan, Additional Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim as Officer on Special Duty w.e.f. 1st October, 2007 on standard terms of deputation to look after the administrative works of the University .

(iii) Appointment of Mr. S Gopinath, Deputy Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University (a Central University), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, as Officer on Special Duty

The Council ratified the appointment of Mr. S Gopinath, Deputy Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University (Central University), Itanagar as Officer on Special Duty on standard terms of deputation for two years w.e.f. February 4, 2008.

(iv) Appointment of Dr. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Reader, Sikkim Government College, Gangtok, as Coordinator (Academics)

The Council ratified the appointment of Dr. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Reader in Microbiology, Sikkim Government College, Gangtok, as Coordinator (Academics) on standard terms of deputation w.e.f. February 18, 2008 to look after the academic matters.

(v) Appointment of Ms. Sharmistha Rai, Principal, Senior Secondary School, Lindok, as Executive (Public Affairs)

The Council ratified the action taken in appointing Ms. Sharmistha Rai, Principal, Senior Secondary School, Lindok (Sikkim) as Executive (Public Affairs) on standard terms of deputation w.e.f. March 4, 2008.

(vi) Appointment on contractual basis

The Council ratified appointment of the following persons on short-term contractual basis with fixed remuneration for looking after various academic works:

Name	Designation	Date of appointment	Remuneration per month
Mr. Vimal Khawas	Associate Fellow	August 20, 2007	Rs.23000/-
Ms. Sangeeta Rasaily	Executive (Programme)	November 3, 2007	Rs.18000/-
Mr. Om Prasad Gadde	-do-	January 29, 2008	Rs.18000/-

(vii) Investment of University Fund in fixed deposits

The Council ratified investment of a sum of Rs.3.92 crore in fixed deposits with Axis Bank as follows:

Sl. No.	Account/ Instrument No.	Amount (in lakh)	Period of deposit		Interest per annum	Maturity Amount (in Rs.)
			From	To		
1	112010400084136	49.00	1.5.08	1.08.08	6.0	4974104.00
2	112010400084127	49.00	1.5.08	1.08.08	6.0	4974104.00
3	112010400084145	49.00	1.5.08	1.11.08	7.0	5073001.00
4	112010400084127	49.00	1.5.08	1.11.08	7.0	5073001.00
5	112010400084181	49.00	1.5.08	1.5.09	9.0	5356108.00
6	112010400084190	49.00	1.5.08	1.5.09	9.0	5356108.00
7	112010400084172	49.00	1.5.08	1.5.09	9.0	5356108.00
8	112010400084163	49.00	1.5.08	1.5.09	9.0	5356108.00
Total		392.00				41518642.00

Item EC:01:34 Reporting items

The Council noted the following:

(i) College Reforms

Immediately after the establishment of Sikkim University, the University undertook to assess the teaching and infrastructural conditions in various colleges in Sikkim. It carried out a detailed study including the teaching

quality, student attendance, evaluation system, success rates, infrastructural facilities and other socio- economic conditions. Based on this assessment study, the Sikkim University brought out a document titled “**College Education in Sikkim – Draft Reform and Development Proposals**” under Sikkim University” in February 2008.

This was circulated among 400 persons of the State including the Governor, Chief Minister, Education Minister and other Ministers, all the Secretaries and Heads of the Departments of the Government of Sikkim, college teachers and students, all the principals of the senior secondary schools, former bureaucrats, civil society members including professionals, private sector, media, heads of religious institutions and NGOs. A large number of people responded with very valuable and encouraging comments and suggestions. Most of them have however, also mentioned that the colleges are really in poor conditions

This report made very many revelations. For instance, the minimum percentage for admission in the colleges was kept at 33 percent till 2007. As a result, there used to be large number of students far beyond the maximum carrying capacity particularly in Sikkim Govt. College in Gangtok. The classes have been run in shift basis by the same faculty members who were paid some extra honorarium. Under such circumstances, there was no question of fixing intake capacity and key issues like quality, student’s performance, faculty training, administrative accountability, class attendance, infrastructures and supervision became peripheral. The impact of all these are very clearly reflected in the results of the students in their final exams.

For instance, even in undergraduate Pass courses, the failure percentage is found to be as high as – 31.4%; 25.1% and 27.4% in Arts, Commerce and Science respectively. No students passed in First Division at least in the last ten years.

The Sikkim University proposed drastic and progressive measures to improve the performance of college education. These included:

- i) Raising the minimum percentage of marks required for seeking admission gradually to 50 percent by 2012.
- ii) Fixing the intake capacity in all the programmes.
- iii) The recruitment of faculty to be done by strictly following the UGC norms.
- iv) All the Colleges of Sikkim compulsorily adopt the semester system. This will facilitate intense academic period and lead to prompt evaluation system. The semester system will be very useful to track and maintain an individualized performance record of all the students

through intensive interactive process between the students and teachers.

ACADEMIC PERIOD OF THE COLLEGES

Semester	Academic Period	No. of Teaching Days	Examination Schedule	Declaration of Result
Monsoon	10 th July- 10 th December	153	1-10 December	30 December
Spring	4 th February- 31 st May	125	1-10 June	30 June

- v) In the newly introduced semester system, a student will be continuously evaluated through mid-semester test, term paper/field study, lab test, practicals, end semester examinations etc. The student would be evaluated internally throughout. The following table highlights a detailed evaluation mechanism for a particular paper.

PATTERN OF EVALUATION

Pattern of Evaluation	Weightage [%]
Mid Semester Test	20
Term Paper/Field Work	25
Presentation/lab test/practical	
End Semester Examination	50
Attendance	05
Total	100

- vi) **5 Marks for 100 % Class Attendance.** It is compulsory for a student to attend at least 75 per cent of the class lectures. This means a student can score a maximum of 5 marks in each paper just by attending the classes regularly.
- vii) **Full Internal Evaluation.** All the term papers/tutorials along with mid-term test and end semester test scripts will be evaluated by the concerned course teacher internally. This means a teacher teaches and evaluates the performance of her/his students also.
- viii) The Sikkim University undertook the college reforms against this backdrop. Its curriculum is now inter-disciplinary and students have facilities to have cross-discipline subject choices. University was very fortunate to have with it the heads of the Departments and Principals of the best colleges and Universities in India including St Stephen's, Lady

Sri Ram, Sri Ram College of Commerce, Hindu College in Delhi; Presidency College in Calcutta, Loyola College in Chennai, St Xavier College of Mumbai, Cotton College of Guwahati, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jadavpur University, Delhi University, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, North Eastern Hill University, Calcutta University, North Bengal University and Assam University and host of other professional institutions to prepare the college curriculum.

- ix) University has now published the entire curriculum. University has also published a very comprehensive guide for the students on Semester system, entitled **“Structure of Undergraduate Courses under Semester System: Guidelines for the Colleges.”**
- x) Sikkim University has assured that it would educate, train and create a critical pool of local scholars and academics in diverse disciplines in the course of next 5 to 8 years so that they can join various colleges and Sikkim University in its various teaching faculty and research programmes. All these initiatives will also start catering to national and global need of qualified and skilled manpower and human resources.
- xi) Sikkim University plans to undertake the second generation reforms starting 2010. This will include introduction of new courses and academic programmes, credit system in evaluation, collaborative exchanges with undergraduate colleges/institutions of various universities both in India and abroad, large scale field exposure to both the students and faculty members and induction of modern teaching techniques including through virtual system.

While complimenting the extensive work done by the University team for undertaking the College Reforms, the Council asked the University to strictly implement all the very forward looking measures and norms. It also suggested that the actual working days may be mentioned in the Academic Calendar.

(ii) Submission of XI Plan Proposal to UGC

The XI Plan Proposal was prepared and submitted to the University Grants Commission to the tune of Rs.632.54 crore in the month of March (revised in May 2008). The visit of the UGC Visiting Committee to finalize the allocation is awaited. In the meantime, UGC has been requested in the month of June to sanction some of the teaching positions in Sociology; International Relations/Politics; Conflict Studies & Management; Microbiology; and Food Science & Nutrition. The UGC has also been requested to allow us to make a presentation of the XI Plan Proposal at UGC in the event of delay of the visit of the UGC Committee.

(iii) Selection Committee Meetings for the posts of Registrar and Finance Officer

As per the Ministry of Human Resource Development Order No.F.36-5/2007-Desk (U) dated 12th November, 2007 a Selection Committee was constituted with the following members for appointment of the first Registrar and Finance Officer of Sikkim University:

1. Shri P R Dasgupta, Former Education Secretary, Govt. of India
2. Shri T N Thakur, IA & AS, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Power Trading Corporation of India, New Delhi

Accordingly, advertisement was floated in national, regional and local news papers and also in *Employment News, Economic & Political Weekly* and *University News*. In response to these advertisements, altogether 44 applications for the post of Registrar and 17 for the post of Finance Officer were received. The Vice-Chancellor constituted an internal screening committee to scrutinize the applications and short-list on the basis of minimum eligibility. After scrutiny, 29 candidates for the post of Registrar and 9 for the post of Finance Officer were short-listed and called for interview.

Out of the above, 22 candidates for Registrar appeared before the Selection Committee and one application was considered in absentia as per his request. Out of the 09 candidates for the post of Finance Officer, 06 candidates appeared before the Selection Committee and one application was considered in absentia as per his request. The interviews were held on 5th and 6th June 2008 in the Sikkim University premises and recommendations forwarded to MHRD. Orders from MHRD are awaited.

(iv) Land acquisition

At the moment Sikkim University is running from a building at 6th Mile, Tadong near Gangtok allotted by the State Government. The Sikkim University has now been able to firm up on the issue of University land for its main campus at Yangang in South Sikkim about 56 km from Gangtok and 28 km from Singtam. The total area available is about 300 acres and fulfils the primary criteria for the location of University campus including the size of land available, physical accessibility and topographical features. It is rather a very difficult task to find such a huge chunk of more or less a flat land in a mountainous state. The MHRD was kind enough to allocate a special grant of Rs.15.00 crore as compensation for the land owners. The remaining amount required for compensation will be met by the State Government.

The State Government has started the process of acquisition and hopefully it would be able to possess the land by end of August 2008.

(v) Library

In its mission to provide the best infrastructure to its faculty, students and other stakeholders who will join the University, the Sikkim University will soon be starting a Library at 6th Mile, Tadong. The library will be connected with *INFLIBNET*, a network that allows free access to journals published from both India and abroad. A variety of books on a range of subject and disciplines are being procured for free public access.

While noting the progress made in setting up the Library, the Council suggested that a competent Architect may be identified for designing the permanent Library as it is the most important organ of the University. The Council also suggested that an experienced Librarian may be appointed to set up the Library.

(vi) Constitution of the First Academic Council

The President of India, in her capacity as the Visitor of Sikkim University, under Section 46 of the Sikkim University Act, 2006 constituted the first Academic Council with 21 members, vide Notification No.F.36-4/2008-Desk (U) dated 16th July, 2008.

(vii) Submission of Report to the Pay Review Committee headed by Prof. G K Chadha

The University Grants Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, has constituted a Pay Review Committee to review, among other things, the pay scales of University and College Teachers under the Chairmanship of Prof. G K Chadha, Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister. As required by the UGC, Sikkim University has filled in the questionnaire and also wrote a detailed note to Prof. Chadha suggesting the grant of extra academic and non-academic benefits to attract well qualified, experienced and professionally committed faculty members.

As there was no other item for discussion, the meeting ended with vote of thanks from and to the Chairman.

Officer on Special Duty-II