# Minutes of the 30th meeting of the Executive Council held on 16th April 2018 at 11:00 am in meeting room of Barad Sadan, Academic Block, Sikkim University

30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Council was held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 11:00 am in meeting room of Barad Sadan. Following were present:

1.	Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang Vice-Chancellor	-	Chairperson
2.	Shri Kamal Kafley, Secretary (Retd.), GOS., Pakyong, Sikkim	-	Member
3.	Prof. Amaresh Dubey Centre for Study of Regional Development, JNU, New Delhi	-	Member
4.	Dr. Sreeradha Datta Distinguished Fellow, Asian Confluence Shillong, Meghalaya	-	Member
5.	Shri G.P. Upadhyaya Additional Chief Secretary Human Resource Development Department Govt. of Sikkim	-	Member
6.	Prof. Irshad Gulam Ahmed, Dean, School of Languages & Literature	-	Member
7.	Prof. V. Rama Devi, Dean, School of Professional Studies	-	Member
8.	Dr. Nawal K. Paswan, Dean, School of Social Sciences	-	Member
9.	Dr. K.R. Rama Mohan, Dean, School of Human Sciences	-	Member
10	.Dr. S.Manivannan Dean of Students' Welfare	-	Member
11	.Prof. Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Head, Deptt. of Nepali	-	Member
12	.Dr. Subir Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor, Deptt. of Physics	-	Member
13	.Shri Debasish Paul Finance Officer	-	Special Invitee
14	.Shri T.K.Kaul Registrar	-	Secretary

Shri R. R. Poudyal, Prof. Ghanashyam Nepal, and Prof. Bapukan Choudhury could not attend the meeting due to their pre-occupations and sought leave of absence.

Ms. Grace D. Chankapa, Assistant Professor and Ms Prava Mukhia, Assistant were present to assist the Council.

At the outset the Chairman welcomed all members of the Council to its 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. He informed the Council that Prof. Chetan Singh has completed his tenure in the Council in March 2018. He placed on record valuable contributions made by him during his tenure in the Council. The Chairman also appreciated Prof. Nutankumar S. Thingujam for his contributions who has joined Manipur University by retaining lien in Sikkim University.

The Chairman welcomed Dr. K.R. Rama Mohan, Associate Professor and Dean, School of Human Sciences as a new member to the Council in place of Prof. Nutankumar S. Thingujam. Thereafter, agenda items were taken up as under:

### SECTION-1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT

# EC 30.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017

The minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017 were circulated to all members on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017. No comments have been received from any of the members of the Council.

The minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2018 as circulated to all members on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018 were confirmed.

## EC 30.1.2: Action taken report on the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2018

The Secretary presented the action taken report on the minutes of the  $29^{th}$  meeting of the Council. The Council noted the action taken by the University.

#### SECTION - 2 REPORTING ITEMS

# EC 30.2.1: Cancellation of offer of appointment for the post of Librarian in respect of Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma

The Council noted that in its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017, recommendations of the Selection Committee for the post of Librarian were approved. Accordingly, Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma was offered the post of Librarian on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017. Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma initially sought extension in joining time which was granted to him. Later vide his e-mail dated 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 he expressed his inability to join due to personal reasons. The University accepted his decision and cancelled the offer of appointment.

#### EC 30.2.2: Appointment of Shri Sandipan Kar as Personal Assistant

The Council noted that in its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2017, it had authorized the Vice-Chancellor to issue offer of appointment to the candidate on the basis of performance in the written examination and qualifying stenography test. Based on the marks obtained in written examination and having qualified stenography test, Shri Sandipan Kar was offered the post of Personal Assistant and he joined as Personal Assistant on 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017.

# SECTION-3 RATIFICATION MATTERS

#### EC 30.3.1: Relieving of Dr. Vimal Kishor, Assistant Professor on Lien

Dr. Vimal Kishor, Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Education requested to be relieved on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 to enable him to join the post of Associate Professor at Central University of Jharkhand by retaining lien to the post held by him in the University.

As per policy of the University he was asked to deposit salary in lieu of the period falling short of the notice period of three months i.e. 82 days. He requested to make payments in three instalments which was accepted by the Vice-Chancellor on humanitarian grounds.

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in relieving Dr. Vimal Kishor, Assistant Professor on 31st Jan 2018 on *lien* for period of one year and also to make payment for the period falling short of the notice period of three months in three instalments.

#### EC 30.3.2: Application of Dr. Charisma Karthak Lepcha for Extra-Ordinary Leave

Dr. Charisma Karthak Lepcha, Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Anthropology requested for Extra-Ordinary Leave for two years to avail fellowship offered by IIAS, Shimla from 1st April 2018.

The Vice-Chancellor on the recommendations of the department accepted the request and granted Extra-Ordinary Leave to Dr. Charisma Karthak Lepcha for two years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

The Executive Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in granting Extra-Ordinary Leave for two years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to Dr. Charisma Karthak Lepcha to avail fellowship offered by IIAS, Shimla.

#### EC 30.3.3: Resignation of Shri Depen Chettri from the post of Laboratory Attendant

Shri Depen Chettri who had joined the University as Laboratory Attendant submitted his resignation vide letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 requesting to be released on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to enable him to join as LDC in Govt. of Sikkim.

Under the provisions of Statute 26 (6) (b), Shri Depen Chettri served one-month notice and the Vice-Chancellor accepted his resignation and relieved him with effect from 13th March 2018.

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in accepting resignation and relieving Shri Depen Chettri on 13th March 2018.

#### EC 30.3.4: Relieving of Ms. Sabina Sharma, Laboratory Attendant on Lien

Ms. Sabina Sharma, Laboratory Attendant is a permanent employee of the University. She requested to be relieved on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in order to join as Graduate Teacher in HRDD, Govt. of Sikkim and retaining 'lien' to the post held by her in the University.

As per policy of the University Ms. Sabina Sharma deposited the salary equivalent to the period falling short of the notice period of three months.

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in relieving Ms. Sabina Sharma on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and allowing him to retain lien to the post of Laboratory Attendant in the University or a period of one year.

#### EC 30.3.5: Relieving of Dr. Subash Misra, Assistant Professor on Lien

Dr. Subash Misra, Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Education is a permanent employee of the University. He requested to be relieved on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 to enable him to join the post of Assistant Professor in Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow. As per policy of the University, he was asked to deposit salary falling short of notice period of three months ie. 67 days. His request to make payment in three instalments was accepted by the Vice-Chancellor on humanitarian grounds.

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in relieving Dr. Subash Mishra, Assistant Professor on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 on lien for period of one year and also to make payment for the period falling short of notice period in three instalments.

#### EC 30.3.6: Relieving of Shri Vijoy V., Assistant Professor on Lien

Shri Vijoy V., Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Law requested to be relieved on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018 to enable him to join the post of Assistant Professor in Deptt. of Law, Delhi University.

As per policy of the University he was asked to deposit salary in lieu of short fall of notice period. Shri Vijoy V deposited salary equivalent to the period falling short of notice period and he was relieved on lien on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018.

The Council ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in relieving Shri Vijoy V, Assistant Professor with effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018 and allowing him to retain *lien* for a period of one year.

#### EC 30.3.7: Extension of appointment of Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav

The Council was informed that Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav was appointed as Assistant Professor in Deptt. of International Relations with effect from 18th Sept 2017 on regular pay band and Academic Grade Pay against the lien vacancy of Dr. Teiborlang T. Kharsyntiew whose lien was valid upto 30th June 2018. However, Dr. Teiborlang T. Kharsyntiew got his lien terminated retrospectively from 1st Feb 2016 and the lien vacancy ceased to exist. The Council in its 29th meeting held on 1st Dec 2018 approved the appointment of Dr.Madan Kumar Yadav as Assistant Professor on contract upto 30th June 2018 as he had already joined the University. Since his appointment was approved in 29th meeting of the Council held on 1st Dec 2017 on contract and his pay has been fixed as per UGC guidelines on consolidated monthly remuneration of Rs. 64,208 w.e.f. 18.09.2017 i.e. day he joined the University.

Some of the members raised the issue of conversion of appointment from 'lien vacancy' to the 'contractual'. It was clarified that as per the offer given to Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav for post against lien vacancy, it was clearly mentioned that his appointment will stand terminated on the same day Dr. Teiborlang T Kharsyntiew resumes duty. Also, incase lien vacancy gets converted into a regular vacancy, he will not be entitled for regularization against the vacancy. Since lien vacancy ceased to exist and filling up the vacancy will take some time, matter was taken up to the Council to appoint Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav as Assistant Professor on contract up to 30th June 2018 i.e. the day up to which lien vacancy was anticipated to exist.

The Council ratified the action of the University in fixing remuneration of Dr. Madan Kumar Yadav on a consolidated basis as per UGC guidelines.

### SECTION-4 MATTER FOR CONSIDERAITON AND APPROVAL

#### EC 30.4.1: Study Leave of Dr. Nagendra Thakur

The Council was informed that in its 29th meeting held on 1st Dec 2017 it had granted Study Leave for one year from 15th Jan 2018 to 14th Jan 2019 to Dr. Nagendra Thakur, Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Microbiology to pursue Post-Doctoral fellowship under Overseas Associateship of DBT for Scientists of North Eastern Region offered by Deptt. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India. Dr. Nagendra Thakur submitted his request letter dated 8th Jan 2018 requesting for postponement of his Study Leave to 15th July 2018 instead of 15th Jan 2018 as processing of his documents are taking time and release of funds for the overseas Associateship has not been released.

The Council after deliberations approved grant of Study Leave to Dr. Nagendra Thakur, Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Microbiology for a period of one year from 15th July 2018 instead of 15th Jan 2018.

### SECTION - 5 MINUTES OF AUTHORITIES/COMMITTEES

### EC 30.5.1: Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> adjourned meeting of Finance Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018

The Council was informed that the 18th adjourned meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 26th March 2018 in Delhi which deliberated only on the agenda relating to implementation of 7th CPC for the faculty and non-teaching employees of the University as per instructions issued by the UGC, subject to withdrawal of rental support/subsidy as has been extended to some employees of the University and initiating the process of recovery.

The Council also noted that the Vice-Chancellor in exercise of the powers vested under Section 12 (3) of SU Act approved recommendations of the FC on implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC for the employees of the University (both teaching and non-teaching) and withdrawal of rental support/subsidy as extended to some employees of the University subject to ratification by the Executive Council.

Non-teaching Staff Association (SUNTSA) submitted a representation dated 12th April 2018 requesting the University to review the decision of withdrawal of rental support/subsidy as extended to outstation employees and initiating process of recovery. In their representation it has been pointed out that there is no clear time line for the University to shift to its new campus and the University is not in a position to provide housing facilities to its employees, hence withdrawal of rental support/subsidy will have huge financial impact on the employees. The house rent in Gangtok is exorbitant as it is a tourist place and the Tenancy Act is heavily loaded in favour of landlords. President and General Secretary of SUNTSA were invited to the meeting of the Council to present their views. Apart from the above points mentioned in the representation, they also pointed out that in Nagaland where a Central University is located (Nagaland University), HRA is being paid @ 20% (as per 6th CPC). Other areas in the North Eastern Region are also allowed higher rates of HRA whereas it is 10% at Gangtok (6th CPC) which may get reduced to 8% (7th CPC). SUNTSA representatives suggested that the rate of HRA need to be enhanced from 10% to 20% (6th CPC) or 8% to 16% (7th CPC) so that there would be some mitigation in payment of rent by the out station employees to the landlords. Otherwise, University may hire accommodation for out station employees for their residences in lieu of residential quarters in the campus.

After the departure of President and General Secretary of Non-Teaching Staff Association, the matter was deliberated upon in detail in the Council. Following decisions were taken:

i) Ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor in implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC for the employees of the University and forthwith withdrawal of rental support/subsidy as extended to some employees of the University.

- ii) University may approach the Central Government for seeking classification of Gangtok as category 'B' city for grant of HRA as has been done for Kohima (Nagaland) and other areas of North East.
- iii) To take up the matter with MHRD/UGC/FC for hiring of residential accommodation for residences of some category of employees till such time the University moves to its campus with residential facilities.
- iv) For initiating the process of recovery of rental support/subsidy extended to some employees it was decided to defer the matter till such time allowances of 7th CPC are also extended. The employees were not at fault about it as it was a scheme extended by the University keeping in view so many other factors like attracting better talent for the University, mitigating hardship on account of high rent prevailing at Gangtok and other areas of Sikkim etc.

#### EC 30.5.2: Minutes of the 9th meeting of Building Committee held on 12th March 2018

The Council noted and approved the minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of Building Committee with specific approvals as under:

- i) Extension of time for completion of the project by 166 days based on the recorded justified hindrances as recommended by the Building Committee.
- ii) Variation in quantities and reduction in scope of work to the extent accepted by the Building Committee.
- iii) Appointment of independent tax consultant for Anti-Profiteering clause of GST.

### SECTION - 6 ITEM FROM THE CHAIR

#### EC 30.6.1: Fee structure 2018-19 for various courses

The Council was informed that the fee payable by the students is mentioned in the University Ordinances OC-3 which is enhanced by 2% non-cumulative every year. Ordinance OC-3 also provide under clauses 2 (a) & 2 (b) detailed fee structure to be paid by the students as one-time fee and semester fee as per lab based and non-lab based courses and professional and non-professional courses.

It was noted by the Council that the proposed fee in some of the courses are many times higher as compared to the last year.

The Council after deliberations decided as under:

i) The proposed fee for the courses may be enhanced 2% non-cumulative over the last year's fee;

ii) To authorized the Vice-Chancellor to constitute a committee to go into the fee structure as given in the Ordinance and decide the courses which are professional and which are lab-based and suggest changes in the Ordinance, if any. The recommendations of the committee may be placed before the Academic Council for consideration.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-(T.K.Kaul) Registrar & Secretary Sd/-(Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang) Vice-Chancellor & Chairman