



Minutes of IX Meeting of First Executive Council

GROUP I –ITEMS WHICH NEED APPROVAL

EC:09:01	The Chairperson calls the House to order
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Minutes:

9.01.1 The Chairperson called the House to order. The Chairperson clarified to the House based on the input obtained from the Ministry of Human Resource Development it has been stated that the last and final meeting of the present Executive Council would be the one that would be held just prior to the expiry of the Notification dated 10.04.2008 after three years issued by the University on constitution of the First Executive Council [as the said notification is the one available in the public domain]. On this, Prof Shivraj Singh informed that in some of the Universities like BHU, the prescribed period of 3 years is being followed from the date of holding of the first meeting of the Council rather than the date of notification.

9.01.2 The Chairperson replied that he would take up this point with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for a final resolution and the Members would be informed of the clarification on getting the same from MHRD.

EC:09:02	Obituary Reference
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[Agenda Note:

The death of the following eminent personalities is brought before the house with deep sense of grief.

- 1. Smt Hira Devi Waiba, A popular and reputed Folk Singer*
- 2. Shri K. Subramaniam, Widely acclaimed strategic and security expert*
- 3. Shri Bhim Sen Joshi, Internationally reputed Classical Musician*

Minutes:

9.02.1 The House noted with deep sense of grief the passing away of the eminent personalities reported and as a mark of respect to the departed souls observed two minutes silence.



EC:09:03	Performance Highlights by Vice-Chancellor
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Minutes:

9.03.1 The Vice-Chancellor made power point presentation depicting the performance highlights of the University since the last meeting of the Executive Council held on 27.12.2010.

9.03.2 The House expressed its deep appreciation of the performance highlights and milestones achieved by the University. The observations of the Members and the responses of the Chairperson to their valuable suggestions/remarks/comments are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

9.03.3 **Shri Bezbaruah** enquired as to how the University is planning to manage the required physical spaces for the proposed new courses?

To this the Chairperson replied that the University has already identified new buildings and tentatively finalized the agreement with the landlords concerned. It is also interacting with the CPWD in fixation of fair rent for the identified buildings. The Chairperson further informed that the details of the newly identified buildings have also been placed before the House under Agenda item 9.25.

9.03.4 Shri Bezbaruah further enquired as to the number of programmes presently run by the University. To this, the Chairperson replied that presently the University runs 18 Programmes under 14 different Schools.

9.03.5 **Prof Anandkrishnan** enquired about the position of M.Phil/P.hd programmes in Physical Sciences to which the Chairperson replied that the same would start from the Academic Year 2011-12.

9.03.6 Prof Anandkrishnan desired to know as to how the CDC is being constituted for a particular subject by the University. To this the Chairperson replied that the composition of the CDC is being determined by a series of internal meetings of constituted committees which present a range of experts, professionals, academics and other persons and the final list of members of list is prepared based on the broad consensus obtained in such meetings and no CDC is constituted arbitrarily . He mentioned that for example in the case of curriculum for BBA/MBA course the first round of discussions were held with the an expert from IIM, Kolkata which was followed by a second round by a major group consisting of Professors from IIM, Madras; Dean of Faculty of Management, Delhi University, representatives of private sectors and other professionals, based on the suggestion made in the first round of discussion.



9.03.7 At this point, Prof Anandkrishnan mentioned that it is a unique and unparallel exercise and a great approach innovated by Sikkim University and it must institutionalise this process. He further stated that every course designed by the University shall have its unique identity and not a carbon copy of others. It was mentioned that no other university in the NE region has a programme in Music except Sikkim University. It would be desirable if our University holds every year a conference of musicians from across the country for the exposure of the students of B.Music. This could bring forth very many talents in this region.

9.03.8 Chairperson mentioned that this would be duly considered by the University. He further added that the new programme of the University viz. Ethno botany is also is unique in character. This course has been designed by drawing experts from Botanical Survey of India and ICAR, Eminent scientists in the field, academicians from University like JNU and also practitioners. The Chairperson further explained to the House the entire process of admission starting from Prospectus to declaration of admission test results which are being followed by the University.

9.03.9 Members urge the University to make all the efforts to fulfil the aspirations of the students and to meet the hopes of the students coming from different places of the country. The Chairperson explained as to how the Hostel facilities, separately, for boys and girls, are being developed and maintained by the University and how the university is taking efforts to create a national character in the minds of the students.

9.03.10 Prof Mrinal Miri observed as to how the B.Mus course is being designed by the University. The Chairperson replied that while designing the curriculum due consideration is being given to local community institutions related to music and other creative arts, local folk music and the music of the North East Region. He also observed that History and philosophy have to be introduced as full fledged programmes. The Chairperson responded by mentioning that the plans are afoot to do the same from 2012 session.

9.03.11 Prof Madhura Swaminathan desired to know whether the University would keep its admissions open till middle of July in order to get good students. The Chairperson assured that this suggestion would be duly borne in mind.

9.03.12 Summing up the discussions, the Chairperson sought the help of the Members by joining the Selection Committee for recruitment of faculty members in near future.



EC:09:04	Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Council held on 27.12.2010
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Minutes:

9.04.1 The Minutes of the last [8th] meeting of the Executive Council held on 27.12.2010 as enclosed in **Annexure EC IX – 01** to the Agenda was confirmed by the House.

EC:09:05	Action taken report on the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Council held on 27.12.2010
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Minutes:

9.05.1 The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 8th meeting of the Executive Council held on 27.12.2010 which was enclosed as **Annexure EC IX – 02** to the Agenda was confirmed by the House. While doing so Prof Suryavanshi enquired as to what action has been taken on the letter issued to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim on acquisition of land at Yangang. The factual position obtained was explained by the Chairperson. The Members also enquired about the position obtained as regards to acquisition of land from Shri SK Pradhan representing the Secretary, HRDD of Government of Sikkim. Shri Pradhan explained that necessary action is being taken by the Government of Sikkim in quickly handing over the land to the University. Shri Bezbaruah also posed the question as to why the land could not be handed over so far. To this, Shri Pradhan mentioned that there have been some unknown difficulties. However, the Government is taking all necessary steps in getting the land handed over to the University.

EC:09:06	Appointment of Librarian
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Minutes:

9.06.1 The House considered the agenda item in detail including the proceedings of the Selection Committee for appointment to the post of Librarian and approved the names empanelled. The House instructed that the University to issue the offer of appointment to the first empanelled candidate Dr. Srivastava at the earliest.



EC:09:07	Leave Rules of Teaching and Academic Staff
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Minutes:

9.07.1 The Item was deferred placement in the Meeting held.

EC:09:08	Sponsoring of Sports Events
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Minutes:

9.08.1 The House considered the agenda item and approved the proposal. The House also suggested that the University may consider holding a 'Sikkim Half Marathon' on the eve of ensuing Independence Day on 15.08.2011. This suggestion was agreed to readily by the Chairperson.

EC:09:09	Names of Experts for Curriculum Development Committees
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Minutes:

9.09.1 The agenda item was discussed orally during the meeting. The Chairperson explained to the House the need to get more and more names of experts for constituting various Curriculum Development Committees of the University. All the Members of the House expressed their full support in suggesting names of experts to the CDCs of the University. It was stated that the Members would suggest the names by email to the University.

EC:09:10	Inspection of affiliated Colleges
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Minutes:

9.10.1 The House considered the agenda item. It was felt that it would be inappropriate to consider this item without the recommendation of the Academic Council. Accordingly, the House reverted back this item to the Academic Council for its consideration and recommendation.

9.10.2 At the same time, the House also made the following valuable suggestions on the issue for the consideration of the University.

1. Many Universities have the same difficulty of under qualified teachers in affiliated institutions mainly Government Colleges and Sikkim University is no exception to this problem. Therefore, while considering the issue of under qualified teachers in Government



Colleges, the University can take a view that would allow reasonable timeframe for improvement in the teaching faculty qualifications and standards in various colleges. For example,

- The annual affiliation given to the colleges should also address itself to a particular programme. Instead of de-affiliating the entire college in case of non-fulfillment of affiliation criteria and conditions, the University may de-affiliate a particular Department and course, provided other departments and courses fulfill these criteria. This course wise approach will be more effective.
- Take the issue of improvement on course by course basis and provide them a reasonable time frame to improve.
- Develop strict and comprehensive norms for compliance by the colleges
- The nature of punishment/ graded punishment for non-achieving colleges can be
 - No more new admissions
 - Cut back of student strength
 - Non sanctioning of new courses
- The House enquired with the Member from the Govt. of Sikkim the reasons as to why the colleges could not fill up the teaching positions on regular basis instead of operating them on ad hoc basis. Shri S K Pradhan said that the delay to a great extent is because of the of the formalities and process delays in Sikkim Public Service Commission. On this Prof. Mrinal Miri suggested that the HRDD can mention the problem to SPSC and give them a time frame for conducting the interviews for filling up the positions on regular basis. At this point the Chairperson intervened and mentioned because of Sikkim University's consistent sensitization through very many interactive programmes and college visits and media briefings and appeal to the Govt of Sikkim about drastically improving the college level institutions and infrastructures, the Govt. of Sikkim has now started giving huge grants to the colleges in the State. The Chairman of SPSC also enquired about the selection process followed by Sikkim University in order to adopt the same in the recruitments being done by SPSC. It was however, mentioned that unless the HRDD relaxes the norms for recruitment, especially that of recruitment of only the local candidates; it would be difficult for the Govt. to find suitable candidates to fill up



the vacant positions. The House of the opinion that a qualified and good teacher , if recruited from anywhere, could bring far reaching improvements in the class room teaching and could inspire very many young minds.

EC:09:11	Electricity Charges for VC's Bungalow
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Minutes:

9.11.1 The House considered and approved the agenda item.

EC:09:12	Zero Semester Cases
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Minutes:

9.12.1 The House mentioned that it has examined the facts placed before it in the agenda item. However, as this issue is to be considered by the Academic Council the House decided to revert back the item to the Academic Council for consideration and recommendations.

EC:09:13	Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University
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Minutes:

9.13.1 The House considered the Agenda item placed before it in detail. The House also had an elaborate discussion on the subject. The House decided that as of now no case may be filed against Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University on infringement of name. In that place, at the end of the discussions, the house resolved that as the first step to avoid the confusion the name of Sikkim University may be changed as "**Sikkim Central University**". The resolution of the House be accordingly taken up by the University with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for further necessary action.

9.13.2 Prof. Anandkrishnan while highlighting that status of affiliation given to the Sikkim Vinayak Sikkim University by the legislative act of Sikkim Government in 2008 mentioned that it is tantamount to subverting the Parliament Act that provides only the Sikkim University right to affiliate the colleges that are located in Sikkim. He suggested that the University may inform UGC as to why an institution like Vinayaka Mission Sikkim University has been recognised under Section 2(f) of University Grants Commission Act as it does not fulfil many criteria that are set out for such



recognition. This Action may be taken up independent of writing a letter to the MHRD on change of name. Prof. Mrinal Miri and Shri Bezbaruah also endorsed the above suggestions.

EC:09:14	Filling up of Teaching Posts on Regular basis
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Minutes:

9.14.1 The House approved the proposal of Sikkim University mentioned at Annexure indicating the number of teaching positions both for existing and proposed departments and authorized the University to take further action in this front.

EC:09:15	First Lustrum of Sikkim University
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Minutes:

9.15.1 The House considered the Agenda Item in detail. Members opined that this documentary could in fact be a case study of a setting up of a new university. On this Shri Bezbaruah suggested that while making a digital documentary on the first Lustrum of Sikkim University, the University can give a detailed account on problems of setting up of a new University. This could be a major historical document for other new universities which are being set up or going to be established. Prof. Anandkrishnan suggested such a documentary should be in the form of modules covering each functional areas of the University and also mentioned that the personal accounts and experiences of Vice Chancellor are very vital in such documentary films.

9.15.2 With the above suggestions, the House approved the Agenda.

EC:09:16	Appointment of and invitation for various Visiting Positions
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Minutes:

9.16.1 The House considered the Agenda. It was opined that since there was a separate Ordinance on APPOINTMENT OF ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, VISITING FELLOW, VISITING SCHOLAR, GUEST FACULTY, and VISITING FACULTY approved by the House, the House felt that no individual approval is needed. The Vice Chancellor could propose such names and invite such scholars and experts, professionals in various positions depending upon the need of the University. This is much required when the



University is in very initial phase of building. It was suggested that the issue may be placed before the Academic Council in its next meeting for its consideration.

GROUP II – ITEMS WHICH NEED RATIFICATION

EC:09:17	Appointment/Resignation of Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff (Regular & Contractual)
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Minutes:

9.17.1 The House ratified the Agenda placed before it.

EC:09:18	Entrustment of Additional Charge of Registrar and Controller of Examinations
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Minutes:

9.18.1 The House ratified the Agenda placed before it.

GROUP III – ITEMS WHICH ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION

EC:09:19	Appointment to the post of Registrar [for Residual term of First Register }
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Minutes:

9.19.1 The House noted the agenda item placed before it and instructed the University to proceed further accordingly.

EC:09:20	Sharing of Experiences with Rahul Gandhi
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Minutes:

9.20.1 The House noted the Agenda item placed before it.



EC:09:21	Visit of Vice-Chancellors of UK Universities
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Minutes:

9.21.1 The House noted the Agenda item placed before it. The members were highly appreciative that the high level officials of Glasgow and Sheffield Halam Universities from UK visited Sikkim University and had close interactions with the students, faculty members and the management team. This kind of exercise will go a long way in providing this new University a solid footing in critical areas of University building. During the discussion Prof. Anandkrishnan mentioned that leadership development programme for education is a broad idea. The job of the Vice Chancellor may be good in one function or one institutions whereas he may not perform equally well in other universities. This means a Vice Chancellor has to be a much larger vision and knack for both academic and management development. He further suggested that transplanting the UK experience in India may not always be successful. The University can however, assimilate and absorb the good experiences and best practices of Universities of the West and adopt them with suitable modifications in Indian conditions. Such kind of visits of Vice Chancellors of West would be useful in the above direction.

EC:09:22	Increase in the intake capacity of Harkamaya College – M.Ed Course
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Minutes:

9.22.1 The House considered the Agenda item. It was stated that if the regulatory body permits certain things, the affiliating institution in general has to accept it unless the affiliating institution find some major deficiencies in the college in implementing the orders of the regulatory body. In such case such deficiency should be properly documented and substantiated.

EC:09:23	Advertisement for various posts – Teaching & Non-Teaching
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Minutes:

9.23.1 The House noted the proposal of the University as regards to advertising of various Teaching, Non-teaching and Tenure positions. The House has also approved and sanctioned the following posts for official language

- I Hindi Officer [1 post]



- II Hindi Translator [1 post]
- III Hindi Typist [1 post]

9.23.2 The House suggested to the University to coin appropriate non conventional designations to the above three posts similar to those done in the case of non-teaching posts sanctioned earlier.

EC:09:24	Analysis of Monsoon 2010 Results
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Minutes:

9.24.1 The House noted the Agenda item and placed on record its appreciation not only on the declaration of results within 19 days of last date of examination but also of a comprehensive analysis of college and university level results of last few semesters.

EC:09:25	Status of Hiring of New Buildings
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Minutes:

9.25.1 The House noted the Agenda item placed before it and directed the University to keep the things moving on a fast track so that the buildings and the infrastructure are ready before the commencement of next semester. Shri Bezbaruah suggested that in all the buildings the University should try to outsource the maintenance, housekeeping and catering functions as it would be highly difficult for the University to manage these functions with the available Human Resources.

EC:09:26	Position of Sanctioned Strength and Staff-in-Position
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Minutes:

9.26.1 The House considered the Agenda item. The House suggested that for future the University may indicate the reasons for vacancy in each of the cadre (like for want of Visitor's nominee etc.). Similarly wherever a marginal excess over sanction is operated, the University may provide the reasons there for by way of remarks.



EC:09:27	ISO 9001 Certification for Sikkim University
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Minutes:

9.27.1 The House considered and noted the Agenda item placed before it.

EC:09:28	Any other item with the permission of the Chair
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Minutes:

9.28.1 It has been decided to hold the next and last meeting of the Executive Council in the first week of April 2011.

Sd/-

[PV Ravi]

Secretary to Executive Council & *Actg.* Registrar