

**MINUTES OF THE 19th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF NATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2013
(WEDNESDAY) AT 10:00 A.M. AT PARLIAMENT ROOM AT CHAMBERS, HOTEL TAJ
MANSINGH, MANSINGH ROAD, NEW DELHI**

Present:

1. Shri Venu Srinivasan – Chairperson
2. Shri N.K Singh, Hon'ble M.P. Rajya Sabha
3. Sh. Prem Kumar Gera, Director General, NIFT
4. Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, AEPC.
5. Shri. Sunil Sethi, President, FDCI
6. Smt. Rajshree Pathy, Director, Rajshree Spinning Mills Ltd.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The following members were granted leave of absence:

1. Smt. Deepa Dasmunsi, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha & MOS (Urban Development)
2. Smt. Saroj Pandey, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
3. Smt. Anita Agnihotri, AS&FA, Ministry of Textiles
4. Smt. Monika S. Garg, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles
5. Shri R.P Sisodia, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development
6. Smt. Kavita Bhartia, M/s. Ogaan, New Delhi
7. Shri Prashant Agarwal, Managing Director, Bombay Rayon Fashions Ltd.
8. Shri Premal Udani, M/s Kaytee Corporation Limited
9. Shri Dilip B. Jiwrajka, Managing Director, Alok Industries Ltd.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1901

Confirmation of the minutes of 18th Board of Governors meeting of National Institute of Fashion Technology held on 4th September, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

After noting that no comments have been received, the minutes of the 18th meeting of the Board held on 4th September, 2012 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1902

Action Taken Report on last minutes of the BOG meeting

The Action Taken Report on the decisions of the previous meeting of the Board was noted by the Board with the following observations:

- (i) In view of the fact that more than 6 months have passed from the date when steps were taken to re-establish contacts with the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) and no response has been received from the UTT, the MOU with UTT may not be pursued any further.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1903

Taking note of the minutes of the 20th & 21st F&AC meeting of National Institute of Fashion Technology

Minutes of the 20th & 21st F&AC meeting of F&AC of NIFT was noted by the Board with the observation that even despite the increase in fee from 2013-14, the fee being charged by NIFT was still less than the fee charged by other similar Institutes like NID, FDDI and Pearl etc. The Board therefore directed that from 2014-15 fees may be increased by 15% for Regular Non NRI students and 25% per year for NRI seats for next 3 years. The Board appreciated the efforts made in getting pre-approved loans from Union Bank of India for all students getting admissions to NIFT thus assuring that no meritorious student would be denied access to NIFT Admission because of the funds. Scholarships and Educational Loans need to be assured to the needy students.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1904

Taking note of the minutes of the 10th & 11th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board on Establishment Matters of National Institute of Fashion Technology

Minutes of the 10th & 11th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board on Establishment matters was noted by the Board.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1905

Taking note of the minutes of the 17th meeting of the Senate of National Institute of Fashion Technology

Minutes of the 17th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board on Establishment matters was noted by the Board.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1906

Delegation of Financial Powers

As per the directions of the Board in the last meeting, a presentation on delegation of Financial Powers to DG, Centre Director and Director at Head Office was made by the Director (F&A) before the Board and same was considered and approved by the Board except the power of membership of organisations with the following observations:

- (i) Full powers regarding enrolment of the Institute as a member of the organization connected with matters of interest to the Institute shall vest with the DG only.
- (ii) NIFT premises for shops, Canteen etc. may be rented in the ordinary course of the business i.e. it should be related to the running of NIFT and for providing for student amenities etc.
- (iii) Regarding renewal of all types of service contracts, the Board felt that it may be difficult to abide by the same terms & conditions of contract, therefore it was suggested that the contract itself may be up to 3 years.

The Board was informed that these delegations are in supersession of all earlier delegations and consequently the delegation of F&AC would require a modification.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1907

The revised preliminary estimate towards the construction of permanent NIFT Centre at Shillong

The Board considered and granted its ex-post-facto approval for the revised preliminary estimate amounting to Rs.49.76 crores towards the construction of permanent NIFT campus at Shillong with the direction that cafeteria facility should be made available in the Academic building itself and recreational facilities may also be provided.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1908

Expansion of Delhi Campus and exploring alternatives for construction of Noida Campus

DG apprised the Board that OBC grants of Rs. 360 Crores were given by the Government for the purpose of creating new seats. Accordingly, the seats were created in the new NIFT Campuses and OBC funds were used for creating infrastructure in old campuses. The Board was further informed that due to time overrun Ministry of Textiles had to obtain approval of the Cabinet for which a draft Cabinet note was circulated to the Department of Expenditure whose comments had been responded to their satisfaction. Ministry of Textile's Cabinet note should get approval for extension of time for utilization of OBC funds. The BOG considered the proposal of using Rs.21 crore reduced from Hyderabad Project and internal resources for completing the Delhi expansion Plan and granted in principle approval.

The Board noted that if Ministry could not provide funds for the plan scheme of De-congestion of Delhi Centre by opening a new campus in Noida, DG may approach the Ministry to allow NIFT to use the Endowment Fund or use internal resources for building a campus at NOIDA where NIFT must set up its campus, as it was essential for NIFT to have presence in NOIDA. DG NIFT was authorized to explore all funding options to implement the above project on the land made available to NJB by NOIDA.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1909

Release of remaining payment for procurement of furniture items in July, 2011 by Jodhpur Centre

The matter of releasing remaining payment of Rs. 10.77 lakhs to the vendor, namely, M/s. Kwaliti Corporation for procurement of furniture items in July, 2011 by Jodhpur Centre was considered and approved by the Board with the direction that in case, on conclusion of the Inquiry it is ascertained that NIFT incurred loss, it would be recovered from salary of the employees who were involved in the decision making.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1910

Proposal for Revised Estimate 2012-13 & Budget Estimate 2013-14 (Revenue)

The Revised Revenue Budget for the Financial Year 2012-13 and Budget Estimate for 2013-14 was considered and approved by the Board which took note that the Ministry has stopped providing block grants for running the NIFT and still there would be revenue surplus of Rs. 9.34 crores which would be due to better fund management.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1911

Proposal for RE 2012-13 & BE 2013-14 (Capital)

The Capital Budget for the financial year 2012-13 and Budget Estimate for the Financial Year 2013-14 was considered and approved by the Board.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1912

Revised Project Consultancy Policy (PCP)

CVO made a presentation on the revised Project Consultancy Policy of NIFT and also explained the objective of the revised project Consultancy guidelines and key changes which have been proposed in project Consultancy Policy. On providing incentive of 3% of the project cost as incentive to the Director of the Campus, the Board suggested to place an annual cap on overall incentive at various levels including the Director. With this suggestion the Board considered and approved the revised Project Consultancy guidelines.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1913

Nomination of the other members of staff to the Senate

The Board was informed that Section 12(e) of the NIFT Act provides for nomination of the other members of the staff to the Senate by Board as laid down in the Statutes. Accordingly, the following members of the staff were nominated by the Board to the Senate:

- (a) the Director (Admissions);
- (b) the Controller of Examinations;
- (c) the Dean (Academics);
- (d) the Head (Academic Affairs);
- (e) the Chairpersons of Departments; and
- (f) the Head of the National Resources Centre of the Institute.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1914

Proposal for preference to the residents / domicile of J&K State in the admission of all courses with a quota of 35% in every course

The Board was informed that the Govt. of J&K has sought the following special dispensation from NIFT for setting up a centre at Srinagar:

- a. Contribution of 50% towards the cost of creation of infrastructure by Central Government.
- b. Preference to the residents/domicile of J&K State in the admission of all courses with a quota of 35% in every course.

The Board was further informed that in December 2012, MoT had agreed to the request of the State Government to bear 50% of the cost of infrastructure. As far as request of the State Govt. to extend 35% preferential seats in admission in every year is concerned, the Board was informed that as per current policy, twenty percent (20%), 06 supernumerary seats besides 30 seats are offered for admission as "State Domiciles Preferential Seats" for admission at the partially state funded NIFT Centres. The Board was also informed that the registration data for the last five years was checked and it was found that very few applications were received from J&K. It is presumed that the increase in State domicile seats

(35%) may motivate more candidates to apply for NIFT from J&K. Thus, the request of Govt. of J&K may be considered.

Keeping the upper limit of 36 seats in view 35% seats translates to 13 seats. Thus, out of 36 seats, 13 will be for students' domicile of J&K & 23 for others. As the registration figures reflect, there are not many candidates applying from J&K. Hence, in case seats of domicile quota remain vacant, upto 7 seats may be converted to non domicile so that batch size remains 30.

The Board considered the request of State Government to provide for 35% i.e. 13 seats out of 36 for J&K domicile students based on merit in each course in J&K centre as a special dispensation with the direction that in case seats of domicile quota remain vacant, upto 7 seats may be converted to non domicile so that batch size remains 30.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1915

NIFT's Policy on Intellectual property (IP)

The Board considered and approved the NIFT's Policy on Intellectual Property (IP).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1916

NIFT's Policy on Trademarks

The Board considered and approved the NIFT's Policy on Trademarks.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1917

Recruitment of faculty at NIFT

The Board was informed that the Cabinet approval for non-plan block grants for NIFT for 2007-12 inter- alia conveyed its approval for NIFT 'to create Academic Posts and make appointments to such posts on a contractual basis for fixed but renewable tenures'. While reviewing the Cabinet Note for extension of Block Grants for NIFT, it was observed that post 2007 as per approval of the Cabinet, it appears posts of faculty were to be filled only on contractual basis that has been inadvertently overlooked apparently under a bona fide belief that Sec 7(2) (f) of the NIFT Act 2006 empowers the BOG NIFT "to create academic and other posts and to make appointments thereto except in the case of the Director General".

The Board was also informed that from the current year 2012-13 the Ministry has stopped the Block Grants which the Cabinet had approved for a specified period i.e.2007-2012. It was therefore proposed that the recruitment may continue on 1:1 regular & contract basis at all levels i.e. Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor/ Professor.

The Board considered and approved the following proposal:

1. All recruitment in NIFT will be in the ratio of 1:1 of contract: regular posts at all levels in faculty/staff. This ratio will be maintained at all levels of faculty/staff. The student faculty ratio of 15:1 will be strived at. The inter-se-faculty ratio at various levels will be 1:2:4. Thus, the post of faculty would be automatically sanctioned with the addition of new courses at a particular centre.
2. Henceforth, all appointments would be made only on contract and Departmental Promotion Committee, whose composition has been provided in the Statutes, will fill the

regular Posts as per seniority and meeting the bench marks of satisfactory performance and integrity clearance.

3. Standing Committee of the Board on Establishment matters was authorised to make consequential changes in the RRs of faculty.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1918

Taking note of the agenda relating to Inter Centre Transfer of Ms. Shivi Bist FP (Design)- Semester-I, NIFT Bhubaneswar approved by circulation

The Board took note of the agenda for Inter Centre Transfer of Ms. Shivi Bist in 2nd semester of UG (Design) from NIFT Bhubaneswar to NIFT New Delhi due to sudden demise of her father, which was approved by Board by circulation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1919

Proposal for establishing a new NIFT Centre at Panchkula, Haryana and merger of Northern India Institute of Fashion Technology (NIIFT), Mohali, Punjab with NIFT

Discussion at great length took place on the proposal of establishing a new NIFT Centre at Panchkula, Haryana and merger of Northern India Institute of Fashion Technology (NIIFT), Mohali, Punjab with NIFT. The Board was further informed that NIFT wanted to takeover only Mohali campus where as the State Government of Punjab was keen for NIFT to takeover NIIFT Mohali along with their Centres at Jalandhar and Ludhiana. This could imply dilution of NIFT brand equity. However the Board felt that possibility of merging Mohali campus for granting NIFT degrees and Jalandhar and Ludhiana campus granting industry specific diplomas and certificate courses could be explored. For Panchkula campus the Ministry of Textiles may be requested to persuade Government of Haryana to index the grants for cost escalation and provide for revenue loss for atleast four years so that the campus comes in full stream.

After due consideration the Board directed the following:

- (i) DG will initiate a dialogue with Government of Punjab to see its interest in handing over Mohali Centre to NIFT which may takeover its campuses at Jalandhar and Ludhiana as extension Centre as infrastructure may already be available.
- (ii) NIFT should explore possibilities of Public Private Partnership Model in case the funds were not forthcoming for a Centre. However, the issue of dilution of brand equity of NIFT in such arrangement should be taken care of.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1920

Progress reports of the construction projects of NIFT

The Board took note of the progress reports on the various construction projects of NIFT.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1921

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.