

MINUTES OF THE 17th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY (NIFT) HELD ON 23RD JULY, 2012 (MONDAY) AT 11:30 A.M. AT NIFT, HO, NEW DELHI

Present:

1. Shri Venu Srinivasan - Chairperson
2. Shri N.K.Singh, Hon'ble M.P Rajya Sabha
3. Smt. Anita Agnihotri, AS&FA, Ministry of Textiles
4. Sh. Prem Kumar Gera, Director General, NIFT
5. Smt. Monika.S.Garg, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles
6. Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, M/s Poppys Knitwear Pvt. Ltd.
7. Shri. Sunil Sethi, President, FDCI
8. Smt. Kavita Bhartia, M/s. Ogaan, New Delhi
9. Sh. Amit Shukla, Deputy Secy. (UGC), Ministry of Human Resource Development (Nominee of JS, MHRD)

Leave of Absence

The following members were granted leave of absence:

- Smt. Saroj Pandey, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
Smt. Deepa Dasmunshi, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
Smt. Rajshree Pathy, Director, Rajshree Spinning Mills Ltd.
Sh. Prashant Agarwal, Managing Director, Bombay Rayon Fashions Ltd.
Sh. Premal Udani, Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council, M/s Kaytee Corporation Limited
Sh. Dilip B. Jiwrajka, Managing Director, Alok Industries Ltd., Mumbai

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1701

Appointment of Sh. Prem Kumar Gera, IAS as Director General-NIFT

The Board of Governors ratified the appointment of Sh. P.K. Gera, IAS to the post of Director General that the Ministry of Textiles (MoT) had notified . The Board welcomed him as DG in place of Ms. Monika S. Garg. With fond memories Mr. N. K. Singh recalled his association with Mr. Gera during his earlier tenure at LBS National Academy of Administration Mussoorie where he had an opportunity to interact with him.

The Board placed on record appreciation of the services rendered by Ms. Monika S. Garg as DG-NIFT. The Board recalled that in the last BOG meeting, keeping in view the commendable efforts and achievements of Ms. Monika. S. Garg as DG –NIFT, her name was recommended for the Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration. The Board was informed that nomination has been sent to Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. Ms. Monika S. Garg thanked the Board members for their support during her tenure.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1702

Confirmation of the minutes of 16th meeting Board of Governors of National Institute of Fashion Technology held on 24th February, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at Head Office, New Delhi

After noting that the comments received from the member Sh. N.K. Singh, Hon’ble M.P. Rajya Sabha, has been incorporated in the minutes of the 16th BOG meeting, the minutes of the 16th meeting of the Board held on 24th February, 2012 were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1703

Action Taken Report on previous & 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) After hearing certain suggestions from the DG, on setting up of a campus of NIFT at Raebareli, the Board desired that the proposal was approved by the Cabinet and it should be implemented without any further delay.
- (ii) The NIFT Centres should setup common norms for building and hostel across the country. The Board directed DG to prepare norms that have evolved from the experience gathered so far.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1704

Ratification and taking note of the minutes of the 9th meeting of Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) of NIFT held on 9th May, 2012

The Board took up the proposal to ratify the minutes of 9th AAC meeting held on 9th May, 2012 and the DG's decision where he had reversed a decision of the AAC. The DG explained that in order to keep the sanctity of policy of cutoff of CGPA of 7.0, he had restrained Ms. Ankita Srivastava from doing a semester abroad in relaxation of policy as she had not secured CGPA of 7.0 or above. He felt that such exception to the policy made it difficult defending it in courts. His proposal for the BoG was to confirm the same. However he further placed before the Board that subsequently Ms. Ankita's father had met him and explained that as a consequence of the AAC's decision he had made all payments and the cancellation at last minute would bring financial stress on him. After taking note of these details, the Board upheld the decision of the AAC regarding relaxation in CGPA for International semester exchange in case of Ms. Ankita Srivastava. However, it also decided that this would

not be treated as a precedence and the relaxation in policy should be resorted rarely and complete reasons should be recorded for the same.

Regarding agenda item no. 0907, Sh. Sunil Sethi informed that perhaps the Government of Trinidad and Tobago wanted to revive the association with NIFT. BoG therefore decided that MoU with University of Trinidad and Tobago may be continued for the time being. Fresh efforts may be made to re-establish contacts with this university. The Board also requested Sh. Sunil Sethi and DG to take steps for revival of the association of NIFT with University of Trinidad and Tobago and if nothing happens within 6 months then the MOU with University of Trinidad and Tobago may be discontinued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1705

Ratification and taking note of the minutes of the 19th meeting of Finance & Audit Committee (F&AC) of NIFT held on 12th July, 2012

The minutes of the 19th meeting of F&AC (except item no. 1907) were ratified and noted by the Board with the following observations:

- (i) MoT may be asked to expedite the releasing of Block Grant of Rs. 10 crores for the F.Y. 2012-13 and may also be asked to expedite the release of balance receivable of Rs. 45.94 crores as mentioned in the agenda item no. 1903 of 19th F&AC minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1706

Policy for establishing a new NIFT Campus

The Board considered the draft policy for establishing new NIFT Centres. The Board appreciated the Stakeholders Committee's report prepared for preparing the Policy for establishing new NIFT Centres. However it expressed its concern about 40% of faculty positions being vacant. Perhaps the faculty student norms of 1:12 required a

fresh look as Inter Center teaching allowed NIFT to have conservative norms. The Board recalled that in the last meeting, it was desired that NIFT should incentivise students to become faculty. The Board was informed that decision of the Board was being implemented and FDP Policy of NIFT would take care of this. The Board directed to re-assess the faculty student ratio taking into account the international benchmark and capacity of faculty to teach in area of interest outside their competency for which they may have been selected, its impact on the outcome/placement of NIFT students. With the above mentioned directions, Board directed that the policy may be reviewed and DG was requested to make a presentation before the Board in next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1707

Proposal for establishing a New NIFT Campus at Panchkula, Haryana

On the proposal of establishing a new NIFT Centre at Panchkula, the Board noted the feasibility report of its subcommittee and took note of a report of Government of Haryana. This did not provide the viability details which Government of Haryana had promised to provide in due course. The Board also took note of the news reports of the Hon'ble Commerce, Industry and Textiles Minister's (CITM) announcement for setting a new NIFT campus at Panchkula. The Board decided to give an in principle approval and directed the DG to request the Principal Secretary (Technical Education) to provide the details of financial viability and commitment of Government of Haryana to provide funds to build infrastructure meeting NIFT's requirements for a campus at Panchkula, Haryana.

The following agenda items were deferred by the Board.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1708

Pending proposals for establishing new NIFT Campuses

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1709

Endowment Fund Policy

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1710

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1711

Delegation of Financial Powers

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1712

Delegation of Powers in Establishment and Administrative matters

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1713

Final Accounts for the Financial Year 2011-12

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1714

New degree programmes at NIFT Centers

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1715

The Recruitment Rules for the post of Directors in NIFT.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1716

Constitution of State Level Advisory Committee for NIFT Centres and its terms of reference

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1717

Physical and financial progress of NIFT construction projects

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1718

NIFT Offshore Centre at Mauritius- Update- 15.07.2012

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1719

Any other item with permission of the Chair

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

MINUTES OF THE 17th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY (NIFT) HELD ON 23RD JULY, 2012 (MONDAY) AND CONTINUED ON 24TH JULY, 2012 AT 10:45 A.M. AT NEW DELHI

Present:

1. Shri Venu Srinivasan - Chairperson
2. Shri N.K.Singh, Hon'ble M.P Rajya Sabha
3. Smt. Anita Agnihotri, AS&FA, Ministry of Textiles
4. Sh. Prem Kumar Gera, Director General, NIFT
5. Smt. Monika. S. Garg, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles
6. Shri. Sunil Sethi, President, FDCI

Leave of Absence

The following members were granted leave of absence:

1. Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, M/s Poppys Knitwear Pvt. Ltd.
2. Smt. Kavita Bhartia, M/s. Ogaan, New Delhi
3. Smt. Saroj Pandey, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
4. Smt. Deepa Dasmunshi, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
5. Smt. Rajshree Pathy, Director, Rajshree Spinning Mills Ltd.
6. Sh. Prashant Agarwal, Managing Director, Bombay Rayon Fashions Ltd.
7. Sh. Premal Udani, Chairman, Apparel Export Promotion Council, M/s Kaytee Corporation Limited
8. Sh. Dilip B. Jiwrajka, Managing Director, Alok Industries Ltd., Mumbai
9. Sh. Amit Shukla, Deputy Secy. (UGC), Ministry of Human Resource Development (Nominee of JS, MHRD)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1713

Final Accounts for the Financial Year 2011-12

The Accounts of NIFT for the Financial Year 2011-12 were considered and approved by the Board. The Board expressed its concern over the following:

- (i) Deficit of Rs. 335.49 lakhs in respect of new NIFT Centres.
- (ii) Decrease in the profitability of the existing Centres.
- (iii) Increase in the deficit of NIFT Chennai Centre
- (iv) Recovery of the outstanding deficits from the State Governments where new NIFT Centres are situated.

The Board enquired about the status of fee increase in NIFT. The Board was informed that as per the earlier decisions of the Board, the fee was to be increased every two years. Accordingly, the fee was increased in 2010-11 and the review would be done for the fees for 2013-14. The Board recalled that in the last meeting, Sh. Sunil Sethi had volunteered to collate the fee charged by similar institutes like NIFT as this needed to be studied. The Board appreciated the efforts of Mr. Sethi who had done a comparative study of fee charged by various fashion institutes like Pearl and Srishty etc. While reviewing the fee, BoG directed to consider the comparative details

collected by Sh. Sethi and ensure that the level of fee was in line with other institutes as NIFT's fees were not properly aligned with the market. The Board observed that the inflation was not static; expenditures were also going up, therefore the Board directed that fee should be increased every Academic year. Board also advised that NIFT should calibrate the student fee based on the Supreme Court judgment on determination of fee in professional institutions.

Board also directed the following:

- (i) An Action plan on NIFT Chennai, as to how NIFT Chennai would increase its earnings may be prepared and brought before the Board in its next meeting.
- (ii) Keeping in view the fact that Govt. of Tamilnadu has not taken keen interest in setting up Specialty Centre at Coimbatore and there has been not much demand from applicants, such a center was not required; NIFT may refund the money to State Government of Tamilnadu.
- (iii) MoT may be requested to expedite the release of non plan grant of Rs. 35.94 crores which has become due to the implementation of 6th CPC.

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