

**MINUTES OF THE
ELEVENTH (11th) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
HELD ON THURSDAY, 11th OCTOBER 2007**

The eleventh meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on Thursday, 11.10.2007 at 11.00 am in the Conference Room of COE, Pune and the following members were present.

1.	Dr. F. C. Kohli	Chairman
2.	Prof. B. S. Sonde	Member
3.	Prof. Uday Salunkhe	Member
4.	Commodore Anand Khandekar	Member
5.	Dr. G. B. Pant	Member
6.	Prof. N. B. Pasalkar	Member
7.	Mr. Kantilal Umap	Member
8.	Prof. A. D. Sahasrabudhe	Member - Secretary
9.	Prof. B. B. Ahuja	Invitee
10.	Prof. S. R. Kajale	Invitee
11.	Prof. S. R. Sathe	Invitee
12.	Prof. (Mrs.) P. P. Rege	Invitee
13.	Mr. Jadiye	Invitee

Dr. (Mrs.) Joyce Shankaran, Additional Chief, Higher & Technical Education Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mr. Pratap Pawar, Mr. Atul Kirloskar and Dr. S.G. Dhande could not attend the meeting owing to their prior commitments and were granted leave of absence.

Dr. F. C. Kohli welcomed the members.

The Board asked Mr. Christopher Benninger, Architect, appointed to prepare a Master plan of the Institute to give his presentation.

Presentation by Mr. Christopher Benninger

Mr. Khushroo Irani of M/s Christopher Beninger Architects presented the Master Plan deliberating on the girls hostel, boys hostel, classroom complex, guest house and parking spaces amongst others based on the discussions with the college faculty and observations of the Buildings Works Committee (BWC). The presentation details are annexed (**ANNEXURE – 1**).

Based on the discussion that followed, Board suggested that library building be prioritized and considered in the first phase itself and that guest house could be taken up in the next phase. The Board approved the following in respect of Master Plan of the Institute:

1. Facilities projected in the Master Plan be provided for 5000 students.
2. A balanced academic campus ambience rather than maximizing FSI.
3. As far as possible, the academic complex may have low rise buildings, while the hostel complex could have high rise buildings.

4. New workshop building should be located at a site that is not suitable for class rooms from noise point of view.

It was also brought to the notice of the Board that Mr. Kiran Kalamdani, Heritage Architect appointed for the main building had submitted an estimate of Rs. 3.96 crores for restoring the main building and that Hon'ble Minister of Finance during his visit to COEP had assured an aid of Rs. 4 crores from the Govt. of Maharashtra for the same.

The Board while approving the restoration plan of heritage building by Mr. Kiran Kalamdani decided that proposal be sent to Mantralaya through the Director of Technical Education within 10 days time to get aid from the Govt. of Maharashtra for restoring the heritage building.

The Board also decided that the proposals for the construction of classroom complex, girls hostel, and library building be also sent to the Govt. of Maharashtra along with a proposal for restoration of heritage building within 10 days time to get the grants for the same.

The Board after due deliberations approved the following in principle:

1. Construction of an academic complex on the north parcel of the campus.
2. Construction of a girls hostel with a capacity of 400.
3. Restoration of the existing heritage Building at a cost of Rs. 3.96 crores as approved by BWC.
4. Construction of a Library building.

The Board further suggested and authorized that detailing on the Master Plan taking into account suggestions of the Board be taken up by the Building Works Committee. On the issue of having a number of rectors/wardens in the hostel campus, the Board felt that every hostel building must have a warden and that norms be laid down for identifying wardens as also rewarding them with incentives, since wardens will have to perform various roles including that of a counsellor and will have to shoulder greater responsibilities.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 10th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute held on 24.08.2007

Mr. Jadiye pointed out that faculty appointments be made on contract basis till the options were exercised by all faculty and staff and roster approved by the Government. The Board noted his observations and felt that since there is an acute shortage of faculty, it is desirable to appoint faculty on regular basis based on the Recruitment Rules and Service Conditions approved by the Board in order to attract and retain good faculty. After due deliberations, the Board decided that faculty be recruited on an initial probation of two years as per the Recruitment Rules and Service Conditions adopted by the Board and regularise them on satisfactory completion of probation. Meanwhile, Board asked the Director to take up the issue of Roster for faculty members with the Government.

R-11/1/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Tenth meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute held on 24.08.2007 be **CONFIRMED** as enclosed (**ANNEXURE – 2**).

Item No. 2: Actions taken on the decisions of the Tenth meeting of the Board of Governors held on 24.08.2007.

2.1 Renovation of Hostel 'I-Block': The Board noted the status on the renovation of the Hostel 'I-Block.'

2.2 Presentation by Architect Mr. Christopher Benninger: Presentation was appreciated by the Board.

2.3 Application for inclusion of COEP under section 12 B of the UGC Act: The Board noted the same.

2.4 Rules for award of gold medal to first batch of B. Tech toppers: The Board approved the rules for the award of gold medals to the B. Tech toppers.

2.5 Pending issues with State Govt.: The Board was informed about the initiatives and the letter sent to the Hon'ble Minister, Higher & Technical Education once again requesting him to resolve the pending issues at the earliest. The Board deliberated on the issue of the conduct of Graduation Ceremony by COEP for its pass-out students and expressing urgency requested the Director to follow it up with the Mantralaya and University authorities and resolve the same.

2.6 Purchase of micro machining tool: The Board noted the same.

2.7 Inter-disciplinary Research Centers: The Board deferred the matter for want of more details.

R-11/2(a)/2007: The Board **NOTED** the actions taken on the decisions of the 10th meeting of the Board held on 24.08.2007 as stated above.

R-11/2(b)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** that proposal with plans for the girls hostel, classroom complex, heritage building and new library building be sent to the Director of Technical Education in 10 days time.

R-11/2(c)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to approve the rules for the award of gold medals to B. Tech toppers.

R-11/2(d)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to follow up the issue of conduct of graduation ceremony by COEP with Govt. of Maharashtra and University of Pune.

Item No. 3: Presentation of Final Accounts for the financial year 2003-04 by Mr. Madhav Pol, partner Joshi & Pol & Associates

The Board felt that final accounts be circulated to the Board at least a fortnight in advance for their consideration. Also, as Mr. Pol could not make it to the meeting, the Board decided to defer the same.

R-11/3/2007: The Board deferred the presentation of Final Accounts for the financial year 2003-04 to the next Board meeting.

Item No. 4: Rules for undertaking Sponsored Research / Consultancy / Testing / Short term Courses / CEPs etc.

Prof. Sonde informed the Board that the proposed rules were on similar lines as those of IITs and could be considered for approval. On being queried as to why the Director is not considered for a share as is the norm recommended by AICTE, the Board was informed that some portion of the proceeds from research/consultancy work would be apportioned to the Staff Development Fund wherein all the faculty/staff could enjoy benefits thereof. Board strongly felt that the norms followed in IITs be followed. The Board approved the rules (ANNEXURE-3) and felt that once implemented they could always be subject to review and revision as and when need arises.

R-11/4/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to implement Rules for undertaking Sponsored Research / Consultancy / Testing / Short term Courses / CEPs etc. with immediate effect. **(ANNEXURE-3)**

Item No. 5: Items from the BWC meeting

On the issue of approval of estimates for the various Civil Works in the "H" Block (Ladies Hostel) in hostel premises as proposed by BWC, the Board after deliberations felt that it would worthwhile sanctioning an expenditure of Rs. 66,87,440/- provided the H Block would remain intact in the proposed master plan of the hostel and not brought down / razed down in time to come. The Board while approving expenditure requested the Director to inform Mr. Christopher Benninger to retain the H-Block in the master plan of the hostels.

The Board being informed about the proposed expenditure of Rs. 2.5 crores on the college auditorium, the Board felt that expenditure could be curtailed and prioritized in phased manner over next three years. The Board felt that the toilet blocks and auditorium stage could be taken up in the first phase along with carrying out repairs to existing chairs. Alternately, installation of fresh air system could be considered instead of having centralized air-conditioning in the auditorium.

R-11/5(a)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure of Rs. 66,87,440/- on the repair of H-Block (Girls Hostel).

R-11/5(b)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure on the refurbishing of auditorium in a phased manner.

Item No. 6: Items for reporting to the Board

a) TEQIP Audit Report:

The Board appreciated the efforts on the part of the institute and hoped that in the last TEQIP audit the institute will strive to attain a score of 9.0 plus. The Director informed the Board that one of the concerns expressed by the TEQIP auditor were the constraints on the financial powers vested in the Director of the Institute and HODs/Deans/DD, which were not in agreement with the TEQIP norms. The Board felt that as per TEQIP norms financial powers upto Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rs. Twenty lakhs) be given to the Director and upto Rs. 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty thousand) be given to the HODs/Deans/DD.

Prof. Sahasrabudhe further mentioned that the TEQIP auditor had stressed on enhancing Faculty training either in India or abroad under Faculty Development Programme to improve the quality of existing teachers, as faculty development activities undertaken were less.

The TEQIP auditor had expressed that faculty evaluation could be better analyzed if the student feed back forms were revised. The TEQIP auditor had also suggested that audit on usage of equipment procured under TEQIP may also be done.

The Board also felt that to improve the performance and score, networking activities amongst lead and networked institutes be strengthened.

b) Accreditation Status of UG programmes:

The Board noted and complimented the institute for getting all its UG programmes accredited.

c) Revised Faculty/Staff structure:

The Board after due deliberations decided to defer the matter and meanwhile requested Prof. Sonde and Prof Salunkhe to look in to the Faculty and Staff requirements at COEP. Prof. Sonde expressed that faculty requirements of Computer Engineering and Information Technology departments be looked in totality rather than as independent departments with a view to benefit from gainful advantages. The Board concurred on the same. Prof. Pasalkar informed the Board that he would shortly convene a meeting of Heads of all the autonomous institutes at State level to address the issues of faculty/staff restructuring based on the needs of respective institutes.

d) Items written off and auctioned/disposed:

The Board noted the same.

e) Lecturers given the benefit of Senior Scale and Selection Grade:

The Board while noting and appreciating the benefit of Senior Scale and Selection Grade Scales being given to deserving lecturers, expressed concern over the inordinate delay in certain cases, and felt that eligible faculty be given their due well in time.

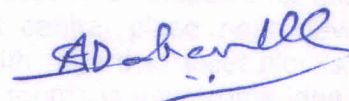
R-11/6(a)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** that the items reported on the agenda as stated above be **NOTED** as reported and **APPROVED**.

R-11/6(b)/2007: The Board **RESOLVED** to grant financial powers of Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rs. Twenty lakhs) to the Director and Rs. 50,000/- (Rs. Fifty thousand) to the HODs/Deans/DD.

Item No. 7: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

There were no more items.

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



(A. D. Sahasrabudhe)
Member- Secretary
Board of Governors, COEP