

**MINUTES OF THE
THIRTY SEVENTH (37th) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
HELD ON THURSDAY, 27th JULY 2017**

The thirty seventh (37th) meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on Thursday, 27.07.2017 at 11.30am at College of Engineering Pune and the following members were present.

1.	Dr. F. C. Kohli	Chairman
2.	Mr. Prataprao Pawar	Member
3.	Dr. N. R. Karmalkar	Member
4.	Dr. Rajendra Hiremath	Member
5.	Mr. Vikas S. Patil	Member
6.	Prof. B. N. Chaudhari	Member
7.	Prof. D.B. Talange	Member
8.	Prof. B. B. Ahuja	Member– Secretary
9.	Prof. B. S. Sonde	Invitee
10.	Dr. G. B. Pant	Invitee
11.	Prof. S.G. Dhande	Invitee
12.	Prof. B.G. Birajdar	Invitee
13.	Prof. M.S. Sutaone	Invitee
14.	Dr. D. R. Nadanwar	Invitee
15.	Mr. A. V. Mirashi	Invitee
16.	Mr. Christopher Beninger	Invitee

Mr. Sitaram Kunte, Mr. Sanjay Inamdar, Mr. Chandrashekhar Oak, Dr. Kiran Patil, and Mr. Atul Kirloskar could not attend the meeting owing to their prior commitments and were granted leave of absence. Representatives of the M/S Tata Technologies, Mr. Anubhav Kapoor, Mr. Ajit Habbu and Mr. Pradhan and Mr. Christopher Beninger, Mr. Darius and Mr. Abizer of the M/S Beninger Architect's Firm attended the initial part of the meeting only as invitees.

The Director welcomed the members and requested the Chairman for opening the meeting. Before taking up the Agenda in the sequence as in the Agenda/ Papers circulated, the Chairman decided to consider item Nos. 7 and 2.7 first, in view of the presence of invited members at the meeting from the Organizations concerned with these items.

Item No. 7: The Director briefed the members on the proposed "Tata Technologies Industrial Design and Innovation Center", sponsored by Tata Technologies and Tata Trust with a financial support of Rs. 17.5 crores, to be set up at COEP campus. He further informed that the objectives of this Center complement and support those of Bhau Institute and aim at converting ideas into products and transferrable technologies. The Center will lay emphasis on designing, prototyping, and manufacturing the products, ideated by the incubators and start-ups at Bhau Institute by the innovative and bright youth teams, not only from COEP, but from a wider cross section of the Society.

He also stated that the funds from Tata Group will be utilized for raising infrastructure (a multi-storied building for the Center), procuring high-end equipment, establishing

Professorial Chairs, offering fellowships to research scholars, starting new PG program in Product Design (M. Des.) and other activities.

The Director further mentioned that the Center will be owned by COEP and will have a joint Board of Directors comprising of nominees from Board of COEP and of Tata Group for governing the Center. He explained the need of forming a Section-8 company for this Center also, on the lines of Bhau Institute. The Chairman appreciated the initiative of COEP of associating a major Corporate on the campus. He suggested revisiting the goals and objectives of the Center regularly to ensure their timely attainment.

Mr. Vikas Patil, while acknowledging the relevance of such Center being raised on COEP campus with the support from Tata group, objected to the formation of Section-8 Company for the Center. In his opinion, the proposal indirectly means selling of COEP's land and resources to a Corporate at a meager price of few crores of rupees. He said that this issue which is formally not mentioned on the list of Agenda items for the 37th meeting has been brought up for the discussion without notice. However, it was pointed out by the Director that this subject was part of Agenda item no. 7 for this meeting and the members agreed to continue with the discussion on this subject.

The Chairman expressed his disagreement with Mr. Patil's submission and mentioned about his association in raising such companies on campuses, giving information on such initiatives in India and world-wide. Mr. Pratap Pawar also remarked on this objection being out-of-place as the Section-8 Company for 'Tata Technologies Industrial Design and Innovation Center' is being proposed exactly on the lines of Bhau Institute. Prof. Sonde cited a parallel example of Robert Bosch Innovation Center set up as a Section-8 Company at IISc. Bangalore, and said that many elite institutes like IITs and IIMs also encourage such Centers on campuses. Prof. Dhande said that such Centers need a separate entity for its routine administration and management as the host Institute or its Board cannot look after the same. Not convinced with the views expressed by many members, Mr. Patil further added that it is not at all in the Board's purview to approve the proposal, rather Government of Maharashtra, as owner of all the immovable property of COEP, should be consulted on the issue, informed about the said proposal and its permission and approval be sought.

However, the Chairman clarified that the Board approval for such an initiative was a prerequisite before the matter is taken up with the State Government as per the powers conferred on it by the GR and this is precisely what was being done here and there was nothing wrong in it. He also assured the Board that he will talk to the Chief Minister of the State on the issue and seek his understanding and support.

The team of Tata Technologies excused itself from the meeting thereafter.

Item No. 2.7: The Director then requested Architect Mr. Christopher Beninger and his team to present the architectural plan for the proposed multi-storied Central Library building, which also accommodates at its upper floors, the classrooms and laboratories for Departments of Computer Engineering and Information Technology, in continuation of his presentation at the previous Board meeting. The Director also informed that the plan has already been shared with the functionaries and the faculty

of concerned departments on multiple occasions and their inputs have been taken into account while revising the plan.

Before the presentation started, Mr. Vikas Patil objected on the issue as it had not been brought up in the BWC meeting and the members not apprised of the architectural plan. Responding to this, the Chairman asked the Director to circulate a brief note to all the members on the architectural drawing and acquaint the members accordingly in future. The Director submitted that the point has been in discussion from last few Board meetings and therein the members have been informed that Government of Maharashtra has given the administrative approval for this building and sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5.21 crores towards the same. Of this sanction, an amount of Rs. 4.0 crores has been received by COEP for the building work.

Thereafter Mr. Beninger and his team presented the plan to the members. Mr. Patil expressed his reservation on adhering to the revised regulations of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) regarding the green line and flood line specifications prescribed, and insisted on the need to take precautions beforehand to avoid subsequent complications. In response to this suggestion, the Chairman assured the members that proper care has been taken and will be taken at every step from planning to construction of the building and appealed to Mr. Patil to extend his helping hand in this regard. He emphasized on timely completion of such infrastructure projects in the larger interest of stakeholders.

When Mr. Patil reiterated on seeking Government's permission, Mr. Pawar informed the Board that construction will not start unless the permission from PMC is received. Mr. Beninger mentioned about his personal discussion on the construction of the Library building with the Municipal Commissioner of PMC, Mr. Kunal Kumar in particular, on the issue of green line and flood line regulations and also assured that due diligence during construction will be followed. When Mr. Patil continued his discussion on seeking the permissions from PMC and Government, Dr. Kohli invited Mr. Patil to his office for a more detailed discussion on this subject. This item was concluded after Prof. Dhande suggested holding of a pre-board meeting of certain members with the Director beforehand to sort out various debatable issues and come prepared to the Board meeting with a unified view.

After this, Mr. Beninger and his Team excused themselves from the Meeting.

The meeting then took up Agenda, in the order it was circulated to the members.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 36th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute held on 11.01.2017

The Board CONSIDERED the Minutes of the 36th meeting of the BOG held on 11.01.2017 which were circulated to members earlier and as no comments/suggestions have been received from them so far, it was decided to take them as confirmed.

R-37/1/2017: The Board RESOLVED that the minutes of the thirty sixth meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute held on 11.01.2017 be CONFIRMED as enclosed (APPENDIX – 1).

Item No.2: Action taken on the Minutes of the 36th Meeting of BOG held on 11th January 2017.

2.1 Additional land for COEP:

The Director informed the members about the follow up being made by Mr. Pratap Pawar with the Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister of the Government of Maharashtra and the progress so far on the front of acquiring additional land admeasuring 40 acres at Chikhali for COEP. The Board noted and appreciated the efforts of Mr. Pratap Pawar.

2.2 Status of COEP Land occupied by slum:

The Director informed the Board members about progress so far on the issue, and the contribution by Mr. Pratap Pawar in requesting the Chief Minister of Maharashtra to consider 4 FSI for developing and rehabilitation of slum dwellers on COEP occupied land at Patil Estate. Mr. Pawar further mentioned that once the additional FSI is sanctioned, he would request the Board to initiate the process for slum rehabilitation and getting some of the occupied land back for COEP. The Chairman appreciated the help extended by Mr. Pawar and requested him to continue with the same.

2.3 Deemed University Status:

The Director informed the members that the UGC expert committee visited COEP for conferment of Deemed University status on 16th and 17th June 2017. COEP presented its preparedness for the same with confidence and a favorable announcement is awaited. Board while appreciating the efforts put in by the Institute and its stakeholders on this front, wished speedy success for this most awaited status.

2.4 Institution of Tenure based Faculty Recruitment system:
The Board noted the same.

2.5 New Vision-Mission and Goal Statements of COEP:
The Board noted the same.

2.6 COEP's Mentorship Program for Deserving and aspiring Institutes:

The Director updated the members that 13 institutes have been associated with COEP as mentee institutes under AICTE's 'Margadarshan' scheme and a prestigious Institute of long standing from M.P., SGSITS-Indore has also been attached with COEP as its Mentor institute, under TEQIP-III's Twinning program. The Board while appreciating this gesture of COEP towards its social responsibility noted the information and advised the functionaries to fulfill the aspirations of the mentee institutions keeping a proper balance of in-house routine academic obligations.

- 2.7 Presentation on "New Library Building Construction" by Christopher Benninger:**
Status already presented earlier in these Minutes.
- 2.8 Establishment of BHAU institute as a Section 8 Company:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.9 CAS for COEP Faculty:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.10 Study Leave of Mrs. Snehal V. Unde, Assistant Professor in Electrical Engineering:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.11 Permission to honor and accept WPC-Educational & Training Fellowship by Dr. Nitin Mohite, Asstt. Professor in Civil Engg, and to undertake Visit of Switzerland, under the scheme to learn Best Plumbing Practices:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.12 Appointment of Mr. Jameer Bagwan as a "Trainee Teacher" under AICTE's "Trainee Teachers' Scheme" in the Department of Production Engineering & Industrial Management:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.13 Study Leave of Mr. Santoshkumar V. Wagh, Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.14 Revision of Support Staff Pattern:**
Being taken up as a separate agenda item in this meeting.
- 2.15 Visit of COEP's Professor-team to NTU Singapore:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.16 Any Other Point with Permission of the Chair:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.17 Permission to accept the Deputation of Dr. Shashikant Joshi as "Associate Professor" in Department of Production Engg. and Industrial Management:**
The Board noted the same.
- 2.18 Permission to Dr. D. N. Sonawane to honour the invitation from University of Washington at Seattle as a Visiting Associate Professor for the period of May-July 2017:**
The Board noted the same.

2.19 Permission to Ms. Amruta Deshpande to visit Tokyo, Japan under JENESYS: Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths – JENESYS-2017, February 28- March 7, 2017:

The Board noted the same.

R-37/2(a)/2017: The Board **NOTED** and **APPROVED** the actions taken on the decisions of the 36th meeting of the Board held on 11.01.2017 as stated above.

R-37/2(b)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to accept 40 Acres land at Chikhali from Government of Maharashtra towards the development of extension campus of COEP and its future expansion.

R-37/2(c)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to authorize Mr. Pratap Pawar to deal with the issue of Slum-rehabilitation and to look around for adjoining land for COEP.

R-37/2(d)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to pursue the matter with the UGC expeditiously to grant the Deemed to be University status to COEP.

R-37/2(e)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the construction of the Library building and Computer Engineering and Information Technology Department beside the Bhau Institute Building, ensuring compliances from the Pune Municipal Corporation.

Item 3:

Recommendations for the award of B. Tech degrees, M. Tech degrees and Gold Medals to B.Tech Toppers:

In the light of the Graduation ceremony organized in the latter half of the day, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. M. S. Sutaone presented the detailed analysis of Academic performance of this ELEVENTH batch of graduating students of COEP, of ALL UG programs and THIRTEENTH batch of all PG programs, in AY 2016-17, as already approved and recommended by the Senate. Beginning with the Branch-wise list of Toppers (Highest CGPA scorers) in the UG programs who would be honored with Institutional Gold Medals, he apprised the members with UG program-wise statistics of the Examination Results of the graduating batch. Elaborating the terms such as Success Index, representing the number of students successfully completing the Program in stipulated period of FOUR years and Academic Performance Index representing Average CGPA of the Class, he presented the branch-wise performance for THREE consecutive years (2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15), to understand the TREND. On the trends, he further commented that Success Index or turn out ratio and Average CGPA both could be attributed to quality of Intake a particular branch receives in the First year. Whereas the average CGPA across branches was around 7.44, the success rates for branches like Metallurgy and Civil are worrisome, he further expressed. He narrated his observations on smaller variations in average CGPA across branches over the three years, with improvement in the success rates for certain branches that could be related to schemes/practices such as

summer term/re-examination, being followed for academically weaker students.

On the performance of the Postgraduate students, he further presented the number of successful candidates, specialization-wise, for this year (AY 2016-17) and the average CGPA of the class. For certain specializations, the number of students successfully completing the program in stipulated TWO years was lower, which was attributed to either more number of incomplete dissertations or some students leaving the program incomplete for the sake of employment, he said.

Prof. Dhande enquired of having any B. Tech. student on campus, who scores 10 pointer as his/her CGPA. He informed that IITs typically have 2-3 branch toppers with 10 pointer and some other differentiating criteria needs to be applied to decide on the winner of 'President's Gold Medal'. Prof. Sonde suggested to award the 'Chairman's Gold Medal' to a topper having 10 pointers score.

Finally, the Dean-Academics sought the approval of the honourable Board members on the Lists of Gold Medalists at UG programs and those passing out students for both UG and PG programs who would receive certificates on the same day.

The members, after appreciating the detailed Result Analysis, remarked the overall academic performance of the students as HIGHLY SATISFACTORY and APPROVED the Results and the lists in totality towards the awards of Passing (Graduation) certificates and Gold Medals to the UG toppers, and decided to recommend the same to the Savitirbai Phule Pune University for conferment of degrees,

R-37/3(a)/2016: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the results of the 11th batch of B. Tech. (2017 pass outs) in all disciplines and also the 13th batch of M. Tech students (2017 pass outs) in all the respective specializations.

R-37/3(b)/2016: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the list of toppers of the 11th batch of B. Tech in all disciplines for the **AWARDS of GOLD MEDALS**.

R-37/3(c)/2016: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the results of the 4th batch of PGD-ERP and 1st batch of PGD-AM course conducted by the Department of Production Engineering and Industrial Management.

R-37/3(d)/2016: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the institution and award of the "Chairman's Gold Medal" to the B. Tech topper, who would score a ten pointer as his/her CGPA.

Item 4:

Performance Review of Deans and HoDs by the Board members on 24th June 2017.

The Director apprised the members that three Board members, namely, Mr. Sanjay Inamdar, Dr. Rajendra Hiremath and Mr. Vikas Patil held an interaction meeting with some Deans and Heads of the

Departments on 24th June 2017, with the objective of reviewing their performance for the past two years and action plan for their portfolio for the remaining one year of their tenure. He further informed that Three Deans and Four Heads presented themselves in the said meeting.

The Chairman remarked that no individual member or a group, has a right to undertake such review and engage in such activity, which is truly, a prerogative of the Director. Board is only to lay down the future road map and give proper direction to the Institute, he further expressed. However, if a Board member comes across reported deficiencies at any level, this can be brought up to the attention of the Director or himself or placed at the Board meeting for initiating review/remedial action, if found necessary. Prof. Dhande said that such activities when practiced in few other institutes have proved to be a disincentive.

Mr. Patil justified his stand on the issue saying that it is out of their own interest in the Institute that they undertook this activity, and recommended to replace two functionaries, who have been found under-performing, viz. Dean-R & D and HoD-Civil Engineering.

In response, Dr. G.B. Pant recalled the whole process of selection of these functionaries in June-July 2015, wherein Prof. Sonde and himself represented the Board to interact with the aspirants, along with the then Director, Prof. A.D. Sahasrabudhe. He further enquired about the charges against the individuals who were recommended for being removed and advocated that they must given an opportunity to represent themselves in this regard as per the principles of natural justice. Disappointed with such recommendation, Dr. Pant further said that he felt hurt and humiliated with such discussions and activity.

Prof. Dhande then suggested to withdraw the item from the meeting, and it was decided to withdraw this item from the proceedings of the meeting.

R-37/4/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to withdraw the agenda item from the proceedings of the 37th meeting.

Item 5:

Minor Amendments in R & D Rules with regards to Consultancy Assignments and Testing.

The Director apprised the members on the necessity of minor modifications of regulatory nature in existing R & D rules, in response to incidences of undue engagement of certain faculty in consultancy assignments, and ignoring their basic job of teaching, research and mandated academic administration. He added that, post autonomy, the rules were framed to be more encouraging for the faculty engaging themselves in consultancy and testing, in terms of number of assignments, he/she can undertake at any point of time and the fiscal share of the consultant was made more attractive. This helped institute to gain its identity on the outreach and IRG front, and also helped for

acquiring NBA accreditation and ranking in NIRF. He had a passing mention on the proposal of regulating on the number of assignments per faculty at any point of time and the some changes in the financial share to the consultant.

The Chairman remarked that naturally every faculty must give highest priority to teaching and academics and should undertake only those consultancy assignments which enrich them as a teacher and researcher. Mr. Pawar suggested of not having any constraint on number of assignments or amounting if the involved faculty is putting his/her extra time and efforts, after justifying his/her mandated job on campus. He further said that Board need not intervene in such matter, as Director and other relevant functionaries may decide on case to case basis. Mr. Patil expressed that such consultancy assignments should prove to be knowledge acquiring and exposure gaining for a concerned faculty and should not be of only stamping nature. He revealed to the members that majority of the assignments the faculty undertake are of review/survey/verification type rather than that of design or developmental nature and the customer simply needs authentication or certification by a Government officer.

While closing on the topic, the Chairman pointed out that it is Director's prerogative to decide on the intricacies in rules and regulations for R & D assignments and the agenda item be withdrawn from this meeting.

R-37/5/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to empower the Director for deploying the minor amendments in R & D rules and regulations for the institute. The Board further **RESOLVED** to withdraw this item from the formal agenda list of the 37th meeting.

Item 6:

Report on EAGLE program for PG Students:

The Director briefed the members on the life skill development program-"EAGLE", customized to be delivered to COEP First year PG students of all specializations, in AY 2016-17, by a training academy-"Hermitage". The work/service order for the training, issued to Hermitage, under TEQIP-II, was based on the learners' feedback on contents and delivery when the same program was deployed for UG students' batches of years 2014 and 2015, for whom the whole program was sponsored by Industries and Corporate. For the current PG students' batch, the academy offered the program at heavily negotiated and discounted cost of Rs. 6000/- per student versus Rs. 17000/- per student in the UG phase. The negotiation and approval for the work order were both facilitated by the Chairman-Finance Committee, Mr. Pratap Pawar.

An enquiry committee from NPIU New Delhi visited COEP, in June 2017. The Director justified the Institute's stand on the work order and the efficacy of the program for raising the employability of PG students.

The Chairman, while appreciating the program, said that such good and useful initiatives for students should be always encouraged on campus. He further thanked Mr. Pawar for the negotiations in this regard and reiterated empowering Mr. Pawar, in his capacity as Chairman-Finance Committee, to approve the purchases/procurement under TEQIP-III or otherwise, beyond Rs. 20 lakhs on behalf of the Board. Prof. Sonde congratulated COEP for EAGLE program which aligns with objectives of project TEQIP-II for PG students, and expressed that Mr. Patil would have brought the issue to the Board first rather than tarnishing the image of the Institute in front of Delhi based project authorities. He further added that such an act on the Board Member's part does not fall in line with the Primary accountabilities spelt out in "Good Practice Guide for Governing Bodies" brought out by World Bank together with MHRD (Govt. of India) for technical institutions and for TEQIP itself. Mr. Patil submitted his stand by saying that Director would not have brought the issue in the Board's meeting, rather would have answered his e-mail in this regard. The Director justified the inclusion of the same as agenda point in the Board meeting to seek Board's formal approval and complete the process. The Chairman reiterated the role of a Board member as an advisor and facilitator, and remarked that the situation is really regrettable and could have been avoided. Looking at the discussions Mr. Mirashi emphasized on hiring the services of some competent legal advisor for COEP on the lines of a Company Secretary for the industry.

R-37/6(a)/2017: The Board while appreciating the organization and conduct of EAGLE program for First Year PG students of AY 2016-17, **RESOLVED** to grant post facto approval for the same.

R-37/6(b)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to authorize Mr. Pratap Pawar, in his capacity as Chairman-Finance Committee, to approve the purchases/procurement under TEQIP-III or otherwise, beyond Rs. 20 lakhs, on behalf of the Board.

Item 7:

Forming a Section-8 Company for "Tata Technologies Industrial Design and Innovation Center"

This agenda item was taken up and the status already presented earlier in these Minutes.

R-37/7/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to communicate with and place before the Government the matter on forming a Section-8 company, to be run jointly by the Board of COEP, Tata Trust and Tata Technologies for the purpose of administering the 'Tata Technologies Industrial Design and Innovation Center' at COEP.

Item 8:

Deputation of Mr. Pankaj P. Tasgaonkar to Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee for pursuing Ph.D. in Department of Electronics & Computer Engineering, under QIP:

On the briefing by the Director, on Mr. Tasgaonkar's admission to IIT Roorkee for pursuing his PhD studies under QIP scheme of MHRD-Gol, and justifying his eligibility to avail such deputation, based on the relevant service conditions, the Board decided to grant him permission to proceed with his PhD at IIT Roorkee.

R-37/8/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to grant the permission to Mr. Pankaj Tasgaonkar to pursue his PhD at IIT Roorkee, subject to observation of all the terms and conditions as applicable to his designation in COEP.

Item 9: **Request by Mr. Abhishek M. More, Assistant Professor, Metallurgy & Material Sciences, for extension of deputation for his Ph.D. program**

On the briefing by the Director, on Mr. More's request for extension of his deputation at IISc., Bangalore for completing his PhD, the Board decided to grant him the extension.

R-37/9/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to approve the request by Mr. Abhishek More for extension of his deputation for completing his PhD program at IISc., Bangalore, by sanction of leave to him from 01.08.2017 to 31.12.2017. The Board further **RESOLVED** that it is within the purview of the Director to grant such extensions on case to case basis and empowered the Director in this regard.

Item 10: **Application of Dr. P. D. Shendge, Assistant Professor in Instrumentation & Control Engineering and Dr. S.D. Kulkarni, Associate Professor in Civil Engineering, regarding permission to take admission for LLB, to pursue studies in Law.**

Prof. Sonde mentioned that the proposal of joining a Law program by the engineering faculty is not in consonance with the technology domain of the concerned faculty, rather the domain is totally orthogonal and will not add any value to the technical knowledge of the applicants. He further remarked that it is very strange on the faculty's part to learn Law instead of pursuing continuing education in their own engineering and technology domain. The Chairman endorsing Prof. Sonde's opinion, however said that the two faculty members be permitted for their studies in Law, provided they give an undertaking to the effect that they will be available on campus for the stipulated period of duty hours on all working days (except on sanctioned leave days) and fulfill their academic, research and administrative obligations to the best of their performance.

R-37/10(a)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to **CONDITIONALLY** permit Dr. S.D. Kulkarni and Dr. P.D. Shendge to enroll for the Law program, with the submission of undertaking on fulfilling their all academic, research and administrative obligations, and full time availability on campus on all working days (except on sanctioned leave days).

R-37/10(b)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to forward their applications in this regard to the Government for further permissions subject to abovementioned conditions.

Item 11:

Application of Dr. (Mrs.) S. R. Pathak for Voluntary Retirement Scheme:

With the expression on the item that such small administrative issues not to be brought to the Board and to be addressed at Director's level, the Board consented to forward Mrs. Pathak's application for voluntary retirement to the Government for further action.

R-37/11(a)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to empower Director to decide and act on such minor administrative issues.

R-37/11(b)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to forward Prof. (Mrs.) Pathak's application for voluntary retirement the Government for further process.

Item 12:

Renewal of Appointments of Contractual Faculty for a period of further 11 months and appointment of Adjunct Faculty.

The Director explained the concern of issuing renewal of appointments to 34 contractual faculty members (Revised Appendix 4 tabled in the meeting), who are with COEP for more than minimum two years, well performing, but offered contractual appointment for a period of 11 months every time. The Chairman commented that all good performers should be employed on regular basis. Prof. Dhande suggested exploring possibility of extending tenure of at least few PhD faculty amongst them beyond 11 months. Dr. Hiremath also endorsed the suggestion by Prof. Dhande and said that the Institute should proceed for regular appointments for deserving candidates. Director informed the obstacles in initiating the regular recruitment such as roster approval, prohibition by the Government on the Autonomous institutions, in proceeding with full time regular faculty and staff recruitment vide its G.R. in 2012 etc. Prof. Sonde opined that since the Institute is awaiting Deemed University status, the renewal of such contractual appointments be granted at present to cater to temporary academic needs only.

R-37/12(a)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the renewal of contractual appointments and thus continuation of deserving and well performing 34 faculty members for the period of next 11 months.

R-37/12(b)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the appointments of Adjunct Faculty and empowered the Director in this regard.

Item 13:

Participation of Institute's Senior Functionaries in Sakal Educon 2017.

Prior to taking up this item, Mr. Pratap Pawar requested to be excused from this agenda item and left the meeting room.

Educon, the annual Education Forum initiated by Sakal Media Group, in 2005, has evolved over the time as a vibrant platform to discuss pressing issues in Higher & Engineering Education, share ideas, knowledge & experience, transformations, and success stories. This year Sakal-Educon 2017, is planned to be held at Singapore from 7th to 11th September 2017, with series of workshops in the form of two-day conclave, followed by visits to renowned Universities in Singapore. COEP's senior functionaries have been participating and contributing in Educon, since its inception and in turn, getting enlightened by the exposure.

Upon briefing by the Director on deputing the senior COEP faculty to Educon-2017, the Board, again empowered the Director in identifying the nominations of COEP faculty to participate in Educon-2017, decided to depute following members:

- Dr. V.N. Pande-TEQIP Coordinator and faculty in Electrical Engg. department
- Dr. Mrs. Vahida Attar- Controller of Examinations and faculty in Computer & IT department
- Prof. C. Y. Patil- Professor and Head- Instrumentation & Control Engg.

R-37/13/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to depute the abovementioned senior functionaries and faculty members to participate and contribute in Educon-2017, to be held at Singapore from 7th to 11th September 2017.

Mr. Pratap Pawar was requested to re-join the meeting thereafter.

Item 14:

Revision of Support Staff Pattern:

The Director described the support staff pattern at COEP, of which 281 are Government sanctioned, traditionally and 82 are Board created and approved, post Autonomy. Due to increased load in Accounts section and Examination Cell, New Construction & Infrastructure maintenance, MIS development and maintenance etc. a few new support staff positions, need to be created. The salaries of these new positions will be met from Institute resources and roster will be followed as per prevalent Government of Maharashtra norms, he further informed. The Board decided to authorize the Finance committee to look into the details and empowered it to decide in the matter.

R-37/14/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to empower the Finance Committee to look into the creation and filling of additional support staff positions and decide in the matter.

Item 15: Items for reporting to the Board:

- a) **41st meeting of the Senate will be held on 21st July 2017. The minutes of the 41st meeting will be tabled at the Board meeting.**
The Board noted the same.
- b) **17th and 18th meeting of the Finance held on 23rd March 2017 and 22nd June 2017 respectively.**
The Board noted the same.
- c) **Faculty deputed for training / participation in conferences abroad:**
The Board noted the same.
- d) **MoUs with Academia/Industry:**
The Board noted the same.
- e) Dr. (Mrs.) C. M. Deshpande Associate Professor, Mathematics Department participated in the Second Malta Conference in Graph Theory and Combinatorics 2MCGTC-2017 Malta from 26th - 30th June, 2017, to present her contributed research paper accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to her visit.
The Board noted the same.
- f) Ms. R. K. Patole, Assistant Professor, Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Department participated in the AES International Conference on Audio Forensics Arlington, USA from 15th - 17th June, 2017, to present her contributed research paper which was accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to her visit.
The Board noted the same.
- g) Dr. S. R. Patil, Assistant Professor, Physics Department participated the 77th Physical Electronics Conference (PEC 2017) Portland, Oregon, USA from 27th - 29th June, 2017, to present his contributed research paper which was accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.
- h) Dr. S. S. Damhare, Professor, Electrical Engineering Department participated in the IEEE International conference on DC Microgrids (ICDCM 2017) Nuremberg, Germany from 27th - 30th June, 2017, to present his contributed research paper which was accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.

- i) Dr. S. S. Damhare, Professor, Electrical Engineering Department participated in the IEEE PES General Meeting 2017 Chicago, IL, USA from 16th - 20th July, 2017, to present his contributed research paper which was accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.
- j) Dr. M. S. Randive, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department participated in the GeoMEast International congress and exhibition 2017 Egypt from 15th -19th July, 2017, to present his contributed research paper which was accepted for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.
- k) Dr. P.P. Deshpande, Associate Professor in Metallurgy & Material Science Department availed earned leave to undertake personal trip to NUS Singapore from 6/07/2017 to 13/07/2017 for attending his son's Graduation Ceremony. There was no financial burden on institute. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.
- l) Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department is going to participate in the International conference on evolutionary optimization 2017 (ICEO-2017) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 26th - 30th July, 2017 to present his contributed research paper which was accepted for WRITTEN presentation as well as for ORAL presentation. The Chairman BOG has accorded permission to his visit.
The Board noted the same.
- m) Dr. Mahesh R. Shindikar, Assistant Professor of Applied Science has requested participating in XIX International Botanical Congress (IBC 2017) to be held at Schenzen Convention & Exhibition Centre, Schenzen, during July 23-29, 2017. Dr. Shindikar's paper has been accepted for ORAL presentation in the said conference. All the expenses towards travel, accommodation are being borne by XIX International Botanical Congress (IBC 2017) to be held at Schenzen. While registration travel and stay are sponsored by the congress, He has submitted his request for per diem support to attend the international conference and present the paper. The Director has accorded permission for his visit as against leave on duty. The Board noted the same.
- n) Prof. B .B. Ahuja has been nominated as a member of the Advisory Board of Hope Foundation and Research Centre (Hope Foundation) and its Educational and Research Divisions i.e. Finolex Academy of Management and Technology (FAMT) at Ratnagiri, International Institute of Information Technology (I²IT) at Pune and the Pralhad P. Chhabria Research Center (PPCRC) at Pune.
The Board noted the same.

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- o) Dr. S. M. Patil, a faculty member in Department of Production Engg., and Industrial Management joined the said Department, as a Lecturer on 31st October 2003 by Directorate of Technical Education, M.S., on temporary basis. He was subsequently selected as Lecturer, on regular and permanent basis through the recruitment process executed by the Institute in December 2007 and he joined the post on 1st January 2008. Thereafter, he was selected as Assistant Professor (5th pay nomenclature-Rs. 12000-18300 pay scale) in the further round of Institute level recruitment process, on which he joined on 15th October 2010. After implementation of 6th pay commission, he was re-designated as Assistant Professor with pay scale of Rs. 15600-39100 with Grade pay of Rs. 8000/-. Being on Government sanctioned post, his salaries for all the above designations were being drawn Govt. treasury. However, his said post was designated for PG programs for which Government has stopped support in terms of salaries. In view of this, Dr. Patil has expressed his desire to revert back to his original post of 'Assistant Professor' for which he would receive salary from treasury and he will be eligible for all the financial and other benefits associated with Govt. position.
The Board noted the same.
- p) Dr. Mrs. Sadhana Jadhav, working as Associate Professor in Electrical Engg. Department, is currently on extra-ordinary without pay leave, and shifted to Mumbai for a period of two years, to look after her younger daughter who has enrolled with a specialized diploma program with DAIS school, Mumbai. Mrs. Jadhav being a single parent and there being no other earning source in family, has decided to seek for an "On Deputation" appointment at relevant Govt. establishments such as Directorate of Technical Education, Mumbai, on equivalent posts. To this effect, she has written an application letter to the Principal Secretary, Department of Higher & Technical Education, Mantralaya, Mumbai (advance copy already dispatched) and requested the Institute to forward the same letter through proper channel.
The Board noted the same.
- q) Mrs. Trishna Ugale is working on the Govt. sanctioned post of "System Analyst" since 2011. She was selected to the said post by the Board on the said Government post and drawing salary as per provisions of the 5th pay commission from Govt. treasury, till date. As per Govt. Resolution dated 2nd July 2016, there is provision of converting the appointment of System Analyst to an equivalent teaching position and then apply the Sixth pay commission salary provisions to the same. However, after such conversion from "System Analyst" to "Assistant Professor" post, the salary will have to be drawn from institute resources. Mrs. Ugale has applied for availing such benefits, as per the mentioned G.R. Though she has acquired M.Tech (Computer) qualifications, her teaching abilities are not judged to date. The institute proposes to engage her with

some academic assignment, observe her performance for 2 to 3 semesters and then recommend her to go through the institutes selection process, for the post of Assistant Professor in Computer Engineering at COEP.

The Board noted the same.

R-37/15/2017: The Board **NOTED** all the reported items under item no. 15 and **APPROVED** the same.

Item 16: **Any Other Point with Permission of the Chair: Continuous derogative activities by the Gazetted Officers' Association at COEP.**

The Director informed the Board about the displeasure of the members of Gazetted Officers' Association on the working of the Institute and the time and again expressed differences and grievances on the functioning of the institute. Also these members have expressed their grievance at faculty interaction meetings with the UGC expert committee that visited COEP for conferment of Deemed University status in June 2017, and previously in October 2016 for renewal of Autonomy.


The Chairman was surprised to note that these members do not understand the stature of Institute like COEP. Prof. Dhande said that such class grievances and individual grievances should be sorted out in an Institute level Grievance Redressal Committee.

Prof. Sonde suggested to the Director to make available copies of the "Good Practice Guide for Governing Bodies" brought out by jointly by the World Bank and the MHRD for use by technical institutions and also appealed the Board members to study and adopt the various good practices recommended for enhancing the image and visibility of COEP nationally and internationally. The Chairman also endorsed this suggestion.

R-37/16(a)/2017: The Board **RESOLVED** to address the expressed grievances of the members of Gazetted Officers' Association in the Institute level Grievance Redressal Committee, towards bilaterally acceptable solutions.

R-37/16(b)/2017: The Board also **RESOLVED** that copies of the Good Practice Guide for Governing Bodies be made available to all the Board Members.

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


(B. B. Ahuja)
Member- Secretary
Board of Governors, COEP