

**MINUTES OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2013 (MONDAY) AT 10:30 A.M. AT INDIA HABITAT CENTRE (IHC), JACARANDA-II HALL, 1ST FLOOR, ENTRY FROM GATE NO. 3 FROM VARDHMAN MARG, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003**

**Present:**

1. Smt. Kiran Dhingra, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson, BOG NIFT
2. Shri N.K Singh, Hon'ble M.P Rajya Sabha
3. Smt. Anita Agnihotri, AS&FA, Ministry of Textiles
4. Smt. Monika S. Garg Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles
5. Shri Sunil Sethi, President, Fashion Design Council of India
6. Smt. Kavita Bhartia, M/s Ogaan
7. Shri William Bissell, Managing Director, Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
8. Ms. Namita R.L Chowdhary
9. Shri Pradyumna Vyas, Director, National Institute of Design
10. Shri Prem Kumar Gera, Director General, NIFT

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

The following members were granted leave of absence:

1. Smt. Priya Dutt, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
2. Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
3. Smt. Veena Ish, Joint Secretary (Admn.), Ministry of Human Resource Development
4. Dr. A Sakthivel, Chairman, M/s Poppys Knitwear Pvt. Ltd
5. Shri Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Fashion Designer, Sabyasachi Couture

At the outset of the meeting, DG-NIFT welcomed the Chairperson-BOG and the Board members. The Chairperson and the BoG members introduced themselves and took up the agenda for discussion.

Initiating the discussion, the DG referred to a note circulated to the members to inform them about the functioning of NIFT which had grown to 15 campuses. The members of the Board expressed their concern over expansion of NIFT by opening large number of new NIFT Campuses. Sh. N.K Singh expressed his concern over the decrease in the growth rate of economy due to which the demand for NIFT pass outs had decreased resulting in reduction in placement avenues. He suggested that the criterion formulated for setting up of NIFT Campuses may be placed as first agenda item in the next Board meeting. It was also pointed out that while setting up the new Campus, the consequences of the results from existing and proposed institution may be seen. Ms. Monika S. Garg explained that to

maintain quality of NIFT education in new NIFT Campuses, various measures were taken. This included standardization of curriculum and academic environment, and creation of Placement avenues. Focus on overall financial viability of the Campus was never lost sight of. Relying on her long association in the Ministry of Textiles, the Chairperson advised that ever since the expansion of NIFT had started, the Board had resisted, but finally it had to agree to the popular demand placed on the government for opening new campuses. Perhaps the NIFT needed to review its policy in this regard so as to be able to reconcile conflicting interests while maintaining financial viability and quality of education imparted. Noting that the issue would be placed before it in the next meeting, the Board took up the agenda for discussion.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2101**

**Confirmation of the minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Governors meeting of National Institute of Fashion Technology held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 (Friday) at 2:00 p.m. at Parliament Room at Chambers, Hotel Taj Mansingh, Mansingh Road, New Delhi**

The Board was informed that in the last meeting minutes under the head 'Any other item' the nomenclature 'Deputy Registrar(F&A)' should have been 'Deputy Director (F&A)'. The Board confirmed the change of Deputy Registrar (F&A) to Deputy Director (F&A). Since no comments had been received, the minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 were confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2102**

**Action Taken Report on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> meetings of the BOG held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 & 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 respectively**

The members of the Board perused the Action Taken Report on the decisions of the previous meetings.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2103**

**Reconstitution of the Authorities of NIFT**

Reconstitution of the Senate, Establishment Committee, Finance & Audit Committee and Academic Affairs Committee was considered by the Board and with a view to ensure active involvement of all members, the Board nominated the following to the above Committees.

**Senate:**

Sh. Pradyumna Vyas  
Sh. Sunil Sethi

The Board empowered the Chairperson BOG to nominate for the Senate a person, not being employee of the Institute from the field of Science who should be either from the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes and one alumnus.

**Establishment Committee:**

Sh. N.K. Singh  
Ms. Namita R.L. Chowdhary  
Sh. Sabyasachi Mukherjee

**Finance & Audit Committee:**

Sh. Sunil Sethi  
Sh. William Bissell  
Smt. Priya Dutt

**Academic Affairs Committee:**

Sh. Pradyumna Vyas  
Ms. Kavita Bhartia

The Board also approved that the above 4 authorities shall meet as often as necessary, but not less than two times during a calendar year. One third of the number of members of above authorities and other committees constituted by the Board under the Act, Statutes or Ordinances would be the quorum for the meetings called for transaction of its business.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2104**

**Comments/ observations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Rajya Sabha on the framing of Statutes/ Ordinances under NIFT Act, 2006**

The agenda was discussed at length. The Board took note of the comments/observations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Rajya Sabha on framing of Statutes/ Ordinances under NIFT Act, 2006 as well as the comments of the Ministry of Textiles. It was considered that there were indeed certain clauses that did not conform with the practice or convention expected of a subordinate legislation. Chairperson pointed out that the Act did not give power to the Board to delegate its functions, and that therefore the Audit and Finance Committee and the Establishment Committee needed to be redrawn as subcommittees of the Board, and their powers and functions accordingly redrafted. The need for an Academic Affairs subcommittee with a Senate already in place and subject to the oversight of the Board could also be reviewed. As to other clauses, it was decided that an attempt should be made to comply with as many of the comments/ observations of Rajya Sabha relating to procedure without losing autonomy over policy matters granted to the Board under the Act. The redraft should be completed expeditiously, and be brought to the notice of the Board in its next meeting. The Board authorised DG- NIFT to hire an expert in legislative drafting for this purpose.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2105**

**Reduction in Fees Structure for the Academic Year 2013-14**

The Board was apprised about the process followed for deciding the fee structure for the Academic Year 2013-14. It was explained that the F&AC has looked at the proposed fee structure which has been put up to the Board. Chair of the F&AC discussed the changes and the justification proposed, and recommended them as reasonable. In view of the above, the Board considered and approved the revised fee structure as brought out in the agenda notes.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2106**

**Taking note of the minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting Finance & Audit Committee  
of the BOG of NIFT**

The Board took note of the minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Finance & Audit Committee of the BOG of NIFT held on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 and ratified the decisions taken.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2107**

**Pending proposal for establishing new NIFT Campuses**

The Board took note of the status of pending proposals for establishing new NIFT Campuses.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2108**

**Progress Report of the Construction Projects of NIFT**

The Board took note of the progress report of the construction projects of NIFT.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2109**

**MoU with Textile Industry Development Institute (TIDI), Ethiopia, Ministry of  
Industries, Govt. of Ethiopia**

The Board took note of the MoU of NIFT with Textiles Industry Development Institute (TIDI), Ethiopia, Ministry of Industries, Govt. of Ethiopia.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2110**

**Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2012-13**

The Final Accounts for the Financial Year 2012-13 was considered and approved by the Board with the following observations.

1. A proper procedure for presentation of the Final Accounts may henceforth be followed where the NIFT auditors must be present to explain, if need be, the Accounts to Board in detail.
2. The Auditors' Report should be placed with the Final Accounts.

3. F&AC must monitor Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 financial performance of NIFT and its recommendation must be placed before Board at the earliest.
4. A separate Auditor must be engaged for internal audit of accounts of the Institution, across all Centres and the Head Office, who must prepare and present Quarterly Internal audit reports in a timely manner before the F&AC and thence the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2111**

**Proposal for construction of additional buildings in Delhi Campus**

Discussion on proposal for construction of additional buildings in Delhi Campus took place. JS, MOT pointed out that Cabinet approval regarding OBC quota fund utilization perhaps need to be rechecked as the Hyderabad project was not indicated in the Cabinet Note dated 14.03.2013. Hence, it is not clear from where will savings come which are proposed to be utilized for Delhi Campus. The Board felt that the issues raised by JS MoT on the proposal for construction of additional buildings in Delhi Campus must be resolved before being placed before the Board.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2112**

**Reimbursement of OPD expenses above OPD ceiling in respect of Sh. Raj Singh,  
Assistant Director (Admissions), NIFT Head Office**

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**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2113**

**Result Framework Document (RFD) of the NIFT for the year 2013-14.**

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**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2114**

**Annual Work Plan (AWP) of Sh. Prem K Gera, DG-NIFT**

Due to paucity of time, the agenda items from 2112 to 2114 were deferred.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2115**

**Any other item with the permission of chair**

During the discussions the Board took the following decisions:-

1. For management of the surplus NIFT funds including the NIFT endowment Fund, DG may obtain professional advice of a competent fund manager .
2. The Board endorsed the suggestion of some members of holding some meetings of NIFT Board in a NIFT campus outside Delhi, as a means of acquainting members with different campuses and of encouraging the Directors working outside Delhi.

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