

**MINUTES OF THE 28TH MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) OF NIFT
HELD ON 23.02.2015 (MONDAY) AT 3:15 P.M. IN THE BOARD ROOM AT THE NIFT HEAD
OFFICE IN NEW DELHI**

Present:

1. The following members were present:
 - i. Ms. Kiran Dhingra, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson, BOG NIFT
 - ii. Mr. Naresh Gujral, Hon'ble, Rajya Sabha
 - iii. Mr. S. Selvakumara Chinnayan, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
 - iv. Ms. Sunaina Tomar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles
 - v. Mr. Sunil Sethi, President, Fashion Design Council of India
 - vi. Dr. A. Sakthivel, Chairman, Poppys Knitwear Pvt. Ltd.
 - vii. Ms. Namita R.L Chowdhary
 - viii. Mr. Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Fashion Designer, Sabyasachi Couture
 - ix. Mr. Pradyumna Vyas, Director, National Institute of Design
 - x. Mr. Prem Kumar Gera, Director General, NIFT

Leave of Absence:

2. The following members were granted leave of absence:
 - i. Ms. Poonam Mahajan, Hon'ble M.P Lok Sabha
 - ii. Mr. B.P Pandey, AS&FA, Ministry of Textiles
 - iii. Mr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, Joint Secretary (CU&L), Ministry of Human Resource Development
 - iv. Ms. KavitaBhartia, M/s Ogaan
 - v. Mr. William Bissell, Managing Director, Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
3. The Chairperson BOG informed the Board about sad demise of Sh. L.V. Saptharishi, IAS (Retd.), former Director General- NIFT. The Chairperson BOG remembered the contributions of Sh. Saptharishi during June, 1997 to October 2000 and thereafter in framing Textiles Policy for which he provided valuable inputs to her. The Board members observed one minute silence to pray for the departed soul. The Board of Governors also decided to send condolences to his family.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2801

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 26TH BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING OF
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 18TH NOVEMBER, 2014 AT
NIFT, HEAD OFFICE, NEW DELHI AND EMERGENCY MEETING OF BOARD (27TH BOG)
HELD ON 27TH JANUARY, 2015 AT NIFT, HEAD OFFICE**

4. The Board was informed that Minutes of the 26th meeting held on 18.11.2014 and the Emergency meeting held on 27.01.2015 were circulated to all members inviting their comments/suggestions.
5. The DG NIFT requested the Board that he may be allowed to place his perspective on the minutes issued for the Emergency meeting. He mentioned that the minutes would get ratified without his inputs. Noting that at the stage of confirmation, only the members present

could raise an objection or moot an amendment, the Chairperson said that an opportunity to voice his views would be given under 'Any other item' taken up before closure of the meeting. Since no comments were received on either set of minutes, the Board confirmed them as correct recordings of the proceedings.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2802

ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON 26TH MEETING OF THE BOG HELD ON 30.09.2014 & 18.11.2014

6. Action taken report on 26th meeting of the BOG held on 30.09.2014 & 18.11.2014 were noted by the Board with the following observations:
- (i) A meeting of the Quality Control Committee consisting of members of BoG was long delayed and needed to be organized soon. Ms. Namita Chowdhary agreed to take the initiative to fix the date for the meeting in consultation with the other member on the quality committee Mr. Sunil Sethi. If required, the committee could invite an expert from outside to suggest measures to be taken for improving the delivery of academics in NIFT Campuses.
 - (ii) The DG informed the Board that necessary orders for implementing the HR policy had been issued, save those which required to be incorporated in Statutes and implemented thereafter. The Board had placed an embargo on recruitment on Group A posts for understanding the HR policy of NIFT. The DG informed the Board that the recruitment at NIFT needed to be taken-up as many courses had been started with a vision that faculty and staff would be in place in due course. The Chairperson inquired if separate rosters for the contract and the Regular posts had been created, and if the SC/ST/OBC reservations had been incorporated in each, and suggested that the same should be placed for inspection in the next Establishment Committee meeting, as the rosters had to recognize the existing posts as already filled and then define the mode for future vacancies in the rosters. Prior to starting recruitment, she advised the DG to draw up the list of possible eminent persons to chair the Selection Committee, and of subject experts to assist it, for approval of the Board-
 - (iii) Chairman also drew attention to the recommendation of the Establishment Committee that in making recruitments, the first post should be filled on contract, as that implied that single or isolated posts should be filled on contract basis, to obviate the discontent of such employees at the lack of promotional avenue if they are on the regular roster, and said that this method may pose difficulties of accountability in the case of sensitive posts. For isolated and sensitive posts, such as of project engineers, e.g., the recruitment should be as far as possible on deputation basis. The Board desired to see a list of posts declared as 'sensitive' as per the CVC guidelines to take a final decision.
 - (iv) JS, MoT also pointed out that a draft cabinet note for extension of timeline for implementation of OBC Quota and increase in the fund had been received. The proposal mentioned that the approval of the Board was awaited. She said the Ministry could not entertain a proposal that did not have the Board approval. The Chairperson pointed out that the agenda item on the issue was before the Board, but it did not provide detailed reasons for escalation as sought in the last meeting. The DG requested to discuss the item for providing clarification. Since CVO was asked to study the Mumbai construction project under OBC Quota and the report was still awaited from CVO, the work under OBC Plan fund was held up. The Board directed the CVO to expedite the report allowed to seek extension of time for implementing of the OBC projects. After brief discussion,

the Board decided that for the time being, for preparing the Cabinet note, a proposal for extension of timeline for implementation of OBC Quota may be sent to MoT.

- (v) Sh. Sunil Sethi raised his concerns and pointed out that the Mumbai project had been delayed badly, efforts should be made to complete the project. Keeping in view the delay in implementing the building Projects, he desired that a Standard Operating Procedures for large constructions projects may be laid down. Private Agencies who monitors the construction projects may be hired as PMCs.
- (vi) Sh. Sunil Sethi pointed out to the Board that M/s M.C. Jain & Co., Chartered Accountant had done a commendable job, however their contract was terminated as allegedly they did not have experience in Process Audit. When they had done a good job and understood NIFT, they should have been preferred. Chairperson pointed out that the issue had been discussed in a previous meeting, and it had been agreed that in future the appointment and termination and remuneration of the internal and statutory auditors would be brought before the Board for approval, as this was an important part of any Board's system of control and should not be delegated. The Chair also pointed out that a process audit was not confined to the audit of the system of maintenance of accounts and accounting; it necessarily looked into all processes of an organization, and included such things as inventory management, maintenance management by drawing up schedules and adhering to them, administrative processes for issue of orders and follow up of them, etc. She suggested a list of processes that would be audited in current year may be brought to the notice of the Board. It was agreed that academic processes may not be subjected to process audit as a sub-committee of the BoG was working on the same. It suggested that the work of establishment division and processes related to Board meeting and follow up of its directions may be part of the first Process Audit.
- (vii) Regarding Admissions 2015, the DG informed the Board that as per the directions, Admission Procedure of 2013-14 (not 2012-13 as noted in minutes) was being followed up for 2015-16(not 2014-15 as noted in minutes). The Board also took note of the corrections that suggested to modify the minutes suitably.
- (viii) The DG informed the Board that the Negotiating Committee and Empowered Committee constituted to oversee the admissions for 2015 had been notified, and the proposal received from Associate Professor Amisha Mehta had been forwarded to the JS in MoT. She was requested to convene a meeting of the Negotiating Committee for a quick decision in the matter.
- (ix) Hon'ble Members Mr. Sethi, Mr. Gujral, Ms. Namita Chowdhary and Mr. Sabyasachi Mukherjee felt that basic facilities/ amenities, basic infrastructure in the labs etc. and state of maintenance of NIFT Centres, especially of the Delhi Campus were inadequate and required urgent attention to uphold the claim of the Institution of being premier. Sh. Sabyasachi pointed out that private foreign affiliated fashion design colleges were being set up and would attract the cream if NIFT did not upgrade its standards and continued to coast on past reputation. Members wholeheartedly agreed and discussed ways in which the issue of maintenance and modernization of course equipment could be given attention. The importance of priority to this issue was impressed upon the DG. Hon'ble MP Mr. Gujral wanted the Campus to have a tough disciplinarian with background in Armed forces to be appointed in Delhi Campus. The DG bemoaned the absence of a Joint Director in the Delhi Centre. It was agreed that, the quality Committee would give the issue of equipment and course modernization to the latest fashion pedagogy its attention. It was also felt that if before the start of every Board meeting, members made a inspection tour of the facilities of Delhi Campus, for which the Director, Delhi Campus

would take them around in the Campus premises, it would help highlight their concern on this matter.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2803

CONSOLIDATED INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT OF NIFT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ENDING ON 30TH JUNE, 2014 AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE POINTS RAISED THEREIN

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 2804

CONSOLIDATED INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT OF NIFT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER ENDED ON 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2014

7. Consolidated Internal Audit Report of NIFT for the First Quarter ending on 30th June, 2014 & action taken report on the points raised therein and Consolidated Internal Audit Report of NIFT for the Second Quarter ending on 30th June, 2014 were taken note of by the Board, with the comment that such post facto appreciation of the position had little point, and effort to get timely quarterly reports to the Board must be intensified. Reading some of the audit comments, the Chairperson wanted to know the remedial action on the violation of delegated financial powers by the Director, NIFT Kangra Campus. The Board took note of the internal auditor's report with a direction that remedial action should continue to be brought in the action taken notes to its satisfaction.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2805

C&AG COMMENTS ON THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH, 2014

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ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM NO. C

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF NIFT FOR THE YEAR 2013-14

8. Chairperson – BOG desired that major observations of the C&AG Auditor on the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2014 may be highlighted to the Board. Director (F&A) briefed the Board that there were two major observations of the C&AG Auditor. One was regarding treatment of the Utilised Grant, which were being Transferred to Corpus/Capital Fund. As per C&AG Audit, plan funds received from the Government(s) were required to be shown under a distinct category instead of adding the same in Corpus/Capital fund. Director (F&A) stated that this issue was discussed with internal auditors and they had agreed that we may accept the recommendation of C&AG and seek government approval before transferring utilised grants to Corpus/Capital Fund. The second major objection was regarding charging of depreciation on fixed assets created/purchased out of Government Grants to its income and Expenditure account but not recognizing the corresponding income from Government Grants in accounts. Director (F&A) pointed out that the issue was also discussed with the internal auditors and they supported the accounting policy followed by NIFT on this issue. The Board took note of

the C&AG comments on the Annual Accounts and suggested to take it up with the office of C&AG for follow up and an early resolution.

9. Regarding submission of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NIFT for the Year 2013-2014 to the Ministry without Board approval, the Board expressed its concern and dissatisfaction at the impropriety. The DG explained that the report was placed in the agenda in the last meeting of the Board, and again sent by circulation, but could not be taken up. The Chairperson pointed out that Parliament was hardly likely to consider that sufficient explanation, if the matter came to their notice, and also opined that NIFT need not have rushed the Annual Report along with C&AG Comments on the Audited Accounts to MoT without Board's approval but could have placed a Late Statement in Parliament as per procedure, and followed up with submission in the Budget session. This had been resorted to by NIFT in the past, and delay by one session, while not the best practice, was certainly better than laying on the table of Parliament a report that did not have the approval of the competent authority. Mr. Gujral MP agreed that the matter could be viewed very seriously, if the report was taken up by the PAC for examination, and said that the parliament secretariat might be consulted by the JS to see if the report could be withdrawn or if post facto approval would remedy the default. The DG was asked to place before the Board in its every meeting a list of agenda, which were mandatory for the Board to examine and give its decisions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2806

PROPOSAL FOR REVISED ESTIMATE 2014-15 & BUDGET ESTIMATE 2015-16 (REVENUE)

13. Director (F&A) presented the Revised Estimates 2014-15 and Budget Estimate 2015-16 (Revenue) to the Board. Sh. Sunil Sethi, as member of the F&A committee, informed the Board that F&AC did not approve the RE 2014-15 and BE 2015-16 (Revenue) as the actual expenditure was very less as compared to the BE 2014-15 as the Campuses were unable to spend the annual sanction. He informed that F&AC felt that the Campuses were over projecting their revenue expenditure. Therefore DG- NIFT was directed to rework the RE 2014-15 & BE 2015-16. The Director (F&A) apprised that as per the directions of the F&AC RE 2014-15 & BE 2015-16 had been reviewed and revised and the same had been approved by the Chairperson F&AC on file.

14. The Chairperson BOG inquired about the Head Office Expenses. Director (F&A) informed that upto year 2012-13, HO used to charge 20% of the first year fee income as overhead charge from the Campuses. This charge was not made in the year 2013-14, in view of the high interest income at HO. Now there was a fall in the interest income therefore from the year 2014-15, it was decided that 20% of the 1st year fee of the students would be retained at HO. Chairperson opined that it was difficult to monitor the HO expenses as HO could easily pass it on to the campuses through Debit Notes/ Credit Notes. She directed that a process audit of system of issuing Debit Notes/ Credit Notes to the campuses should be done as a regular part of the internal audit.

15. Ms. Namita Chowdhary inquired about the admission fee which had not as yet been refunded to the students who had sought admission last year. Director (F&A) informed the Board that there were approximately 7 cases of refund of fee pending including 1 case of fee

refund for NRI candidate. In explanation of the delay, he said that many applicants had deposited their fees through multiple bank drafts, so as to avoid giving PAN to the Bankers. This made reconciliation of fees received a difficult task leading to delays of refund. The Board directed that the fee may be refunded without further delay and authorised him to make all pending refunds in anticipation of reconciliation after keeping 10% of the amount till verification or re-conciliation, if required.

16. In view of the above, the Board considered and approved the Revenue RE 2014-15 of Rs. 177.28 Crores and Revenue BE 2015-16 of Rs. 205.53 Crores as recommended by F&AC.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2807

RE 2014-15 & BE 2015-16 (CAPITAL)

17. Director (F&A) presented the Revised Estimates 2014-15 and Budget Estimate 2015-16 (Capital) to the Board. It was also pointed out by JS, MoT that amount of Rs. 50 Crores was provided in the year 2014-15 out of the OBC Quota funds. Director (F&A) stated that NIFT is likely to utilize only 40 crores and would not be able to utilize balance Rs.10 Crores. The Board members felt that instead of returning the amount to MoT same could be used for procurement of academic infrastructure. Sh. Sunil Sethi pointed out that NIFT campuses had not purchased 3D printers till date. DG NIFT informed that Gandhinagar campus had acquired such a printer long back when its cost was as high as Rs 40 lakhs. It could not be repaired and had to be disposed of as unserviceable item. The current prices of these printer are less than Rs 2 lakhs for all Campus Directors had been asked to work on. He promised suitable action to acquire the same. The Board considered and approved the RE 2014-15 of Rs. 137.39 Crores and BE 2015-16 of Rs. 154.58 Crores as recommended by F&AC.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2808

ACCOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT OF MOBILE HANDSET TO ENTITLED OFFICERS

18. The Director (F&A) informed the Board about the need for revising the eligibility and defining the financial limit regarding the reimbursement for handset in the existing policy. Deliberations took place on the proposal of reimbursement of mobile handset to the NIFT officers and Board considered and directed that reimbursement of mobile handset of NID may be studied and put up before the Board.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2809

APPROVAL FOR HIKE IN FEE FOR EXISTING STUDENTS FOR THE YEAR 2015-16

19. Director (F&A) apprised the Board that in the 26th BOG meeting held on 30.09.2014, a uniform increase of 12% for all students seeking admission for the Academic year 2015-16 with a further hike of 10% in every subsequent year was approved. This hike of 12% was applicable for both old as well as new students.

20. However, from the minutes of the last BOG meeting it was not clear as to whether the hike of 12% was for old students also.

21. After due discussion the Board approved 10% hike in fee for old students for the year 2015-16 and subsequent years.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2819

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT IN THE COMPOSITION OF SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR GROUP "A" POSTS

22. DG –NIFT presented the proposal for amendment in the composition of Selection Committee for Group "A" Posts. He informed the Board that the Empowered Committee of the Board on drafting the Statutes in its meeting held on 13/01/2015 has recommended changes in the Composition of Selection Committee for Group "A" posts, whereby the Director General NIFT should not be the member of the Selection Committee. The DG NIFT and Mr. Sethi expressed that this was not a desirable situation as the NIFT Act 2006 required the DG to be a Principal Executive Officer.

23. The Chairperson of Board recalled previous discussions on the issue, in which the Board had agreed that the existing practice in NIFT - by which the DG was deciding the composition of the selection panel, chairing the selection committee making the selection, and then accepting the recommendation of the selection committee and issuing the appointment orders all on his own— had gone outside of all known systems of checks and balances and concentrated powers in a single person, was unhealthy and needed change. The Board had asked the Establishment Committee to study and submit recommendations. DG had brought the matter directly to the Statute Committee; since the chair of the two committees and the majority of members were common, discussion had been allowed. The Statute Committee had before it the recommendation of the DG that the DG should chair the Selection Committee and the appointments should be made by the Board. It also had before it the practice followed by successive DG's, of issuing the appointment orders without further reference to the Board. The practice of the DG of exercising the powers of appointment seemed not to have the authority of the Board; the Registrar had been unable to provide a resolution which could be examined to understand why and how the Board had delegated the power of the Appointing Authority to the DG-NIFT; that such a situation had arisen in which one person had untrammelled power. After detailed deliberation, the Statute Committee had decided that the reason for the DGs arrogating to themselves the powers of the Board was probably the desirability of issuing orders immediately on a selection being finalized, and the infrequency with which the Board met. The Statute Committee had felt that regularizing this practice would contribute efficiencies to the processes of recruitment, and the Board should be recommended that it agree to the delegation with the proviso that every appointment made should come to it for information and ratification. However, this could only be countenanced if the Selections were made at arm's length, by a Selection Committee that carried conviction to the public and the Board of being impartial and above board. The Statute Committee had therefore recommended that the Chairman of the Selection committee for all group A posts be an eminent person with an established reputation for sagacity and impartiality, and the composition as already approved by the Board, of at least two non-functional Board members, and outside experts out of a panel recommended by the Board. DG-NIFT should not be a member of the Selection Committee.

24. Ms. Namita Chowdhary pointed out that in order to appear consistent, the rationale of the above proposal should be extended to Group 'B' posts as well. Chairperson conceded the reasonableness of that argument, as DG-NIFT was an Appointing Authority for Group 'B' also.

25. Deliberation at length took place on the matter and the following was approved:

- (i) The Director General of NIFT shall be the Appointing Authority for Group "A" and "B" posts and
- (ii) The composition of Selection Committee for Group "A" and "B" posts shall be as under:
 - (a) Chairperson- An eminent person having administrative and personnel experience from a panel selected by the Board or a member of the Board of Governors other than ex-officio members.
 - (b) Two members of the Board (by name).
 - (c) Two Experts (chosen by the DG from the panel approved by the Board).
 - (d) Chairperson of the respective Academic Department for faculty appointments.

It would be mandatory for the Committee to have a member of the Board for making every selection. The letter of appointment of the selected candidates should be issued on the recommendations of Selection Committee which would be placed before the Board for its information.

DG would bring the proposals for appointment of specific persons before the Board for approval accordingly. The statutes could meantime be amended as approved herein and sent to the Ministry.

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. C

PROPOSAL TO CONSTITUTE "BUILDING & WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE" OF THE BOARD

26. The Board considered and approved the constitution of "Building & Works Sub-Committee" of the Board along with its powers and functions as brought out in the agenda notes with a further direction that it may exercise power of holding people responsible and fixing their responsibility. The Board authorised the drafting committee on Statutes to include the constitution of "Building & Work & Committee" in the proposed statutes.

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. I

TECHNICAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN NIFT AND MCGAN'S OOTY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

27. DG- NIFT proposed the agenda regarding Technical collaboration between NIFT and McGan's Ooty School of Architecture and Sh. S. Selvakumara Chinnayan, Hon'ble M.P. seconded the same.

28. McGan's Ooty School of Architecture had approached MoT and NIFT seeking necessary support from NIFT to setup McGan Institute of Fashion Technology (MIFT), a new institute proposed by McGan's to establish fashion courses at their Ooty Campus. DG informed the Board he would like Bengaluru Campus to undertake this as a project under NIFT's Project Policy. However Chapter 10, Para 10.1 of the NIFT Academic Manual relating to Domestic

Linkages provided for technical assistance in various academic areas to the state Government for courses of the level of polytechnics and ITIs. The policy also mentioned that 'NIFT had not encouraged requests from private institutions or bodies for any level of such linkages.'

29. The Board was also informed that Section 6(v) of the NIFT Act provided that the functions of the Institute included to cooperate with educational or other institutions in any part of the world having objects wholly or partly similar to those of the Institute by exchange of faculty members and scholars and generally in such manner as may be conducive to their common objective.

30. The Board was also apprised that the BOG of NIFT in its 4th meeting held on 2nd April 2003 vide agenda item no. 0417 had approved the providing of technical support to institutions set up by State Government. In past, NIFT had entered into an MoU with private institutes like School of Fashion Technology (SOFT) Pune and Govt. of Kerala sponsored Center for Continuing Education Kerala(CCEK) for providing technical assistance in various academic areas.

31. Mr. Sunil Sethi recalled that the Board in one of its meetings had decided that NIFT should not open any new NIFT Campuses. In this regard, DG informed the Board that NIFT was not opening any new NIFT Campus in Ooty, but that the proposal was for Collaboration for Course development/review and training to faculty. Mr. Sabyasachi was of the opinion that before providing training to faculty of institutes like McGan, NIFT faculty should update themselves as per the industry standards and get training from the outside expert from International fashion institutes. The Chairperson BOG apprised the Board that there was always a dearth of faculty in NIFT and as a result the faculty members of NIFT always complained for the increased workload in terms of administrative responsibilities, CEP, etc. It was also pointed out that in the MoU, it was mentioned that MIFT would use the name of NIFT viz. "In technical collaboration with NIFT", which the Board actively discouraged, as it was wary of its name being used by fly-by-nighters to attract students to its rolls. It had therefore decided against working with any privately funded institutions.

32. Hon'ble Member Mr. Selevakumara Chinnayan, MP reminded the BoG that one of the primary reasons for enacting NIFT Act 2006 was to promote Fashion Education in India. It would not be proper if NIFT did not support McGan's efforts, when it was ready to pay for its services. After discussion at length, it was decided that NIFT faculty may consider assisting through training MIFT faculty for development of its course curriculum but McGan should not be allowed to use NIFT's name while promoting McGan Institute of Fashion Technology (MIFT) by stating it as an institute set up "**in technical collaboration with NIFT**", and its course curriculum should not be developed and given to it by NIFT as its own faculty needed to focus on its own resource building. In view of the above the draft MoU may be suitably modified before extending support to MIFT.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2822

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

33. Due to paucity of time no other agenda items could be discussed. However, the following issues of urgent importance were raised by members and decisions taken:

- (a) Sh. Sunil Sethi pointed out that the Senate was comprised of mainly the officials of NIFT and there were only four outside members namely Mr. Sunil Sethi, Mr. Pradyumna Vyas, Ms. Anith Arora and Dr. Bhoop Singh. He suggested that all academic matters were considered in the Senate including curriculum review therefore the Senate should be reconstituted so as to involve more and more outside experts from the industry. The Board directed Dean to put up an agenda in this regard in the next meeting of the Board and for the members to suggest suitable names.
- (b) Ms. Namita Chowdhary drew attention to representations she had received as Board member, which she wished to share with the Board. A Mr. Sanjay Naik, faculty at Gandhinagar had requested for transfer of the Campus due to personal reasons. His request was handed over to the DG for consideration.
- (c) Ms. Namita Chowdhary pointed out that NIFT Delhi had hired Attendants and Junior Assistants through Placement Agency and they were not given any benefits available to others etc. Such persons had represented wanting to be hired by NIFT directly instead of through a Placement Agency. DG explained that this practice was being followed in all other organizations, and was not unlawful. He also clarified that NIFT was hiring them through placement agencies by paying minimum wages to the Placement Agencies.. He agreed to check that the Placement agencies was not exploiting them in violation of the contract with NIFT.
- (d) Ms. Namita Chowdhary also inquired about the action taken against Mr. Vasant Kothari, former Joint Director, NIFT Bhopal for his alleged misconduct of sexual harassment. DG-NIFT apprised that on the basis of report of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) imposition of a suitable penalty on Sh. Kothari was under consideration.
- (e) DG- NIFT informed the Board that the Board had ratified minutes of the Emergency Meeting, but he should be allowed to make a statement as during the Emergency meeting he did not get an opportunity. He circulated a statement to all members present in the meeting. He wanted to read it, but paucity of time prevented him to do so, and he asked for it to be taken on record. The DG mentioned that he was asked to recuse from the emergency meeting as the agenda revolved around the report submitted by the CVO, which arraigned the DG for decisions taken in Admissions 2014 beyond his delegated authority without authority of the Board. He informed that he was denied an opportunity during the meeting to present his perspective comprehensively. A Copy of the CVO Report was also not provided to him, till he could obtain it from the Chairperson, who had circulated it all members of BoG except him. He further mentioned that as instructed by the Board he recused himself from the emergency meeting and placed all the facts suo-moto before the BOG to give a correct picture. He also pointed out that the proceedings of the meeting and recording of minutes of the emergency was not proper. He brought out few mistakes in the minutes and the same should be corrected. For example, he had explained how the software used in 2013 was used for three rounds whereas in the minutes, the same had not been mentioned. He also informed that the Board had decided to deprive the DG from writing the performance appraisal of Director (Admissions), CVO and Associate Professor Amisha Mehta who provided inputs to the Board for helping it to understand Admission 2014. The above decision was against the DoPT norms of writing performance appraisal. As per the DoPT norms, in order to write performance appraisal, the supervisor should have seen the performance of the officer reported upon for at least three months. The Board should review the above decision, which was contrary to the DoPT instructions. Without giving a single example of wrong allocation of admission to the wrong candidate, the Board had minuted that the logic applied to design the software was flawed. Similarly

without indicating a case of excessive use of power, the Board had passed adverse comments in para 7 of the minutes of Emergency meeting. He also informed the Board that there was not a single instance to conclude that there had been any colorable exercise of powers by the DG.

- (f) Chairperson BOG said that the meeting had recused the DG, but he had indeed been called in and given a chance to have his say. His suo-moto statement had also been considered. In addition to the Agenda note, the Board had been informed of the procedures and improprieties of Admissions 2014 by the CVO's report. The intention of the Board had been, since 30th September, 2014, to ensure that the complaints and allegations attendant on Admissions 2014 did not dodge the process of Admissions 2015, and had the Board got evidence of action being taken by the DG as per its directions of 30th September, 2014, there would have been no need for the Emergency Meeting. The Board in that meeting had focused on giving directions to ensure a smooth process of Admissions in 2015, and she requested the DG to extend his cooperation to this end. She disagreed that the Board writing the performance appraisal of the officers involved in the Admissions process was improper, even if unprecedented, for the reasons given in the minutes. As to the CVO's report, she told the DG that since the Board was not the Disciplinary Authority of the DG, it was not in a position to issue him a show cause notice or to consider his explanation; the Board had taken the broadest possible view in its desire to get on with work on hand and had not alleged malafides for the process of admissions 2014; the CVO's report had been sent to the Ministry to take necessary action as deemed fit. Mr. Sunil Sethi added that he appreciated the hard work put into NIFT by DG.
- (g) The Board took note of the views of the DG NIFT but did not agree that there was anything improper in the minutes that needed to be amended.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

A list of remaining agenda items that could not be discussed and would be taken in next meeting of Board of Governors of NIFT:-

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2604

Proposal for Approval of Revised Estimated Cost of Building Works under MOT's OBC Plan Funds

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2606

Allowing NIFT to follow GFR Rule 145 and GFR Rule 146 for works

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2607

Consolidated internal audit report of NIFT for the fourth quarter ending 31st march, 2014 and action taken report on the points raised therein

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2612

Status of Appointments of Group 'A' Posts

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2614

Progress reports of the construction projects of NIFT for the period ending – December, 2014

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2615

Taking note of the minutes of the 20th, 21st and 22nd meeting of Senate of NIFT

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2616

Status of pending disciplinary proceeding cases of Head Office

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM NO. A

Nomination to the Sub- Committees of the Board

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM NO. B

Status of pending court cases of all NIFT campuses & Head Office

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2613

Status report on Admission 2014

VOLUME- 2

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2810

Creation of additional administrative post in Finance & Accounts department of NIFT Head Office

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2811

Housing benefit to officers and faculty in NIFT- Audit para of C&AG

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2812

Creation of additional administrative posts at NIFT Kannur

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2813

Creation of additional administrative posts at NIFT campus, Patna

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2814

Creation of posts for NIFT campus at Srinagar, J&K

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2815

Creation of additional administrative posts at NIFT Bhubaneswar

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2816

Signing of MoU with Ecole Duperre, France

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2817

Signing of MoU with Esmod Berlin, Germany

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2818

Signing of MoU with Swiss Textile College (Stc), Zurich, Switzerland

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2820

Status of Capital Expenditure and Revenue Income & Expenditure for Six Months ending September 30, 2014

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2821

Admission – 2015 : Investment on Advertisement

TABLED AGENDA

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. A

Action Taken Report On Emergency Board Meeting (27th Meeting) Held On 27.01.2015

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. B

Estimate Towards Interiors, Furnishings, Air-Conditioning, Networking and Wi Fi works in the Gandhinagar Campus

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. D

Ms. Sonali Gupta, student of B.Des FP (D) batch 2014-18 for transfer from NIFT Kangra to NIFT Raebareli Campus under Student Permanent Transfer policy

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. E

Ms. Kshipra Singh, student of KD for Inter Campus Temporary transfer from NIFT Chennai to NIFT Bengaluru Campus

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. F

Change of discipline within the same Campus under Student Permanent Transfer of Ms. Brahammani Naga Sai from AD to FC in Hyderabad campus and Ms. Nisita M from AD to LD at Chennai Campus

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. G

Proposal for Inter Campus Temporary Transfer of Mr. Rajan Kumar, student of TD-III for Inter Campus Temporary Transfer from NIFT Raebareli to NIFT Patna Campus as a special case

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. H

Proposal of Ms. Apoorva, student of BFT-III for Student Permanent Transfer from NIFT Hyderabad to NIFT Patna

TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. J

Setting Up a Chair on "Textile and Apparel" At NIFT by Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) and NIFT.