

MINUTES OF 16TH MEETING OF THE SENATE OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2012 AT 3:00 P.M AT NIFT CAMPUS, NEW DELHI

The following were present:

1. Ms. Monika S. Garg, Director General and Chairperson Senate
2. Mr. Sunil Sethi, President, FDCI
3. Mr. Sudhir Jain, Professor, IIT, Delhi
4. Mr. Vimal Kumar Varun, Scientist 'F', Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology
5. Ms. A.S. Awasthi (Special Invitee), Director (Head Office) & Director, NIFT, Delhi Centre
6. Sr. Prof. Banhi Jha, Dean (Academics)
7. Ms. Sameeta Rajora, Director, NIFT Gandhinagar / Kannur Centre
8. Dr. K.S Pratap Kumar, Director, NIFT Hyderabad / Bhopal Centre
9. Dr. S. Devadoss, Director, NIFT Chennai Centre
10. Ms. Kakarla Usha, Director, NIFT, Bangalore / Kolkata Centre
11. Mr. D.K. Rangra, Director, NIFT Kangra Centre
12. Mr. B.K Pandey, Director, NIFT Rae Bareli Centre
13. Ms. W.A.M Booth, Director, NIFT Shillong Centre
14. Mr. Jabber Singh, Director, NIFT Jodhpur Centre
15. Mr. S.C Jha, Director, NIFT Patna Centre
16. Ms. Nilima Rani Singh, Director, NIFT Mumbai Centre
17. Dr. Kahnu Charan Samantaroy, Director, NIFT Bhubaneswar Centre

The following members were granted leave of absence:

1. Mr. Rajesh Partap Singh, Designer
2. Mr. Dilip B. Jiwrajka, Managing Director, Alok Industries Limited (AAC Member as Special Invitee)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1601

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 15TH MEETING OF THE SENATE HELD ON 26TH DECEMBER, 2011 AT 4:30 P.M. AT NIFT CAMPUS, NEW DELHI

After noting that no comments or changes were proposed, Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Senate were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1602

ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON 15th MEETING OF THE SENATE HELD ON 26TH DECEMBER, 2011.

The Action Taken Report on the decisions of the previous meeting of the Senate was noted.

Regarding item no. 1502, the Senate was informed that the Committee constituted for examination of IPR Policy of NIFT will submit its report by 31.03.2012 and same will be put up in the next meeting of the Senate.

Regarding item no. 1503, the Senate desired that review of categories of the award and the criteria of the awards may also be completed by 31.03.2012.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1603

2ND ORDINANCE

The Senate was apprised that the 1st Ordinance was approved by the Board of Governors of NIFT in April 2007 and same is being notified. Since 2007, there have been changes in academics and academic administration within the institute. Accordingly, an exercise has been undertaken to formulate the 2nd Ordinance. For this purpose a Committee was constituted to prepare the draft. The final draft was circulated to all Chairpersons, Heads and Directors as well as Registrar Establishment and Assistant Board Secretary & Legal Officer NIFT for comments/suggestions and some changes/ amendments have been incorporated in the draft.

The Senate considered the final draft of the 2nd Ordinance and suggested that in the definitions, the definition of Board at Ordinance 2(10) may be changed to Board of Governors of NIFT as defined in NIFT Act. The Senate also suggested that Ordinance 3 (iii) regarding Diploma Programmes may be revised in accordance with the NIFT Act. With these suggestions, the Senate approved the 2nd Ordinance subject to legal vetting and recommended that same may be placed before the Board of Governors of NIFT for ratification.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1604

STATUS OF ADMISSION 2011-12 AND APPROVAL FOR THE PROCESS OF ADMISSIONS – 2012-13 & ADMISSION POLICY

Status of Admission 2011-12 was noted by the Senate. The Senate was apprised about the new Admission Policy. The Senate was further informed about the status of withdrawal of seats in the year 2011. It was informed that till 2011, a Centre/course once allotted was not changed. The seats left vacant by candidates who withdrew were not filled and remained vacant. This resulted in revenue loss for NIFT on one hand and seat remained vacant on course/centres which were more in demand, on other. To address this issue among others for the academic session 2012-13 onwards, the Admission Policy has been framed wherein candidates while taking admission during first round of counseling in a particular centre/course can fill up to a maximum of three options of centre/course in case they are willing for a shift of centre/course against any seat that may become vacant due to withdrawals. However, such shifting will take place only within the specified categories i.e. within General, OBC, SC, ST and NRI categories. Candidates taking admission under the category of children of NRIs/wards of NRIs during regular counselling will have no claim over shifting in general category during second round. They can be shifted only within NRI category. Inter-category shifting will not be permissible. This will be made clear to all candidates coming for counselling. A sliding scale software has been prepared in-house and checked by the Committee constituted for this purpose.

Reservation in the admissions will be extended as per Govt. norms and common merit list for the selected candidate will be released against the seats falling under open category. Thereafter candidates of reserved category will be called for admission.

The Admission Policy provides the guidelines for preparing the Admission Prospectus.

The Senate considered and recommended for putting up to BoG the process of Admission 2012-13, continuation of AIMA as examination agency for 2012-13, sliding scale for second counselling, operation of common merit list in line with the Govt reservation policy and the Admission Policy as brought out in the agenda notes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1605

POLICY FOR FACULTY CAPACITY BUILDING

The Senate was informed that training faculty and orienting them towards the fast changing trends in fashion business has been a challenging task and a vital component in the growth of the organization. Hence, a need is felt to evolve measures to implement faculty training at NIFT. The first draft Policy for Faculty Capacity Building was circulated to all the faculty/ CPs/ CCs/ Centre Directors for their feedback/ comments/ suggestions, if any. The feedback/ suggestions received from all the concerned have been considered and incorporated in the Policy, wherever found feasible.

The Senate considered and approved the Policy for Faculty Capacity Building and stated that this kind of policy will encourage the faculty to upgrade their skills. Senate recommended that an intranet may be created in NIFT, where all the working papers/Presentations of the faculty may be uploaded for the mutual benefit of the faculty, Peer Review, feedback and comments. Senate further recommended that keeping in view the financial crunch; NIFT may explore the possibility of inviting a foreign faculty for conducting training for a group of faculty of NIFT instead of sending them outside. Further, a faculty who attends international training has to mandatorily take two (2) ToTs after returning from the training, so that the experience/ expertise gained can be shared with other faculty. It was also decided that APAR format of the faculty may be revised to include the activities undertaken under Faculty Capacity Building. The Senate recommended that the proposal be put up before the BOG for ratification.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1606

CLUSTER INTERACTION

The Senate was apprised that the Prime minister has constituted a National Innovation Council to create a road map for the Decade of Innovation, 2010-2020 to redefine innovation to go beyond R&D. A Textile Sectoral Innovation Council (TSInc) has been set up under the Ministry of Textiles to understand and analyze the innovation quotient to identify the challenges and opportunities in the sector. NIFT is pitching in for the Craft cluster project as this will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase institutional capabilities as well as fund NIFT students' activities for Cluster Development Initiative (CDI).

In order to support the mandate of Innovation Council, it has been decided that each NIFT center will select and nurture the same clusters for the next five years, to bring about visible, quantifiable developmental changes. The new mutli-dimensional approach towards the Cluster development Initiative, will involve regular and systematic intervention by the students and faculty of all disciplines, as per the requirement of the cluster. The initiative will have phase wise activities to ensure follow up and consistent

growth in terms of identification of gaps, skill up-gradation and technological development at the cluster level.

The Senate was further informed that currently NIFT has identified 30 clusters from the lists of vibrant clusters provided by the offices of Development Commissioners (Handlooms & Handicrafts) after doing preliminary survey and keeping in view the Security and safety of the student. Each new NIFT center will select 1 or 2 clusters and old NIFT center will choose 3 clusters, making a total of 30 clusters.

The Senate appreciated the efforts of the NIFT and stated that it will be one of the most prestigious projects. Further at the end of 5 years, result of this should be visible to everyone and the outcome should be properly documented with the scope for potential etc. The Committee member stated that physical verification of the cluster is very important, Senate desired that the 30 clusters so far selected may be re-checked by physically visiting the clusters with the help of an expert in order to verify that the chosen clusters have the potential to grow as a market and in case of any change in the tentative list of clusters same may be communicated to NIFT HO within 10 days. The Senate also suggested that 2 clusters from Rajasthan may also be included as they have very good market potential. It was further recommended that the list of clusters alongwith the concept paper may be circulated to industry members for their feedback and suggestions, if any.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1607

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The Senate was apprised that in the last 4 years, 8 NIFT Centres have been opened. Currently these new Centres run only 2-3 programmes. State Government of the State in which these Centres are situated has invested in the land and infrastructure. Therefore, the State Government is asking to open more new courses to make these Centres financially viable and for optimum utilization of infrastructure and other resources. In view of this, there is a need to start more courses.

Instead of increasing the number of regular Degree Programmes, it is felt that NIFT should initiate new Academic Programmes which would cater to local demand and requirement of the Centres. The Senate was also informed that around 23 (11 UG + 12 PG) new Academic Programmes have been identified.

The Senate considered and approved the same with the following recommendations:

1. **Primary objectives:**

- To start new diploma courses without diluting the brand equity of the existing Degree Programmes.
- To ensure commercial viability at new NIFT Centres.

2. **Secondary objectives:**

- To address local needs by offering admission to students from the state.
- To create USP in offering courses on Indian craft to national and international students.

The Senate did not approve the secondary objective proposed as “To facilitate credit transfer and/or lateral entry to existing Degree programmes”.

3. These courses shall be offered in accordance with provisions of the NIFT Act.

4. Maximum age limit for Admission : UG- 27 years
PG- 30 years
5. Need assessment for these courses may be done properly.
6. Curriculum for new Academic Programmes may be formulated.
7. Advertisement may be floated once the curriculum is in place and these programmes may be started in 2013. Efforts should be made to attract students from abroad as well.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1608

CURRICULUM STRENGTHENING- AN UPDATE

An update on Curriculum Strengthening was noted by the Senate. The Senate directed that this should be a continuous exercise & the Senate should be apprised of the measures taken to upgrade the curriculum in each meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1609

NIFT-NID MOU

Senate was informed that MOU between NIFT and NID has been signed on 18.01.2012 for a period of 1 year initially subject to review at the end of the year. The objective of this MOU is to encourage collaboration and exchange between the two institutions at a national and international level to benefit from each other strengths and to provide wider exposure & skills to the students of both the institutes.

The Senate took note of the same and appreciated the efforts made in signing the MoU.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1610

ISSUANCE OF DEGREE CERTIFICATE TO MS. SUDIPTA SENGUPTA, FD,NIFT MUMBAI

The Senate was informed that the Degrees were awarded to the Graduating batch of class 2011 during the 17th Convocation held on 27th December, 2011. Total of 1492 students were graduated from 9 NIFT Centres.

Ms. Sudipta Sengupta, FD, NIFT Mumbai (Batch 2007-2011) could not be awarded Degree during the Convocation 2011 as she underwent for twinning programme in foreign institution/university in 7th semester and her SGPA of 7th semester received late from the concerned Institution/University. Now her SGPA has been received and she has successfully completed the Bachelor of Design programme from NIFT Mumbai, hence Degree Certificate shall be awarded to her.

The Senate considered and approved the issue of Degree Certificate to Ms. Sudipta Sengupta, FD, NIFT Mumbai (Batch 2007-2011).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1611

ISSUANCE OF DEGREE CERTIFICATE TO MS. ADITI ASTHANA, FD, BATCH 2004-2008, NIFT NEW DELHI

The Senate was informed that during the 14th Convocation the degrees were awarded to the Graduating batch of class 2008. All the Degrees of the absentees were forwarded to the particular Centers.

A representation has been received from Ms. Aditi Asthana an alumni of Fashion Design department, Batch 2004-2008 of NIFT New Delhi regarding non-issuance of Degree Certificate. The information regarding the non-issuance of Degree Certificate has been verified by the respective Center and also from the particular department. It is noticed that the said student has not been awarded the Degree Certificate as yet.

The Senate considered and approved the issue of Degree Certificate to Ms. Aditi Asthana, FD, Batch 2004-2008, NIFT New Delhi.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1612

DURATION OF DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

The Senate was informed that currently 7 new Centres run only 2-3 programmes. In order to make these Centres financially viable and for optimum utilization of infrastructure and other resources, there is a need to start more courses. Thus instead of increasing the number of regular Degree Programmes, it is felt that NIFT should initiate new Diploma Programmes which would address emerging areas of interest and need of the industry.

The Senate was further informed that for distinct positioning of Diploma Programmes, NIFT should initiate programmes, the duration of which is longer than the 3 month to 1 year part time certificate programmes but shorter than the full time 2 to 4 years Degree Programmes.

In view of the above, the Senate considered and approved the following revision in the programme duration:

“Diploma Programmes are full time programmes which are for 1 year upto 2 years”.

The Senate directed the above amendment to be made in the Academic Manual.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1613

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR

Senate desired that NIFT should explore the possibility of getting recognition by AICTE or AIU. Prof. Sudhir Jain voluntarily offered his services for this purpose and the working group may associate him in the matter.

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