



**MINUTES OF THE 58<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 06<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE OOM ROOM, NIT TIRUCHIRAPPALLI**

**PRESENT:**

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | <b>Dr. (Mrs.) G Aghila<br/>Director, NITT</b>          | <b>Officiating Chairperson &amp;<br/>Member</b> |
| 2. | <b>Smt.Veena Dunga<br/>Deputy Secretary, MoE</b>       | <b>Member*</b>                                  |
| 3. | <b>Shri.Harihara Sundaram<br/>Under Secretary, MoE</b> | <b>Member*</b>                                  |
| 4. | <b>Dr. N. Sivakumaran</b>                              | <b>Member</b>                                   |
| 5. | <b>Dr. N Thamaraiselvan<br/>Registrar i/c</b>          | <b>Member Secretary</b>                         |

\*Through Video Conferencing

**GENERAL MATTERS**

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON, FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dr. (Mrs) G Aghila, Officiating Chairperson, Finance Committee & Director, NIT Tiruchirappalli welcomed the members to the meeting and then initiated the deliberations of the agenda items.

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*G. Aghila*

**ITEM NO. 58.1      CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE  
57TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 18.07.2024**

The Minutes of the 57th meeting of the Finance Committee was circulated to the members of the Finance Committee and was concurred by the members.

**RESOLUTION      RESOLVED THAT** the minutes  
**58/FC/2024/1**      of the 57<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Finance  
Committee be confirmed.

**ITEM NO. 58.2      ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS  
OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE FINANCE  
COMMITTEE**

Action Taken Report of the previous meetings of the Finance Committee was discussed and noted.

**RESOLUTION      RESOLVED THAT** the action  
**58/FC/2024/2**      taken report be noted.

**APPROVAL ITEMS**

**ITEM NO. 58.3      FINALIZATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2023-24  
ON RECEIPT OF FINAL SAR**

The Annual Accounts of the Institute for the FY 2023-24 has been finalized and forwarded to jurisdictional Audit Office in the month of July, after obtaining the approval of FC & BoG vide Resolution No.57/FC/2024/14. Consequently, the Audit Team has conducted the Certificate Audit during 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 01st August 2024.

Thereafter C&AG Office has communicated vide Letter DD/CE Wing/2024-2025/DIS-1979713 dated 29.08.2024 and has forwarded the draft SAR. The observations of Audit in the draft SAR have been

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carefully scrutinized and suitable revision have been made in the relevant schedules of Annual Accounts.

The revised Annual Accounts of the Institute for the Financial Year 2023-24 after incorporating the observations of Audit, which has been prepared, as per format of Accounts prescribed by the Ministry. The same has been submitted to the CAG Office with the approval of the FC & BoG through circulation.

Now the CAG has issued Final SAR on the revised Annual Accounts vide Letter No. DGA(C)/CE/II/28-60/24-25 dated 20.10.2024.

The Finance Committee deliberated the contents of Final SAR and noted that there is no Audit Observation in the final SAR. The FC suggested to forward the bilingual Annual Accounts along with the Annual Report to the Ministry for laying down before the Parliament of India as per the timeline and recommended the Board for approval of the revised Annual Accounts along with the final SAR.

**RESOLUTION**      **RESOLVED THAT** the revised  
**58/FC/2024/3**      Annual Accounts along with final  
SAR be recommended to Board  
for approval.

**ITEM NO. 58.4      ENHANCEMENT IN THE RATE OF  
ALLOWANCES LINKED WITH DEARNESS  
ALLOWANCE**

The Ministry of Education vide Communication F.No. 15-1/2024-TC dated 11.10.2024 has intimated its decision to revise Dearness Allowance linked Allowances w.e.f. 01.01.2024 on account of DA reaches 50% to the employees of CFTIs in terms of provisions contained in DoE's Resolution No.11-1/2016-IC dated 06.07.2017.

Accordingly, the following DA-linked allowances shall be revised w.e.f. 01.01.2024 and arrears will be paid to the eligible employees.

1. Children Education Allowance and Hostel Subsidy

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2. House Rent Allowance
3. Hotel Accommodation (Journey on Official Tour)
4. Reimbursement of Travelling Charges for travel within city (touring station)
5. Reimbursement of Food Charges (on Official Tour)
6. Journey performed by own car/taxi, auto, own scooter etc.
7. Rate of Transportation of personal effects by road on transfer etc.
8. Maximum Eligible Retirement/Death Gratuity Amount
9. Special Allowance for Child for Women with disabilities
10. Deputation Allowance
11. Dress Allowance
12. Fixed Conveyance Allowance

The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and recommended the Board for implementation of Ministry's Communication F.No. 15-1/2024-TC dated 11.10.2024 for revision of DA-linked allowances.

**RESOLUTION**      **RESOLVED**      **THAT**      the  
**58/FC/2024/4**      Ministry's Communication F.No.  
15-1/2024-TC dated 11.10.2024  
for revision of DA-linked  
allowances w.e.f. 01.01.2024 be  
recommended to Board for  
approval.

**ITEM NO. 58.5      PAYMENT OF EPF CONTRIBUTION TO NMR  
WORKERS-DEMAND FROM THE PROVIDENT  
FUND COMMISSIONER**

The NMR Workers, who were engaged during the REC period, are working in this Institute. In the year 2016, EPFO authorities have inspected the Institute and intimated that NMR Workers are coming under the ambit of EPF.

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BoG in its 46th meeting held on 08.11.2017 vide Resolution No.46/BoG/2017/10 consented to provide EPF Coverage to all NMR Workers in order to comply with the statutory provisions. Accordingly, the contributions were paid for the NMR Workers.

EPFO Authorities further held that the date of coverage of such workers is from 01.01.2003. Since the employees were working for several years and considering the statutory provisions, the remittance of EPF Dues from 01.01.2003 to 01.06.2017 were worked out Rs.3.1 Crores. The BoG in its 65th Meeting held on 26.07.2021 vide Resolution No.65/BoG/2021/8 has approved the EPF dues to be remitted to EPFO for the above period, along with interest and penalty, if any.

After the payment of contribution of 3.1 Crores, EPFO has raised notice for Interest and Damages on account of delayed contribution. The FC & BoG has considered the notice from the EPFO in its 56th meeting held on 11.03.2024 and resolved that the Institute shall make representation before the Central Board established under EPF Act for waiver of damages.

The Institute has filed application before the Central Board as per the directions of FC & BoG. However, EPFO has continued its enquiry. The Institute has provided all the facts pertaining to the case. The EPFO Officer has concluded their enquiry and communicated the proceedings vide Letter No. CB/TRY/PDC/82473/C14/14B/2024 dated 23.08.2024. The claim made by the EPFO is detailed as below:

Interest :	Rs. 3,36,43,499/-
Damages:	Rs. 3,05,17,177/-
Total:	Rs. 6,41,60,676/-

EPFO has demanded both the Interest and Damages in respect of the contributions made by the Institute. The Institute has filed application before the Central Board where waiver can be claimed only for Damages up to 50%.

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The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and noted the decisions of Hon'ble Supreme courts referred by the EPFO in its order dated 23.08.2024. Since the application for waiver of damages is pending with the Central Board, the Finance Committee has suggested to pay only Interest portion and to pursue with the Central Board for waiver of damages as decided in the previous meeting.

**RESOLUTION  
58/FC/2024/5**

**RESOLVED THAT** the payment of interest portion claimed by EPFO amounting Rs.3,36,43,499/- (under OH-31) be recommended to Board for approval.

**Further RESOLVED THAT** the application filed before the Central Board for waiver of damages be pursued further.

**ITEM NO. 58.6**

**CONSIDERATION OF REMISSION OF FEE FOR THE STUDENTS ADMITTED IN INTEGRATED TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

31 Students have been admitted in the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (B.Sc., B.Ed.), which has been commenced from the current academic year of 2024-25.

The Institute is currently providing the remission of Fee in full or part to the socially and economically backward students as per the directions of the Ministry vide Letter F.No.33-4/2014-TS.III dated 24.06.2016 and Clarification dated 02.07.2016.

Requests have been made by the students of B.Sc., B.Ed. for remission of fee, as provided in the Ministry communications.

The FC has been apprised that since several other NITs are providing remission of fee in similar line with the Ministry Communications. Since the B.Sc., B.Ed., course is aimed to create the quality teachers and students from different backward conditions have been joined in the

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courses, the remission of fee may be considered, as provided in other institutions.

The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and suggested to submit the detail of remission of fee provided by other institutions for the B.Sc., B.Ed. course to the Ministry.

**RESOLUTION**      **RESOLVED THAT** the matter of  
**58/FC/2024/6**      remission of fee for B.Sc., B.Ed.  
shall be forwarded to the Ministry  
along with the supporting  
documents as discussed.

**ITEM NO. 58.7      ANNUAL MAINTENANCE, OPERATIONAL AND  
MANPOWER CHARGES FOR 'PARAM PORUL'  
(SUPERCOMPUTING FACILITY)**

Param Porul, a state-of-the-art supercomputer has been established at this Institute under National Supercomputing Mission, a joint initiative of MeitY and DST. A MoU has been entered with C-DAC, Pune (Implementing Agency) in this regard.

The Supercomputing facility was inaugurated on 25.05.2022 at this Institute and came into operation w.e.f. 22.09.2022 with an 838 TeraFlops system equipped a mix of CPU nodes, GPU nodes, High Memory Nodes and high performance infiniband interconnect to cater the computing needs of various scientific and engineering applications.

The 60% of the facility is being allocated for the in-house utilization and the remaining 40% is for users in-around the locale, as per MoU. C-DAC Pune has provided maintenance support for 2 years from the date of Operation as per MoU, which expired on 22.09.2024.

The Finance Committee, in its 57th Meeting, has considered this matter and recommended to make the communication to C-DAC Pune for providing maintenance support for one more year and to provide wide publicity on the availability of supercomputing facility among various research Institutes/organizations.

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Accordingly, communications have been made to provide the publicity on the supercomputing facility. Further C-DAC has been communicated to provide the maintenance support for one more year. However, C-DAC has expressed its inability to provide the maintenance support and instructed to proceed with maintaining of manpower, O&M and AMC for third year and subsequent years with the funds of the Institute as per MoU vide email dated 08.10.2024.

The maintenance support from C-DAC, Pune expired on 22.09.2024 as per MoU and the Institute has to borne the maintenance cost thereafter. The approximate annual expenditure involved for the maintenance is Rs.70 Lakhs under OH-31.

The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and the discussed about utilization of supercomputing facility by internal and external users, details income generated from the facility. The FC decided to recommend the AMC for one year at the cost of Rs.70 Lakhs under OH-31. Further it is suggested to take up the matter again to the C-DAC, DST, MeitY under the intimation to the Ministry of Education for providing support for the subsequent year(s).

**RESOLUTION**  
**58/FC/2024/7**

**RESOLVED THAT** the annual maintenance, operational and manpower charges for Param Porul for a cost of Rs.70 Lakhs for one year under OH-31 fund be recommended to Board for approval.

**ITEM NO. 58.8**

**REVISION OF DISTRIBUTION SCHEME OF CONSULTANCY PROJECTS**

The Institute is currently following the distribution scheme for Consultancy Projects/works as recommended by the Board of Governors in its 13th Meeting held on 10.12.2007. The Board of Governors recommended the two-tier model wherein multiple deductions and varied overheads for different consultancy types.

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The above two-tier model requires multiple deductions and varied overheads for different consultancy types, ultimately leading to higher claim rates. In order to make consultancy services more attractive and accessible to consultants and clients alike, a single-tier model is proposed.

The proposed revision introduces a single-tier distribution scheme with a uniform 20% overhead rate across all consultancy services after GST, simplifying the existing two-tier model.

The single 20% overhead, without compromising on any aspects of existing distribution, will be divided efficiently among the institute's corpus, research and consultancy funds, department funds, and central administration. This approach sustains the support for institutional needs without the intricate layering of the existing distribution structure.

The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and compared the two schemes. The FC is apprised that the proposed scheme is intended to motivate the faculty members to do more consultancy projects and thereby increase the fund flow towards the corpuses. It is decided to adopt the proposed model of distribution for two years initially and to conduct review thereafter.

**RESOLUTION 58/FC/2024/8**      **RESOLVED THAT** the implementation of proposed single-tier distribution scheme for consultancy projects for two years initially be recommended to Board for approval. The review to be submitted thereafter to continue further.

#### TABLE ITEMS

**ITEM NO. 58.9      MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT OF DEPENDENT OF DR.V.SIVAN, (PENSIONER NO. 303)**

Dr.V.Sivan, Former Professor and Pensioner of this Institute has submitted medical reimbursement claim for

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the medical treatment undergone by his spouse Mrs.Janaki Sivan.

She was admitted in Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi as emergent condition and undertook treatment for pathological fracture (D11 to L1) for which D10 to L1 spine fusion with decompression and biopsy was done. The patient had post-operative wound infection and was admitted on 16.04.24 and wound debridement, multiple VAC applications.

The Claim has been scrutinized and considered under emergency treatment. The rates of procedures, medicines, laboratory tests are limited to the rates prescribed by CGHS.

Since the claim for reimbursement exceeds Rs.5 Lakhs, the matter is placed for consideration of the Finance Committee as per the delegation of financial powers notified by the Government of India vide OM No.S.11011/20/2014-CGHS(P)/EHSS dated 23.11.2016. The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and recommended the Board for admitting the medical claim as per CGHS norms.

**RESOLUTION**      **RESOLVED THAT** the medical  
**58/FC/2024/9**      reimbursement claim submitted by  
Dr.V.Sivan as per norms be  
recommended to Board for  
approval.

**ITEM NO. 58.10      ENHANCEMENT OF MONTHLY SALARY FOR  
TEMPORARY FACULTY**

The monthly salary for the temporary faculty was considered in the 30th Meeting of the FC 14.12.2016 and approved in the 43rd Meeting of the BoG held on 14.12.2016. Accordingly, the monthly salary of the temporary faculty members with Ph.D. and without Ph.D. was revised to Rs.50,000/- (from Rs.42,000/-) and to Rs.40,000/- (from Rs.35,000/-) respectively.

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It is 8 years since the above revision. Several Other NITs are providing higher monthly salary for temporary faculty members ranging from 70000 to 80000 and thereby attracting the quality faculty members.

The starting gross Salary for the new entrant as Faculty in the Academic Pay Level-10 is Rs.1,28,165/-. Since the service of temporary faculty is required for the proper management of academic sessions, enhancement of monthly salary is felt necessary to attract the highly quality faculty members.

Considering the scenario prevalent in other CFTIs, it is proposed that Rs.75,000/- may be fixed for temporary faculty with Ph.D. Qualification.

The Finance Committee deliberated the matter and noted that the temporary faculty members with Ph.D. only to be engaged hereinafter. The Finance Committee recommended the Board for approval for the revision of monthly salary of the temporary faculty from the semester commencing from Jan-2025 as Rs.75,000/-.

**RESOLUTION 58/FC/2024/10**      **RESOLVED THAT** the enhancement of monthly salary as Rs.75,000/- for temporary faculty with Ph.D. from the semester commencing from Jan-2025 be recommended to Board for approval.

### REPORTING ITEMS

**ITEM NO. 58.11**      **GRANT-IN-AID RECEIVED FROM THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DURING THE FY 2024-25 UNDER RECURRING AND NON-RECURRING HEADS (OH-31, OH-35 & OH-36)**

The FC noted the grants received by the institute.

**RESOLUTION 58/FC/2024/11**      **RESOLVED THAT** the grants received be noted.

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