

## Pandit Deendayal Energy University

**Minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of Standing Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 2022 at 3.00 p.m. at PDEU**

Following members were present in the meeting:

1. Dr. Hasmukh Adhia – IAS (Retd.), Chairman
2. Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan, Director General – PDEU
3. Shri Jinal Mehta, Managing Director - Torrent Power Ltd.
4. Dr. Palak Sheth, Director (P&D) - PDEU
5. Prof. Tarun Shah, Registrar – PDEU

Following were invited in the meeting:

1. Dr. Nigam Dave, Director-SLS, PDEU
2. Dr. Anirbid Sircar, Director-SPT, PDEU
3. Dr. Pramod Paliwal, Director, SPM, PDEU
4. Dr. Dhaval Pujara, Director, SoT, PDEU
5. Shri Abhinav Kapadia, Chief Finance Officer - PDEU
6. Shri Ankur Pandya, Chief HR Officer - PDEU
7. Shri Deven Prajapati, Chief Campus Manager - PDEU

Dr. Hasmukh Adhia – IAS (Retd.) welcomed the members. Thereafter, the Agenda items were taken up for discussion in seriatim. The Committee also greeted the newly joined SoT Director Dr. Dhaval Pujara, and SPT Director Dr. Anirbid Sircar.

**Agenda-1: Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings of the Committee held on 28/10/2021.**

No comment had been received for the minutes of the previous meeting circulated to the members. The Committee confirmed the minutes of its previous meeting held on 10/05/2022.

**Agenda-2: Review report on the decisions taken at the previous meeting held on 10/05/2022.**

While reviewing the Report on the Minutes of the previous meeting, the Chairman asked for an update to be given on hiring the space at the GIFT City for FinTech startups and other activities, and to visit the proposed premises at the GIFT City and also to see Managing Director & Group CEO- Gujarat International Finance Tec City Co. Ltd. (GIFT City) Shri Tapan Ray - IAS (Retd.) to explore the option of SEZ area/Maritime University/ Asian Development Bank collaboration. At this juncture the Chief Finance Officer briefed on accelerated startups in association with HDFC Bank.

Dr. Palak Sheth also apprised to the Committee that Dr. N. Chandrasekaran has been requested to be the Chief Guest at the next Convocation, on a convenient date between 20 Nov. to 20 Dec. 2022.

**Agenda-3: Review of renaming the School of Petroleum Management (SPM).**

It was briefed to the Committee that with reference to the name change of the University from 'Petroleum' to 'Energy', the renaming of SPM has also been discussed in the meeting of the Academic Council on 27/8/2022, there-at the different viewpoints were expressed by the Members, as also mentioned in the Agenda details. During the discussion, it was also viewed that the new name of the School should not contain the term either Policy or Energy to avoid any misnomer. The term 'Policy' generally sounds as Public Policy, which has been part of the PG curriculum as stated by the Director – SLS at the meeting, and the term Energy may sound in limited sense of Energy Conservation Energy Audit, and alike only as opined by the Director-SPM. It was also viewed that the SPM offers presently the MBA program broadly in two areas 'Energy & Infrastructure' and also in 'General Management' – with 100% admission and placement.

Shri Jinal Mehta, Managing Director – Torrent Power Ltd. opined that the new name of the School should reflect the entire academic spectrum of the School.

*In view of all the above, the Committee concluded to rename the SPM as the School of Management.*

**Agenda-4: Matter related to NAAC 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle visit on 13 – 15 September 2022.**

The Director General of the University apprised that the post submission of the SSR - Self Study Report for the last five years and the completion of Data Validation and Verification, now a Peer Team duly appointed by NAAC would be visiting the University on 13-15 Sept. 2022 for further assessment. He also requested to have the presence of local Board Members of the Board of Governors - BoG as a part of the assessment schedule of the Peer Team on the second day 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022 as per the present schedule sent by the NAAC. However, if possible the meeting can be organized on the First Day i. e. 13<sup>th</sup> Sept., prior to the lunch session.

**Agenda-5: Update on Faculty recruitment.**

The Chief HR Officer apprised to the Committee for full time faculty strength as follows:

Faculty Strength - as on 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022			
Professor	Assoc. Prof	Assistant Prof	Total
20	55	173	248

He briefed that out of 53 no. of vacant positions, 21 newly recruited faculty have joined, 19 no. would be joining during Oct. – Dec. 2022. For rest of the vacant positions, the recruitment drive is on. The Committee also required the clarity on definition of Visiting Faculty and Adjunct Faculty, as per the UGC/MHRD/AICTE. The Chairman also advised to explore designating the Adjunct Faculty into the cadre of Associate Prof. and Professor appropriately. He also directed to get the recruitment of 10 more Professor and 5 more Associate Professors. It was also advised to identify the reason of attrition other than retiring ones. The Director – SPT shared that almost in every course at least 10% of the syllabus is taught by visiting industry professionals.

**Agenda-6: Phase –II of Sports Complex and General Development work.**

As directed, M/s. HCP DPM presented the status of ongoing projects i.e. the Sports Complex and the SMRC, also on proposed High Rise Hostel Block and additional floor in Academic Block – E. During the discussion Shri Jinal Mehta recommended for students' survey on their expectations for developing sports facilities while planning for new sports facilities. It was directed to float an online survey among the students in this regard.

The Committee also viewed the approval of the Finance Committee of the University, for the total estimated cost of Rs. 18.90 crores as per the BoQ submitted by M/s. HCP DPM, as follows:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Total Cost Estimate	SAG's Contribution	University's Contribution
1	General Development Work: Tender 1: Civil, Electrical, Plumbing, etc.	6.59	-	6.59
2	Phase II: Tender 2: Sports Field Multipurpose Ground and 400m Athletic Track	12.31	7.50	4.81
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18.90</b>	<b>7.50</b>	<b>11.40</b>

Architect fees will be separate.

The Chief Campus Manager informed that the formal approval to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase development of the sports complex is awaited from the Sports Authority of Gujarat. In view of this, the Committee directed to get the approval from the Sports Authority of Gujarat at the earliest possible before the announcement of the State Legislature Election, otherwise the Code of Conduct may come in the way of such approval for the government.

Dr. Palak Sheth advised to approach Shri Ashwini Kumar, IAS (Principal Secretary, Sports, Youth & Cultural Activities Department-Govt. of Gujarat) to invite him to visit our campus, particularly for the present set of sports facilities developed on the campus, and thereby to request him for more funding for the Sports Complex.

The Committee raised concern on high-end cost of the development of different civil projects and therefore sought for cost economy including on architectural charges.

The Committee considered and approved the General Development work and Phase-II sports facilities of the Sports Complex as stated above, subject to the approval of the Sports Authority of Gujarat.

**Agenda-7: New High-Rise Hostel Block.**

In view of the more demand and less availability of hostel accommodation, the Committee considered the need of the construction of one more High Rise Hostel Block over the campus. The CFO explained the overall financials of the proposed Hostel Block with the mention of the estimated fund requirement amounting Rs.4,317/- lakhs and the financial gap after considering operational surplus from Hostels for FY 2022-23 and 2023-24 (amounting to Rs.1,207 lakhs) which shall have to be taken as an internal loan against Endowment Fund at an average yield earned on the investment of funds on annual basis (at 7% p.a.).

The fund to the tune of Rs. 3,362 lakhs shall have to be drawn from Endowment Fund and the average yield on Endowment Fund shall be computed and the entire Financing shall be recouped from the surplus on hostels in five years w. e. f. FY 2024-25.

During the discussion Shri Jinal Mehta recommended to adopt Green Building concept in construction of the Hostel Blocks with platinum certification. He also advised on green practices like rain water harvest, percolating well, and alike; the Chief Campus Manager informed that the University has taken initiative in this regard on the Campus.

The Committee considered and approved the construction of one additional high rise hostel block as stated above.

During the discussion the Chairman asked M/s. HCP DPM to present the plan in the next meeting, for developing multistoried parking facilities on the campus. He also advised to identify open land area for ground parking and to install solar power generation facility on it. He also advised to explore all rooftops over the campus to cover them with solar power generation facility. It was also directed to ensure for the trees once planted should be maintained for next five years by the vendor-agency. The Committee approved the Phase-3 part of the tree plantation as presented by the M/s HCP DPM.

**Agenda-8: Construction of additional floor in Academic Block – E.**

As reviewed by the Building & Works Committee of the University, it has been found necessary to construct the additional infrastructure for classrooms of newly introduced branches of Electronics & Communication, Computer Engg., and ICT, besides the Laboratories, for increased strength of 7200 + students. As a part of this, presently it is proposed to construct one additional floor on Block-E wing.

The Committee considered and approved the construction of one more additional floor admeasuring total area of 1371 sq. mt. for five Classrooms of each of 77 seating capacity, at the estimated cost of Rs. 7.12 crores.

**Agenda-9: Phase-II of Solar Manufacturing & Research Centre - (SMRC).**

The Director General briefed on the scope of the project for the Skill Development and also on the Commercials, for sale of the product through OEM. Then the Committee deliberated on development cost of proposed Phase-II for General facilities and HVAC work vis. a vis. financial grant of Rs.17.14 crores which includes "50% amount as Endowment Fund". The Committee also noted the cost of Rs.10.75 Lacs USD for Solar PV Module Manufacturing Line and the cost of Phase-I Rs.3.54 crores. The Committee viewed that the entire project development should have been viewed as a single phase only rather in parts.

At this juncture the Committee pointed out for the need of the entire balance sheet of such projects containing its RoI.

As the said product line assembly has been ordered and now is on the verge of it shipment delivery, then for proper housing of the assembly in the SMRC building the Director General desired the approval of the Committee presently to the HVAC works at estimated cost of Rs. 1.99 crores, to which the Committee granted its approval. It was also directed to work out commercials with OEM for the ROI and the present to the Committee, based on which the Committee can consider the approval to the rest of the works.

**Agenda-10: Fire Safety provisions.**

The committee noted the importance of the fire safety provisions in educational institution as directed by the State Govt. The Committee sought on economizing on the cost, which has been estimated on higher side.



For this, the Architect M/s HCP DPM has submitted draft tender, PQ, BoQ and Estimate for Fire Fighting (FFTG) system for all Academic Blocks, Cafeteria, Auditorium, UG Hostel and Girls Hostel Blocks. The estimated cost for the same is as under:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost in Rs.
1	FFTG System in Buildings	3,34,33,953
2	FFTG System – Surrounding campus (Fire hydrant, pump room, underground tank water & such other)	3,80,72,227
	Total Estimated Cost	7,15,06,180

The committee considered and approved the development of the fire safety provisions as stated above.

#### **Agenda-11: MoM of Finance Committee.**

While discussing on the MoM of Finance Committee, the CFO briefed on the major points of the 38<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Finance Committee held on 20/5/2022 and 27/7/2022 respectively:

- i) Budget estimate for F. Y. 2022-23
- ii) Investment Policy
- iii) Provisional Financials of F. Y. 2021-22
- iv) Annual Account for F. Y. 2021-22 as audited by M/s. P. R. Shah & Associates.
- v) Reports of Statutory Auditor and Internal Auditor for F. Y. 2021-22: to notify a SoP for the suggestions improvement administration policy. To maximize the usage of ERP to overcome the limitations of independent software and independent reporting. Till that time, the ERP is used effectively, requisite SOPs should be prepared.
- vi) Creation of Academic and Infrastructure Development Fund – equivalent to depreciation amount of the building and office equipment and as designated fund in the balance sheet.
- vii) The draft for Expression of Interest (EoI) for appointment of Investment Advisor.
- viii) Appointment of Auditors for F. Y. 2022-23
- ix) EoI for appointment of the statutory auditor to be issued
- x) Approval to the construction of new High Rise Hostel block
- xi) To offer more scholarships in the B. Tech. branches which are less preferred for admissions by students.

*It was also informed to the committee that the University shall be investing Rs. 30 crores in the treasury bills from 07/9/2022 through primary market.*

The Committee considered and noted the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 20/5/2022 and on 27/7/2022.

During the meeting, the Chairman emphasized on more consultancy assignments particularly for engineering Schools by the Faculty. He also advised for offering Management Development Programmes, added to the present Executive MBA program. Dr. Palak Sheth suggested for harnessing development funds, which we earlier got from GEDA, SAG, DoP and few other government agencies. The Chairman also emphasized on developing project proposals which can be pursued with the State/Central Government. He also advised to pursue again the proposals submitted to the Central Govt. with reference to the announcement of financial assistance of Rs.300 crores as announced by the then MoPNG Hon. Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan few years back at the University Convocation. The Director – SPT expressed his readiness to pursue the same.

It was also directed to report on the decisions taken in the meetings of the Finance Committee, the Academic Council and the Building & Works Committee, to the Standing Committee in its subsequent meeting.

#### **Table Agenda: Creating Project Monitoring Cell**

The Registrar briefed the Committee on requirement of better governance of different projects running at the University, for which to create a separate administrative section for the project monitoring to be led by the Project Manager with the support staff. Shri Jinal Mehta recommended for flexible salary for the suitable candidate as Project Manager rather approving the certain salary range for the position. The Registrar proposed to prepare the job profile of the Project Manager in consultation with the CHRO and the Director General and then to get it approved from the Chairman. The Director – SPM suggested to add PMP qualification as one of the requirement to apply for the position of the Project Manager. The Director General suggested that the technically qualified candidate should be selected on the position.

It was also proposed that the proposed Project Section may be assigned the responsibility for the purchase works also, in case if the project monitoring work is not sufficient.

The Committee considered and approved the proposal as discussed above.

The Chairman advised for working together with openness rather in silos and distress. He also sought for informed decisions in the administration. It was also advised that the Leaders of different levels have to build trustful harmonious atmosphere in the institution.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Members and invitees.

  
Chairman  
Standing Committee  
