

PANDIT DEENDAYAL ENERGY UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the 21st meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th August 2023 at
11.00 a.m.

The following members were present in the meeting:

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

The following were invited to the meeting:

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

Dr. Hasmukh Adhia – IAS (Retd.), the Chairman of the Committee welcomed the members.

Thereafter, the Agenda items were taken up for discussion in seriatim.

Agenda-1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings of the Committee held on 31/05/2023.

The Chairman said that within seven days of conducting the Standing Committee meeting, the Minutes should be sent to him for signatures. On his approval, the Minutes should be circulated to all Members. Work on the actions to be taken should start immediately after approval, however, if any member has any observation, it should be brought up within a week so that changes can be made. In case there are no observations, Minutes would be considered final after 15 days of the meeting. Further, the Committee confirmed the Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Standing Committee.

Agenda 2: Review Report on the Decisions taken at the Previous Meeting held on 31/05/2023.

1. The Action Taken Report was read out to all Members.
2. Chairman – The Standing Committee asked for certain queries w.r.t. duration of tenure of Adjunct Faculty. It was agreed after a discussion that it should continue as three weeks in a semester in the University.

3. **Multi-level Parking:** The Chairman – Standing Committee asked for discussion on the construction of Multi-Level Parking as it was a pending issue of 20th meeting of the Standing Committee 31/05/2023. The Members compared the capacity for four-wheelers parking in the University to the four-wheelers parked in the University campus on peak days (As per data attached with Agenda point). It emerged that there was a capacity of parking space for 605 vehicles whereas only 456 vehicles were parked on peak days. The Committee agreed that Multi-level Parking will provide a facility for covered parking, whereas the current parking facility was for open parking. To this, the Chairman – Standing Committee directed to pave the parking space near F-Block at the earliest and further look for covering the parking lot with some roof with a possibility of Solar Roof Top to tap clean energy. Further, he directed not to go with Multi-Level Parking till the need arises.

4. **Promotion of Faculty members:** The Chairman-Standing Committee invited discussion on promotion of faculty members and discussed the list as attached i.e. Associate Professors who are eligible for Professorship and also Assistant Professors who are eligible for Associate Professorship. He expressed his concern over a few Associate Professors and Assistant Professors not meeting the requirement/QR for promotion and are also not up to the mark as per the feedback. However, the Chairman-Standing Committee directed to continue inviting applications for promotion even if there are no vacancies or at the cost of additional payment required towards their salary. He said we can look for internal promotion in-house. The Director General gave feedback on the IIT Model of promotion where every odd year there is an internal promotion, and every even year there is a common recruitment resulting in promotion subject to meeting the criteria. The Director General also brought out that the stringent requirement of promotion criteria has been relaxed till Aug. 2024 to give adequate opportunity for internal promotion. Further the Chairman directed to ease out the requirement and carrying out promotions even if there is slight increase in vacancy which is acceptable.

Mr. Jinal Mehta inquired about students' feedback and asked are we taking that into consideration for Faculty Promotion. The Director General brought out that we are having a system of automated feedback from students, however, they are part of our best practices like Mentor-Mentee relationships etc. To this, the Chairman-Standing Committee directed the CHRO to interact with IIT Gandhinagar and obtain their system of Faculty promotion.

5. **Management Development Programme (MDP)/Executive Development Programme:** The Chairman inquired about this issue as was discussed during 20th Standing Committee meeting. To this, the Director General gave out details

of Torrent Group IDP conducted by the University and other such programmes. The Chairman – Standing Committee praised that effort and was happy with the earnings to the University through these programs. Mr. Jinal Mehta suggested that such programmes should also be conducted for other industries at regular intervals. Mr. Palak Sheth suggested Corporate Training and Executive Education programmes of about a week duration which are highly popular these days. Mr. Palak Sheth also suggested uploading online content on Coursera and other such platforms which can add good revenue to the University. The Chairman directed to work little more on starting Advance Management Programme or MDP of about 15 days/one-month duration. Programmes of AI and data science are very popular these days. Such courses are attended by senior executives of industry/government. These programmes help in improving the standard of teaching and will also earn good revenue for the University. He said that we must aim for revenue of up to one crore with subsequently increase to at least three crores per year.

Agenda-3: Update of Last Three months on Admissions and Academic Activities.

1. Slides were shown and a briefing was conducted to the Chairman – Standing Committee and other Members on this by the Director General and School Directors. The slides shown are enclosed.
2. Chairman – Standing Committee praised the efforts taken for the admissions for Academic Year 2023-24 by the Director General, Dean – Admissions, and all other faculty and staff members who are involved in the process. He also appreciated 100% admission figures.
3. Chairman – Standing Committee inquired about the utility of running B. Sc. Course which is so less subscribed. The Director General said that this course is a unique course of PDEU. Previously it was run under SLS and now has been shifted under FoET. It also sustains the Science Dept. which has many M. Tech and Ph.D. students and is a feeder course for Ph. D. The Chairman directed to continue with this course for some more time.
4. To this Mr. Palak Sheth suggested that in order to make these courses more attractive and industry-friendly, we may go in for Double Majors like B. Sc. + Economics or B. Sc. + Finance. The Chairman said the proposal is good and we may do further deliberation on this.
5. Further there was a discussion on Diversity, wherein Regional Diversity, Gender Diversity and Intake of Foreign Students were presented. Gender Diversity and Regional Diversity of FoET first year admission figures were shown. The Chairman expressed his happiness on the increase in Regional and Gender Diversity in FoET

admissions. He further said that figures of Gender Diversity of the complete University should be worked out. The details have been worked out and as per the figures out of the current strength of 7760 of the University, there are 2265 female students thus making Gender Diversity of 29%.

6. Break up of scholarships distributed was explained by CFO. The Chairman said to find out what was our highest JEE ranking and lowest JEE ranking in admissions.

7. There was a discussion on SMRC progress. The Chairman – Standing Committee said that the proposal was very viable and is very well thought off.

8. Chairman – The Standing Committee was very satisfied on all updates and complimented everyone on the high Teaching and Research standards of Pandit Deendayal Energy University.

Agenda-4: Infra Updates

1. While seeing the update on the Sports Field, the Chairman said there is a need to plan a good Gymnasium/Changing room/Indoor Badminton courts in the Sports arena. These must be planned.

2. The Chairman directed to construct a sit out canopy in front of Block-D. He said it should be of good design of quality and should be of PVC /any other tensile fabric as seen on Airports. He also mentioned that instead of one common University Library, we should continue with smaller Libraries at many places.

3. **High Rise Hostels:** The requirement of construction of two High Rise Hostels simultaneously was discussed wherein the members were told about the progress on the bidding of D-2 Hostel where a technical bid has been opened but we are holding on to financial bid. It was projected that two high-rise hostels should come up together to meet the demand of the students, to minimize disturbance in High Rise campus, and to economise the cost. The Chairman-Standing Committee was also told about three options to go for negotiations/award of contract as under:

(a) **Option-I:** Open the Financial Bid and negotiate with the H-I bidder for the cost of two High Rise Hostels.

(b) **Option II:** Before opening the Financial Bid, call all the bidders, tell them the requirements of the second hostel, and ask them to bid again.

(c) **Option III:** Have a fresh bid for a shorter duration.

4. The Chairman – Standing Committee directed to go in for fresh bid i.e. Option-III. He also approved the proposal for the construction of two High Rise Hostels simultaneously.

5. **Fund Raising for High Rise Building:** The option of using an Endowment Fund for the complete project v/s loan from the financial institution was discussed. The advantages of both options were analyzed. The Chairman – Standing Committee directed to follow the model of 50% payment through Endowment Fund and 50% through loan. For loan, he said the University should inquire from GSFC/SBI/other Nationalized Banks.

6. The Chairman – Standing Committee further said that we must explore the possibility of fundraising. Funding from MoPNG is a good option for which the Joint Secretary can be spoken. The copy of the proposal should be forwarded to the Chairman – Standing Committee at the earliest through Whatsapp.

7. **Extension of Two Additional Wings of Block-E:** The Chairman – Standing Committee agreed to the proposal and gave a go-ahead.

Agenda-5: Next Convocation

The issue was discussed. The Chairman-Standing Committee said that the proposal for the Chief Guest for the Convocation has been sent to the President's Office and we are awaiting response. The dates may be shifted based on the availability of the Chief Guest.

Agenda-6: To Consider the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Committee considered and noted the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 20/07/2023.

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

-Sd-

Chairman – Standing Committee
PDEU



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