

**THE XXVIII MEETING
OF
FINANCE COMMITTEE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MEGHALAYA**

MINUTES

DAY	: FRIDAY
DATE	: 17.11.2023
TIME	: 10.30 AM
VENUE	: THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF NIT MEGHALAYA, BIJNI-COMPLEX, LITUMKHEAH, SHILLONG

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MEGHALAYA
An Institute of National Importance

Minutes of XXVIII Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 17.11.2023

The XXVIII Meeting of the Finance Committee of National Institute of Technology Meghalaya was held on Friday, 17.11.2023 at 10:30 AM and the following members attended the meeting.

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| 1. Shri Sunil Alagh,
Chairman & Managing Director,
SKA Advisor Pvt. Ltd | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. Pinakeswar Mahanta
Director, NIT Meghalaya | Member |
| 3. Mr. Pawan Kumar,
Under Secretary (NITs),
Department of Higher Education,
Ministry of Education, New Delhi | Member
Representative |
| 4. Shri Anil Kumar
Director, Finance
Integrated Finance Bureau,
Department of Higher Education (TE),
Ministry of Education | Member
Representative |
| 5. Shri Wallamphang Roy
Managing Director, Power Carrier Pvt. Ltd
Shillong, Meghalaya | Member |
| 6. Dr. Deba Kumar Sarma
Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engg. &
Dean (P&D) NIT Meghalaya | Member |
| 7. Dr. Rabindra Narayan Mahpatra,
Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engg. &
Registrar (i/c), NIT Meghalaya | Secretary |

Prof. Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Officiating Director, IIT Guwahati, could not attend the meeting due to pre-occupation

At the outset, the Chairman, Finance Committee, NIT Meghalaya welcomed the members to the XXVIII meeting of the Finance Committee and then the agenda items of the day were taken up.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute held on 19.09.2023.

The XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute was held on 19.09.2023 (Tuesday) in the Conference Room of NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The minutes of the meeting were circulated amongst the members of the Committee for their comments/observations. The comments received from IFD & TS III, DHE, Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) has been incorporated in the Minutes. The Minutes of the XXVII Special Meeting of Finance Committee was placed before the Committee. The Finance Committee deliberated and confirmed the minutes of XXVII Special Meeting held on 19.09.2023.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-R1: The Finance Committee RESOLVED to CONFIRM the Minutes of the XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 19.09.2023.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-2: ATR of the decisions of the XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee (FC), of the Institute held on 19.09.2023.

The action taken on the decision of the XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee was circulated as part of the agenda items. During the meeting, the action taken on each of the agenda items were explained to the Committee members.

After deliberation on each of the ATR, the Committee noted and agreed to the decision/action taken by the Institute.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-R2: The Finance Committee NOTED and AGREED to the ACTION TAKEN by the Institute on the decision of the XXVII Special Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 19.09.2023.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-3: Recommendations of the XXIII Meeting of BWC held on 29.09.2023.

The XXIII Special meeting of the Building and Work Committee (B&WC) of the Institute was held on 29.09.2023 in the Conference Room of NIT Meghalaya. The Minutes have been circulated to all members and the comments received from the Deputy Secretary (NITs) and Director (Finance), MoE has been incorporated in the Minutes. The Committee members went through the minutes and deliberated on the Agenda Items at 'A' and recommended for placing the matters before the Board for kind consideration and approval of the Board.

A. B&WC-XXIII (2023)-3: Re-tendering of Balance Works pertaining to Construction and Development of NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra.

In an effort to expedite the work related to shifting to the permanent campus with minimal fund utilization and in the shortest time possible, the Committee further suggests that the Institute may utilize its corpus fund, IRG, and the unutilized amount available with RITES to complete the following buildings/projects under Priority I. The Committee also recommends that, after Priority I is completed, additional funds from the Ministry may be considered.

SN	Name of the Building	Project cost as per RCE approval	Total cost after re-tendering	Exp. incurred till date	Addl. amount required	Remarks
(i)	Girls Hostel (1 seater-400 capacity) 1No.	27.30	38.58	15.28	11.28	Total female students= 270. This will take care of providing accommodation to all the Female students including UG, PG and Ph.D In fact there will be spare capacity to accommodate 130 additional students.
(ii)	Boys Hostel- (3 Seater-400 capacity)	18.39	26.97	11.70	8.58	This hostel has triple seater rooms. Institute can use this hostel to provide accommodation to all UG & PG male students (total-522 nos.) by accommodating 4 students in a room instead of 3 till an additional hostel is built. For Ph.D(174 nos.) male students, existing arrangement for accommodation can be continued at Shillong till an additional Boys Hostel is built in the new campus. However, logistics arrangement can be made by the institute.
(iii)	Director's residence	0.92	1.84	0.55	0.92	It require only Rs. 92 lakh.
TOTAL (A)		46.61	67.39	27.53	20.78	

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And for Item No: B&WC/XXIII (2023)-4, B&WC/XXIII(2023)-5 & B&WC/XXIII (2023)-6 , the ministry Officials have given the concurrence accordingly in line with the Minutes as follows:

The Finance Committee also approved to execute following projects from the fund sources mentioned above:-

Amount in Rs. crore

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount required	Remarks
(i)	Energizing of Academic A and B Buildings	2.67	Infrastructure / service facilities essential for shifting to permanent campus.
(ii)	Construction of left over balanced works of ESS-3 near Hostel Block	0.30	
(iii)	Construction of water storage reservoir	0.05	
TOTAL (B)		3.02	

The Committee further directed institute to ensure that the above buildings/projects amounting Rs.23.80 cr (20.78 cr + 3.02 cr) be completed in the stipulated time so that the Institute can shift to the permanent campus well within six months' time and commence its next academic session (2023-24) from the permanent campus itself.

The Committee recommended that Institute can undertake the balance work, lying within the scope of projects approved by RCE Committee, after shifting to the new campus.

The Finance Committee after deliberation at length recommended to placed the matter before the BoG for kind approval of Board.

The Committee discussed and deliberated at length on the matter related to the constructions work at the Permanent Campus of NIT Meghalaya at Sohra and Suggested to place the matter in the upcoming Finance Committee along with details of shifting plan.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-R3: The Finance Committee CONSIDERED and NOTED the recommendation of the Ministry on the Re-tendering of Balance Works pertaining to Construction and Development of NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra. The Committee deliberated on the matter related to the constructions work at the Permanent Campus of NIT Meghalaya at Sohra and SUGGESTED to place the matter in the upcoming Finance Committee along with details of plan for shifting to the Permanent Campus. The Committee AGREED and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.

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FC-XXVIII (2023)-4: Recommendation of the Senate of NIT Meghalaya.

It was informed to the Committee members that the agenda items listed below were previously recommended in Senate meetings but have not been presented to the FC/BoG. Consequently, these items are now being brought before the Committee for their kind recommendation to the BoG.

A. Item No 1: Financial Assistance to the Post-Doctoral Scheme

The Finance Committee, after detailed deliberation, agreed that the above scheme can be implemented only from the Institute's IRG Fund and not from the Government fund.

FC-XXVIII(2023)-R4(a): The Finance Committee AGREED that the Financial Assistance to the Post-Doctoral scheme be implemented only from the Institute's IRG Fund and not from the Government fund to place the matter before the Board for Approval.

B. Item No 2: Financial Assistance for Outstanding Research Fellowship Scheme (ORFS).

The Finance Committee after detailed deliberation agreed to abolish the ORFS scheme.

FC-XXVIII(2023)-R4(b): The Finance Committee AGREED to abolish the ORFS scheme and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-5: Revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions for Research Personnel engaged in R&D programme of the Central Government Departments/Agencies.

It was informed to the Committee members that the Institute has received an Office Memorandum, F.No. 12-2/2019-U1, dated August 14, 2023, issued by the Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India with the subject 'Revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions for Research Personnel engaged in R&D programs of Central Government Departments/Agencies.

The Memorandum stated about a Letter No. DST/PCPM/Z-06/2022, dated June 26, 2023, issued by the Ministry of Science & Technology, Department of Science & Technology which pertains to the revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions for Research Personnel engaged in R&D programs of Central Government Departments/Agencies, and it is effective from January 1, 2023 as follows:

Programme	Pre Revised (₹)	Revised (₹)
JRF	31,000	37,000
SRF	35,000	41,000

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The Committee members resolved to adopt the **Revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions for Research Personnel engaged in R&D programme of the Central Government Departments/Agencies** and also recommended to place the matter before Board for consideration and approval.

FC-XXVIII(2023)-R5: The Finance Committee RESOLVED to ADOPT Revision of emoluments and guidelines on service conditions for Research Personnel engaged in R&D programme of the Central Government Departments/Agencies and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for consideration and adoption by the Board.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-6: Provision of Internet Connection at NIT Meghalaya Sohra.

The Committee was informed that NIT Meghalaya is on the verge of relocating from the temporary campus in Shillong to the permanent campus in Sohra. Immediate establishment of internet connectivity is crucial. With ongoing ICT infrastructure work at NIT Meghalaya Sohra campus and the delivery of most equipment, an urgent internet connection is required for the installation, commissioning, testing, and implementation of ICT equipment. Additionally, students and PhD candidates regularly visit the campus for laboratory and research work. The unavailability of an internet connection severely hampers these activities. Therefore, three quotations for radio links with 100 Mbps have been obtained from various service providers, with the summaries as follows:

- Jio: Bandwidth charges for 100 Mbps ILL (1:1) (Recurring Annually): Rs. 5,00,000/- (exclusive of GST) and One-time charges: Rs. 10,000/- (exclusive of GST)
- BSNL: Bandwidth Charges for 100 Mbps ILL (1:1) (Recurring Annually): Rs. 6,82,040/- (Including GST) and RF Link Maintenance Charge (Recurring Annually): Rs. 21,240/- (Including GST)
- Airtel: Bandwidth Charges for 100 Mbps ILL (1:1) (Recurring Annually): Rs. 7,50,000/- (Including GST) and RF Link Maintenance Charge (Recurring Annually): Rs. 20,000/- (Including GST)

The Finance Committee, after detailed deliberation, advises that the proposal be standardized for ease of comparison.

FC-XXVIII(2023)-R6: The Finance Committee advises that the proposal be standardized for ease of comparison.

FC-XXVIII (2023)-7: Group Medical Insurance Scheme (GMIS).

The committee members were informed that the Institute is proposing a Group Medical Insurance Scheme (GMIS) to enhance medical benefits for employees, families, and students, providing cashless facilities for in-patient department (IPD) treatment. Currently, the Institute reimburses its employees up to Rs. 2.00 Lakhs annually, challenges arise, especially outside Shillong due to limited healthcare facilities. As the Institute is in the process of shifting to the permanent campus at Sohra, where faculty/staff quarters are limited, a Group Medical Insurance policy is preferred.

Noteworthy institutions like IIT Guwahati, IIT Kanpur, NIT Goa, and NIT Rourkela already offer group medical insurance. Benefits include coverage at various hospitals nationwide, cashless transactions. No NEIGRIHMS referrals required for out-of-Meghalaya treatment, and has streamlined emergency care.

Quotations suggest an annual premium of Rs. 26.5 lakhs for employees and dependents (137 families, around 389 lives) and Rs. 9.5 lakhs for students (759 lives), both with basic coverage. Employees and students can opt for additional top-up coverage individually.

To facilitate, the Institute may cover the premium for basic coverage of Rs. 2 lakhs per family (employees) from the existing budget, as in IIT Guwahati, IIT Kanpur, and NIT Goa. Student coverage premiums (Rs. 1 lakh) can be collected during admission. In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Institute paid Rs. 48.97 lakhs for medical bills, with existing benefits for OPD treatments remaining intact.

The Finance Committee, after detailed deliberation, advises that:

1. **For employees:** The proposal was not approved, and Committee advised to continue with the existing CSMA rules, until all figures are presented from different Insurance Companies including the details of the dependent's members etc., and what is covered with costs thereof. The total cost must be clearly showed in comparison to what is currently being incurred
2. **For students:** The proposal of group medical insurance was allowed, provided that total basic coverage for students shall be Rs. 2 Lakhs only, with a condition that the total incurred expenses are to be invariably collected from the students.

FC-XXVIII(2023)-R7(a): The Finance Committee has resolved NOT TO APPROVE the Group Medical Insurance Scheme (GMIS) for employees until all figures are presented from different Insurance Companies including the details of the dependents members etc., and what is covered with costs thereof. The total cost must be clearly showed in comparison to what is currently being incurred. However, for students the proposal for group medical insurance was PERMITTED, with the condition that the total basic coverage for students shall be Rs. 2 Lakhs only, with a condition that the total expenses incurred shall invariably be collected from the students.



Dr. R.N. Mahapatra
Registrar (i/c) & Member Secretary to FC