

THE XXXVIII MEETING

OF

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MEGHALAYA**

MINUTES

DAY	: FRIDAY
DATE	: 16.02.2024
TIME	: 12.00 PM
VENUE	: THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF NIT TRANSIT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MEGHALAYA
An Institute of National Importance

Minutes of XXXVIII Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 16.02.2024.

The XXXVIII Meeting of the Board of Governors of National Institute of Technology Meghalaya was held on Friday, 16.02.2024 at 12:00 PM and the following members attended the meeting.

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| 1. Shri Sunil Alagh,
Chairman & Managing Director,
SKA Advisor Pvt. Ltd | Chairman |
| 2. Shri N. S. Bisht,
Deputy Secretary (NITs II),
Department of Higher Education,
Ministry of Education, New Delhi | Member Representative |
| 3. Shri Anil Kumar
Director, Finance
Integrated Finance Bureau
Department of Higher Education (TE),
Ministry of Education | Member Representative |
| 4. Prof. Rajeev Ahuja,
Officiating Director,
Director IIT Guwahati | Member |
| 5. Prof. Pinakeswar Mahanta
Director, NIT Meghalaya | Member |
| 6. Shri Wallamphang Roy
Managing Director, Power Carrier Pvt. Ltd
Shillong, Meghalaya | Member |
| 7. Shri Medrickson Tariang,
Retired Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads)
Shillong, Meghalaya | Member |
| 8. Prof. Ayon Bhattacharjee
Professor, Dept. of Physics &
Dean (FW), NIT Meghalaya | Member |
| 9. Dr. Deba Kumar Sarma
Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engg.
& Dean (P&D), NIT Meghalaya | Member |
| 10. Dr. B. Chakravarty,
Registrar, NIT Meghalaya | Secretary |

At the outset, the Chairman, BoG, NIT Meghalaya welcomed the august members to the XXXVIII meeting of the Board of Governors. Prior to addressing the agenda, Shri Sunil Alagh, Chairman BoG & FC emphasized the significance of providing adequate facilities for students such as playgrounds, badminton and table tennis courts, and improved hostel accommodations, highlighting their importance as the Institute is in the transition stage to move to the permanent campus at Sohra. Thereafter, the agenda items of the day were taken up.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the XXXVII Meeting of the Board of Governors of NIT Meghalaya held on 15.12.2023.

The XXXVII Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Institute was held on 15.12.2023 (Friday) at the conference room of NIT Meghalaya, Bijni Complex Laitumkbrah. The minutes of the meeting were circulated amongst the members of the Board for their comments / observations. The comments received from Shri Sunil Alagh, Chairman BoG & FC and TS III, DHE, Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) have been incorporated in the Minutes.

After discussions, the Board resolved to confirm the Minutes of XXXVII meeting of BoG.

BOG-XXXVIII(2024)-R1: The Board RESOLVED to CONFIRM the Minutes of the XXXVII Meeting of the Board of Governors of NIT Meghalaya.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-2: ATR on the decisions of the XXXVII Meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) of NIT Meghalaya.

The actions taken on the resolutions of the Board of its XXXVII meeting were circulated as part of the agenda items. During the meeting, the actions taken on each of the agenda items were explained to the Board members in detail.

The Board deliberated the Reservation Roster for Non-Teaching (Group C) at length, after discussion the Board Resolved to approve the Reservation Roster for Non-Teaching (Group C) as per the Office Memorandums issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India:

- I. No. 36012/22/93-Estt.(SCT) dated 29.12.1993.
- II. No. 36017/1/2004-Estt(Res) dated 05.07.2005.
- III. No. 36011/1/2022-Estt(Res-I) dated 14.10.2022.

The Board noted and approved the decision/action taken by the Institute.

BOG-XXXVIII(2024)-R2: The Board AGREED and CONFIRMED the ACTIONS TAKEN on the resolutions of its XXXVII Meeting held on 15.12.2023. The Board also APPROVED the Reservation Roster for Non-Teaching (Group C) of the Institute in accordance with the instructions provided by the Government of India.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-3: Recommendation of the XXIX Finance Committee meeting of NIT Meghalaya held on 16.02.2024.

The XXIX meeting of the Finance Committee of the Institute was held on 16.02.2024 prior to the Board Meeting. The Finance Committee elaborately deliberated on the following agenda items and recommended for approval by the Board: -

Sl. No	Agenda Items of XXIX Finance Committee	FC Resolutions	BoG Resolutions
1	<u>FC-XXVIII(2024)-6:</u> Provision of Internet Connection at NIT Meghalaya Sohra.	<u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R3:</u> The Finance Committee CONSIDERED and SUGGETED opting for Jio connection for radio links with 100 Mbps Internet Connection at NIT Meghalaya Sohra. The Committee AGREED and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.	<u>BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R3(A):</u> The Board Resolved to APPROVE the recommendation of the FC for Provision of Internet Connection at NI Meghalaya Sohra.
2	<u>FC-XXVIII(2024)-7:</u> Group Medical Insurance Scheme (GMIS).	<u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R4:</u> The Finance Committee CONSIDERED and SUGGETED opting for L1 i.e. IFFCO-Tokio and recommended further negotiation on the quoted rates. The Committee AGREED and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.	<u>BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R3(B):</u> The Board Resolved to APPROVE the recommendation of the FC for Group Medical Insurance Scheme (GMIS).

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-4: Recommendations of the XXIV Meeting of the Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC) held on 09.02.2024.

The XXIV meeting of the Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC) of the Institute was held on 09.02.2024 in the Conference Room of NIT Meghalaya. The Board Member elaborately deliberated on the following agenda items and recommended for approval: -

Sl. No	Agenda Items of XXIV Buildings & Works Committee	FC Resolutions	BoG Resolutions
A	<u>B&WC-XXIV(2024)-3:</u> Construction of Water Supply System (WSS) to	<u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R6(A):</u> The Finance Committee CONSIDERED and NOTED the recommendation for	<u>BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-4(A):</u> The Board Resolved to APPROVE the

	NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra through Meghalaya PHE Deptt. - Deposit Work-Approval thereof.	Construction of Water Supply System (WSS) to NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra through Meghalaya PHE Deptt. The Committee AGREED and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.	recommendation of the FC for Construction of Water Supply System (WSS) to NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra through Meghalaya PHE Deptt.
B	<u>B&WC-XXIV (2024)-4:</u> Re-tendering of Balance Works (Priority-2 Works) pertaining to Construction and Development of NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra)- Approval thereof.	<u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R6(B):</u> The Finance Committee CONSIDERED and SUGGESTED the Institute to write to the Ministry for Sanction of additional amount of Rs. 36.61 Crores as it is beyond the RCE limit for Re-tendering of Balance Works (Priority-2 Works) pertaining to Construction and Development of NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra. The Committee AGREED and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.	<u>BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-4(B):</u> The Board Resolved to APPROVE the recommendation of the FC for Re-tendering of Balance Works (Priority-2 Works) pertaining to Construction and Development of NIT Meghalaya permanent campus at Sohra).
C	Additional amount for Priority Work 2 of Rs. 36.61 Crores may please be approved as per the provision Para 2 of the Sanction Letter no. F.No.36-4/2020.TS-III (Pt) dated 03.06.2022 issued by Department of Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India.		
D	<u>B&WC-XXIV(2024)-5:</u> Item by circulation dated 24.01.2024 & placed before the B&WC meeting on 09.02.2024.	<u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R6(CI):</u> The Finance Committee NOTED the item Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Campus ICT Infrastructure on turnkey basis project at the permanent campus of NIT Meghalaya, Sohra and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval. <u>FC-XXIX(2024)-R6(CII):</u> The Finance Committee NOTED the item Providing Power Supply to NIT Meghalaya at permanent campus, Saitsohpen, Sohra assigned to MePTCL and RECOMMENDED to place the matter before the Board for Approval.	<u>BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-4(C):</u> The Board Resolved to APPROVE the recommendation of the FC for Item by circulation dated 24.01.2024.

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BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-6: Signing of MoUs between NIT Meghalaya and other Institutions.

The Board was briefed about the Institute's initiative to prioritize student training, internships, skill development, and innovation in alignment with the directives outlined in NEP 2020. Consequently, several organizations and institutions specializing in skill development and internships were invited for collaboration to enhance our students' capabilities. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NIT Meghalaya and the following organizations/ Institutes was placed before the Board for **consideration and approval:**

- I. Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) Roorkee.
- II. Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, India.
- III. Central Agricultural University, Imphal Manipur.
- IV. Brightfu Hub Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad.
- V. Tata Consultancy Services Research, Mumbai Maharashtra, India.
- VI. UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (UNESCO MGIEP), New Delhi, India.
- VII. I G Drones, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India.
- VIII. Edulife India, Guwahati, Assam, India.
- IX. IIT Guwahati Innovation and Development Foundation (IITG TIDF).
- X. Edu Skills Foundation, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.
- XI. IAspire Mind Foundation, Gurgaon, Haryana India.
- XII. Wadhvani Foundation.
- XIII. National Power Training Institute, Guwahati.
- XIV. Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati.
- XV. Parul University, Waghodia, Vadodara, Gujarat.

The Board was apprised of the above, and after deliberation, the Board noted and approved the signing of MoU's between NIT Meghalaya and the above Organization/Institutions.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R6: *The BOARD resolved to APPROVE the signing of the MoUs between NIT Meghalaya and the Organization/Institutions mentioned above.*

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-7: **Board of Governors (BoG) Nominees to (A) Finance Committee (FC) and (B) Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC).**

As per the First Statutes for NITs, **Clause 10 (1) (iv)** requires two persons to be nominated by the Boards from amongst its members for the Finance Committee (FC), and **Clause 12(1)** mandates one member to be nominated by the Boards of Governors for the Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC).

- A. The Board was informed that the term of Prof. Harish Das, Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, as an FC member expired on 28.09.2023. Therefore, the Institute proposed that Prof. Ayon Bhattacharjee be nominated in place of Prof. Harish Das.
- B. Similarly, the Board was informed that the term of Shri. S. Pyngrope, Retired Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya PWD (R&B), as a member for B&WC has expired. Thus, the Institute proposed the name of Shri R. S. Nongbri, Additional Chief Engineer, PHE. Zone-I, Office of the Chief Engineer, PHE, Meghalaya Shillong, be nominated as BoG nominee to the Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC).

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R7: *The BOARD resolved to APPROVE the Board of Governors (BoG) Nominees to (A) Finance Committee (FC) and (B) Buildings & Works Committee (B&WC).*

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-8: **Proceedings of recruitment process for Faculty Members in NIT Meghalaya.**

The Board was informed in its previous meeting (BoG-XXXVII(2023)-3) held on 15.12.2023, that the Institute had released an advertisement for filling up the vacancies of Faculties published on 25.09.2023 through Employment News and various newspapers, including the website of NIT Meghalaya.

The applications were scrutinized as per the standard practice by a high-level Screening Committee. The reports of the Screening Committee were submitted to the Institute's Advisory Committee on Faculty Recruitment (ACoFAR). After scrutinizing the reports, the ACoFAR submitted the final list of shortlisted candidates to the Director for approval. The numbers of applications received for various positions, along with the number of shortlisted applications department-wise, were reported during the last Board meeting.

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The recruitment process for all departments has been completed, except for Pay Level 14A in the Department of Humanities & Social Science and Electronics & Communication Engineering. For the Department of Humanities & Social Science, the Selection Committee met on 02.02.2024. Additionally, the recommendations of the Selection Committee for the Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering were kept unopen. The recommendations of the Selection Committee for both the Departments will be presented to the Board during the meeting.

The procedures as per NIT Statutes/Act/Recruitment Rules (RR) as well as instructions received from MoE and GOI were strictly adhered to in the entire process.

The recommendations of the selection committee are given below:

Professor (Pay level 14A)		
Sl. No	Name	Department
1	Dr. Anup Dandapat	Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering
2	Dr. Paonam Sudeep Mangang	Department of Humanities & Social Science

The Board is requested to **CONSIDER** the recommendations of the Selection Committees for **APPROVAL**.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R8: The **BOARD** resolved to **APPROVE** the Recommendations of the Selection Committee.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-9: Proposal for withdrawal the function of the NIT Meghalaya Transit House leased from BSNL.

The Board was informed that in its XXXIII^d meeting held on 27.06.2023 in the Conference Room of Century Ply, Taratala Road, Kolkata, the Boards resolved the following:

“The Board **INSTRUCTS** the Institute not to utilize any funds from Grant-in-Aid received from the Ministry. The Board also **ADVISES** that if the Institute can sustain the operation of the Transit House by increasing the tariff, they may proceed accordingly for another six months. If not possible to sustain with the increase of tariff, the contract may be ceased to operate with the prior information of BoG.”

In this connection, the Institute finds itself difficult to generate sufficient revenue to cover the rent and other expenses etc, even after increasing the tariff. Therefore, the Institute deems it necessary to discontinue the Transit House at Dharapur, Guwahati.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-9: The **BOARD** resolved to **APPROVE** the proposal of the Institute for withdrawal the function of the NIT Meghalaya Transit House leased from BSNL at Dharapur, Guwahati.

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BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-10: Proposal for participation in Education fairs conducted by Study In India (SII).

The Board was informed that the Institute has been receiving invitations to participate in international education fairs organized by Study in India (SII) across various countries. These international education fairs are organised annually, where delegates from different Indian institutes/universities travel to foreign countries to counsel potential international students for the programs offered by the institutes/universities. These events focus on the opportunities and challenges of international education in the current era and aim to promote the integration and development of education. Participating in such international education fairs can fascinate the potential candidates for admission to NIT Meghalaya providing them a clearer idea of aspects such as the classroom teaching style, extracurricular activities, fee-waiver options, and campus life, which are often difficult to know from the website or admission prospectus.

Therefore, the Institute proposed that Faculty members of the Institute participate in various educational fairs, specifically those arranged in South Asian and African countries, with financial support from the institute to attract international students.

After thorough deliberation, the Committee approved the Institute's participation in educational fairs organized by SII. However, it was agreed that financial commitments would adhere strictly to existing rules, with no additional liabilities.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R10: The BOARD resolved to APPROVE the Institute's participation in educational fairs organized by SII. However, it was AGREED that financial commitments would adhere strictly to existing rules, with no additional liabilities.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-11: Proposal to rename the Department of Chemistry to Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences.

The Board was informed that the Institute is proposing to rename the Department of Chemistry to the Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences in light of the NEP 2020. This proposal has been put forward following the Departmental meeting of the Chemistry Department held on 01.02.2024 as the Institute currently has no plans to establish a separate Biology Department, and thus, the proposed department will merge with the existing Department of Chemistry.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R11: The BOARD resolved to APPROVE the proposal of the Institute for renaming the Department of Chemistry to Department of Chemical and Biological Sciences.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-12: Special drive to fill the vacancies on Mission Mode.

The Board was informed of an email dated 26.08.2021 from TS.III, MoE, highlighting a mission-oriented approach to address faculty vacancies, particularly focusing on underrepresented categories in Central Higher Education Institutions (CHEIs) under the Ministry of Education.

This initiative involves three key mechanisms for tracking progress:

- i. By including a separate chapter in their Annual Report (starting from 2021-22) depicting the status of filling up of backlog vacancies in tabular format during the year.
- ii. By including an agenda Item in every Finance Committee / Board of Governors, giving status of filling up of backlog vacancies.
- iii. The Heads of all CHEs will send a monthly report to Secretary (HE) (starting from September 2021) appraising the status of action taken.

To adhere to the directives mentioned above, the Institute has consistently provided information in all previous Board of Governors meetings. The status is outlined as follows:

- i. The Institute has included a separate chapter in its Annual Report starting from the year 2021-22 depicting the status of filling up of backlog vacancies in tabular format and the same shall be followed in the forthcoming years.
- ii. Presently, the Institute has 13 faculty vacancies. Efforts are underway to address these vacancies, with the advertisement for recruitment published on 17.01.2024. The deadline for online applications was set for 29.02.2024. Necessary measures are being taken to conclude the recruitment process by the first week of April 2024.
- iii. The Institute regularly sends the monthly report to the Office of Higher Education (HE), Ministry of Education, appraising the status of action taken in filling up the vacancies. The report for the month of December 2023 was sent on 24.01.2024 vides Letter No. NITMGH/ES/MoEd-RPT/FVS/Vol.II/2023-24/2751 dated 24.01.2024.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R12: *The BOARD NOTED the Action taken by the Institute on the above.*

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-13: **Standing Agenda Item: Mechanism to Monitor / minimize Audit Objections Public Grievances and Parliamentary Assurances.**

The Board was informed of an email dated 30.12.2020 from TS.III, MoE, regarding the Mechanism to monitor/ minimize Audit Objections, Public Grievances and Parliamentary Assurances. This initiative involves three key mechanisms for tracking progress:

- A. Complete details and status of audit paras.
- B. Public Grievances pending in the Institutes.
- C. Parliamentary Assurances pending in the Institutes.

To comply with the above-mentioned instructions, the information with respect to NIT Meghalaya has been furnished in all the previous FC/BoG meeting. However, the information pertaining to the present period is as under:

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- A. The Shillong-based Chartered Accountant firm M/s SSD & Co. was entrusted with preparing the Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2022-23, completing the task to the Institute's satisfaction. As per prevailing norms (Section 22 (4) of the NITSER Act, 2007), adoption of the Annual Report by the FC and BoG is mandatory before forwarding to the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India for tabling before both Houses of Parliament. Finalized on 11.09.2023, the Annual Accounts were sent to the Office of the Principal Accountant General (Audit), Meghalaya, Shillong, on 13.09.2023, initiating the Periodical Test Audit. The Audit, conducted from 19.09.2023 to 11.10.2023 and the FC and BoG of the Institute approved the Annual Accounts 2022-23 in the FC-XXVII and BoG-XXXV held on 19.09.2023, incorporating Ministry suggestions. Revised Audited Statements were submitted on 08.11.2023, and printing contracts were awarded to M/S Semaphore Technologies Pvt Ltd., Kolkata, on 20.11.2023. Draft SAR was received on 02.01.2024, replied to on 08.01.2024, and Final SAR on 09.02.2024, promptly sent to the vendor for inclusion in the Annual and Audit Reports along with the Annual Accounts 2022-2023.

In addition, the Institute has received eight (8) audit paragraphs/comments from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), Meghalaya relating to the Accounts of the Institute for the FY 2022-23. Out of these, only one paragraph has been dropped, the remaining seven (7) have been taken into consideration and will be incorporated into the Annual Accounts of the Institute for the FY 2023-24.

Furthermore, the Institute has received eleven (11) audit paragraphs/comments from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), Meghalaya related to the compliance audit for the period November 2020 to March 2022. Out of these, only one para has been dropped, the remaining ten (10) have been taken into consideration and will be addressed accordingly.

- B. There are no pending cases related to Public Grievance.
- C. There are no pending cases related to Parliamentary Assurances and replies to Parliament questions in respect of NIT Meghalaya. Replies to all the parliamentary questions are always sent to TS.III, Ministry of Education, on time.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R13: The BOARD NOTED the Action taken by the Institute on the above.

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BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-14: Joining of Officer, Faculty and Staff members.

The Board was informed about the recent joining of faculty, officers, and staff members who have assumed upgraded or new positions within the Institute as per the table below:

Sl. No.	Designation	Numbers
1	Professor	3
2	Associate Professor	12
3	Assistant Professor (Grade I)	20
4	Assistant Professor (Grade II)	5
5	Registrar	1
6	Technical Assistant	1
	Total	42

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R14: The BOARD NOTED the information on the joining of Faculty, Officers and Staff in various departments/offices of NIT Meghalaya.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-15: Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

The Chairman of the Board of Governors, Shri Sunil Alagh, proposed the establishment of an award honouring the top female student in the B. Tech program. This award, presented as a Gold Medal, would commemorate the legacy of Smt. Pratap Rani Alagh, and would be generously sponsored by Shri Sunil Alagh himself, the Chairman of the Board of Governors & Finance Committee of the Institute.

BoG-XXXVIII(2024)-R15: The BOARD RESOLVED to APPROVE the proposed Award and expressed gratitude to Chairman Shri Sunil Alagh for his benevolent gesture.


Registrar & Secretary to BoG