

CONFIDENTIAL

GOA UNIVERSITY
Taleigao Plateau, Goa

Minutes of the Twenty Sixth (Special) Meeting of the Tenth Executive Council held on Wednesday, 24th January, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in the Council Hall of Goa University under the Chairpersonship of the Vice-Chancellor, Goa University.

Members Present

Prof. Suhas Pednekar	Member
Dr. Aparna Devdatta Patil	Member
Prof. Datta B. Naik	Member
Dr. Unnikrishnan. S.	Member
Shri Shrinivas Vasudeva Sinai Dempo	Member
Dr. Ajit Parulekar	Member
Secretary (Education)	Member (Ex-Officio)
Prof. C. U. Rivonker	Member
Dr. S. N. Mamle Desai	Member
Dr. Anura Prashant Bale	Member
Prof. S. Krishnan	Member
Registrar	Member Secretary (Ex-Officio)

Members who conveyed their inability to attend/could not attend.

Shri Arjun Chowgule	Member
Shri Sudin Naik	Member
Dr. Ganesh Gaonkar	Member
Secretary (Finance)	Member (Ex-Officio)

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed all the Esteemed Members to the Twenty Sixth (Special) Meeting of the Tenth Executive Council. He also welcomed Dr. S. N. Mamle Desai, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy & Principal, P.E.S. College of Pharmacy, Ponda who has been newly appointed as member on the Executive Council.

Thereafter the agenda was taken up for discussion.

D 1.8 (i) Matter regarding University land.

The Vice Chancellor informed the Hon'ble Members that the House in its meeting held on 24/04/2023 had approved a proposal regarding establishing of a Research Park on the GU Campus. It was also informed that the University vide its letter dated 05/09/2023, submitted proposal to DHE for additional funds for Approx. Rs.107 Crores towards various proposed infrastructural requirements for expansion activities over a period of next few years. In response, the DHE sent a communication dated 05/10 /2023 asking to transfer 2 lakh sq.mtr. of University land to the Government for shifting some of Government colleges like Pharmacy, Architecture, Home Science and Music College from their present premise to GU Campus.

Further, it was informed that the University has implemented the NEP 2020 for undergraduate students education as per the directives of Government of Goa and the Government of India starting from the year 2023-2024. As per the guidelines of NEP 2020, GU is the only State University in the State of Goa which is envisioned as a Multidisciplinary Education and Research University (MERU) provided it satisfies certain requirements like number of students, and multidisciplinary disciplines. The NEP 2020 also proposes to put an end to the process of affiliation of colleges so that they become constituent colleges of a University. At this stage, it is pertinent to say that presently there are no Schools in subjects of Pharmacy, Architecture and Performing Arts in the University which is very significant for the University to become a MERU if the Government accepts converting the above mentioned colleges as new Schools of University for the further growth of the University.

The Vice Chancellor also informed the House that one of its Members Shri Sudin Naik who could not attend the meeting has sent his written views in this matter and has requested to place the same before the House.

Therefore, the matter was placed before the House to deliberate and decide suitably about the Government's proposal regarding transferring the land in lieu of funds requested for the growth of the University.

Members opined that the proposal could be accepted in principle since the Government is planning to build infrastructure for the affiliated colleges of the University. However, considering the requirements of the University for its Future Growth, the Government may accept the proposal of the University to make them constituent Schools of the University, in line with NEP regulations.

Secretary Education, Government of Goa & Member of the Executive Council informed the House that this proposal of making these Government colleges constituent Schools is being resisted by these Colleges and the Government therefore may not accept the same.

RESOLUTION I: After deliberations it was unanimously resolved to accept the proposal of utilizing 2 lakh sq meter of the University land in principle subject to the Government accepting the request of the House to make such Colleges

constituent Schools of the University. It was further resolved to send a delegation of Executive Council Members to meet and consult the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Hon'ble Chancellor & Governor of Goa for expressing the views of the Executive Council in the matter. It was further resolved to take a final decision based on the outcome of these discussions.

(Action: University Engineer)

D 1.8 (ii) Transfer/Conversion of the post of Assistant/Associate Professor to Professor for a post Professor in the discipline of the Marine Sciences.

Vice Chancellor informed that there are 02 Senior Professors, 01 Professor, 01 Associate Professor, 16 Assistant Professors (which includes 03 contractual Assistant Professors) in School of Earth Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences (SEOAS). Of these, the current Senior Professor is superannuating by March 2024 and another Professor has already applied for voluntary retirement w.e.f. August 2024 due to health reasons. Thus, after August 2024 the SEOAS shall not have any leader in the form of a Professor or Senior Professor.

It was also informed that both Senior Professors as well as the only Professor belong to the Marine Sciences discipline, which is the most productive discipline of SEOAS, in terms of the research output. It is therefore highly felt essential to fill a Professor's position urgently in the SEOAS to provide a proper direction and leadership to the SEOAS in near future so as to ensure that the research infrastructure built over a period of time by this School is used effectively and also that the teaching as well as research output will be maintained. He further informed the Members that the substantive positions occupied by all the three retiring Professors said above are not that of Professor but are at lower level of Associate/Assistant Professor and will have to be filled as Associate/Assistant Professor after they get vacated.

As the sanctioned positions of Professors in the subjects of Earth Science, Marine Science, Marine Microbiology have been filled as Assistant Professors, it is highly essential to convert one of the posts of Associate Professors to Professor (from Earth Science, Atmospheric Sciences or Remote Sensing and GIS) for the Marine Sciences program or to transfer a position of Professor from Atmospheric Sciences or Remote Sensing and GIS to Marine Science.

RESOLUTION II: The Executive Council unanimously approved to transfer a position of Professor from Atmospheric Sciences to Marine Science.

Further, it was approved to fill the substantive positions occupied by all the three retiring Professors as Associate/Assistant Professor after they get vacated.

It was further decided to forward the above proposal to the State Government for approval.

(Action: Assistant Registrar-Admin.(Teaching))

D 1.8 (iii) Matter regarding the DPC Minutes in respect of Smt. Bertha T.A. D'Mello e Daniel, Assistant Registrar-Legal.

The Vice-Chancellor informed the House that the vacancy created after retirement of Shri M. Shreedhara, Joint Registrar was to be filled by promotion, for which, DPC meeting was held on 24/05/2023 to fill the anticipated vacancy in the post of DR(Admin.) and candidature of Smt. Bertha T.A. D'Mello e Daniel, AR-Legal was considered by the DPC as she was the only eligible officer to be considered for promotion. However, due to the disciplinary proceedings which were going on against Smt. Bertha, the recommendation made by DPC was kept in a sealed cover. Now, since the Apex Court has declined to interfere with the order of the High Court in respect of W.P. No. 332 of 2023 and W.P. No. 333 of 2023 filed by Smt. Bertha, the sealed cover of DPC minutes are now placed before the House for decision.

The sealed cover pertaining to the Departmental Promotion Committee minutes was opened during the meeting and it was informed that for the past five years (2017-18 to 2021-22) Smt. Bertha has scored grade 'Good' three times and grade 'Very Good' two times. However, as per the State Government OM No.12/14/89/PER(Part file dated 02/07/2014) Smt. Bertha is not fulfilling required criteria of having all the five years of grading as 'Very Good' hence is not eligible for promotion.

It was informed that the ACRs of employees have not been shown to them in the past which violates the principles of natural justice as held by the Hon'ble High Court or Hon'ble Supreme Court in the judgement passed in the years 2000, 2008 and in 2022 and in similar matters. Reference was made to Dev Dutt Vs. Union of India and Ors., (2008) 8 SCC 725, Dev Dutt); Abhijit Ghosh Dastidar Vs. Union of India & Ors., (2009) 16 SCC 146, Sukhdev Singh Vs. Union of India and Ors., (2013) 9 SCC 573, and the judgement passed in the CIVIL APPEAL NO. 2021 OF 2022, Union of India and Ors. Versus G.R. Meghwal by the Supreme Court of India.

It was also informed that Smt. Bertha was due for promotion against the vacancy after Shri M. Shreedhara, Joint Registrar retired. However, the matter was kept on hold as disciplinary proceedings against Smt. Bertha were in progress. It was further informed that she is due for grant of MACP with effect from 26/11/2023.

RESOLUTION III: The House deliberated in the matter taking into account the aforesaid judgements of the various Courts and decided to constitute a review DPC after noting that the appeal time available to employee is already over. The House also noted that the MACP as per rules shall be decided first followed by the matter pertaining to promotion.

The House advised the Vice-Chancellor to hold the meeting of the review DPC on or before 31/01/2024 and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to approve the minutes of the review DPC on behalf of the House and communicate the same to Smt. Bertha T.A. D'Mello e Daniel.

(Action: Assistant Registrar-Admin.(Non-Teaching))

The meeting ended at 12.10 p.m. with thanks to the members.

Sd/-

(Prof. V. S. Nadkarni)

REGISTRAR

Sd/-

(Prof. H. B. Menon)

VICE-CHANCELLOR