

**Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of State Steering Committee (SSC), held  
on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 at 11 AM in the Centre for Nano Sciences and  
Nanotechnology, Calcutta University at JD-12, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700098**

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Shri Vivek Kumar, Secretary, Higher Education Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal, and Chairman, State Steering Committee, could not attend the meeting due to his preoccupation with other official work. In his absence, as authorized by him, Shri Ashoke Ganai, Secretary, Higher Education Deptt., presided over the meeting. The Members, as per the list attached, attended the meeting.

Leave of absence was granted to Dr. Ranjan Bhattacharjee, Vice-Chancellor, West Bengal University of Technology & Member of the State Steering Committee. Prof. A U Digraskar, Central Project Advisor, NPIU represented, MHRD, GOI in the meeting.

With permission from the Chair, Dr. S. Dasgupta, Head-SPFU welcomed Prof. A U Digraskar and all other Members, on behalf of the State Steering Committee and initiated the discussions agendawise,

At the outset, in his opening remarks, Prof. A U Digraskar advised the state to follow the Kerala pattern of holding SSC meeting, consisting of a sequence of comprehensive review exercises of the project, spreading over three days. On the 1<sup>st</sup> day, internal Review meeting is held where all the Principals/Coordinators of all project institutes participate. Mentors of the Project institutes and all key functionaries of SPFU also attend. This is followed by a meeting of the state officials involved in the execution of TEQIP activities and the SPA held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive day. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> and concluding day, the SSC meeting is held where the resolutions of the above two meetings are confirmed and further deliberations are made as per the Agenda of the SSC.

Members appreciated the method and advised SPD to explore the possibility of adopting the method but prior to this, a study need to be made by SPFU as to how this can be implemented in the context of WB, members further advised.

**Agenda 1- Confirmation of the proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.**

Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the State Steering Committee, held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 were circulated to all members vide SPFU No. SPFU/WB/2014/36(7) dt. 12.02.2014. No feedback was received from any of the Members.

**Resolution :** The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting was confirmed.

**Agenda 2 - Action taken report on the major resolutions of the 9<sup>th</sup> State Steering Committee meeting. [Annexure-I]**

Actions taken by SPFU on the major resolutions of the 9<sup>th</sup> SSC meeting relating to various areas of implementation of Project activities, were discussed in detail.

- ***As regards Pedagogical training as mentioned at para (i) of the Agenda 2***, Prof. A U Digraskar appreciated the initiative of SPFU WB to conduct Pedagogical training with the assistance of IIT Kharagpur. In this connection, he clarified that 13 TEQIP-II institutions of WB out of 15 (FET-Jadavpur University & BESU are mapped with IIT-Kanpur), have been mapped with IIT KGP for carrying out Pedagogical training under TEQIP-II with the objective to bring faculty and students of different engineering disciplines on a common platform on specific academic subjects under knowledge incubation cell (KIC) of TEQIP-II. IIT KGP has also agreed to provide Pedagogical training to the TEQIP-II institutes of the state through the Centre for Education Technology in four batches, for the present. The 1<sup>st</sup> batch to commence from 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.
- ***Present status of the release of fund as referred in para (ii) of Agenda-2***: Since last meeting, three installments of fund have been received amounting to Rs. 42 Crore. Entire fund has already been released to the institutes. Another installment of Rs. 60 lakhs has just been received and in the process of release.  
**Resolution** : Members noted the actions taken.

**Agenda 3: Reporting of major activities of SPFU since the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of SSC, held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2014. [Annexure-II]**

**Resolutions:** Members noted the activities undertaken by the SPFU relating to implementation of the project since the last SSC meeting, held on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

Para (iii) :

Initiatives taken by Govt. College of Engg. & Textile Technology, Berhampore to remove deficiencies and to meet three Performance indicators by the stipulated date is appreciated by the members.

Members requested Head SPFU to impress upon the VC, CU and clarify that no further project fund will be released to the University, unless all the 10 Performance indicators are met immediately.

Para (iv):

Prof. Digraskar appreciated the endeavour of SPFU West Bengal to obtain the release of Rs. 24 crore from the State Finance Deptt. within a period of 14 days from the date of receipt of Central share and thereby setting an unique example in releasing project fund. He advised SPFU to continue the efforts throughout the remaining period of the project.

Para (x):

Members noted the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Advisory-cum-Monitoring Committee of the COEs of the state. In this connection it was resolved that the Vice-Chancellors of the three concerned universities should be impressed upon to ensure that inter disciplinary soft component activities of the COEs are carried out as per IDP.

Members also expressed their concern over progress of performance of the COEs of FET-Jadavpur University as reflected in the observations of the National level review, held on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 in New Delhi where it has been rated to be 'Very poor'. Head SPFU was specially requested to take up with VC, Jadavpur University to improve the pace of implementation of the COE activities.

**Agenda-4 :** The statement on fund released and utilization status to the participating institutes of the state, as on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2014, was placed in the meeting. In course of discussion it was revealed that a few participating institutes i.e. WBU, UIT, Burdwan, RCC Institute of Information Technology, UIT, Burdwan, BIT, Birbhum and FET-Jadavpur University have already utilized the entire amount allotted to them. All these 5 institutes have in addition, carried out some urgent project activities with institutional fund which they would replenish in due course after receipt of project fund.

As regards utilization of fund in the remaining (10) institutes, the status is also very encouraging. It is more than 80%, including the two 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle institutes, Govt. College of Engg. & Textile Technology, Berhampore and MECT, Murshidabad. But it was observed that progress of utilization of fund in three COEs is not very impressive.

There after the status of implementation of different components of the project activities were discussed. It was observed that in procurement, the institutes have utilized all most the entire fund received out of earmarked procurement fund and they have also planned for the residual amount, whereas in respect of soft component activities, the progress of the institutes is not uniform in all the activities. In activities like FSD, support to weak students, Masters and Ph.D Assistantship, and Academic reforms, progress of most of the institutes need to be improved further.

**Resolution :** Members expressed their satisfaction on overall progress of implementation of project activities, but advised Head SPFU to monitor the progress of the institutes on regular basis.

**Agenda 5 :** A report on 3<sup>rd</sup> JRM (Implementation Support Mission) was placed on table. It was also informed that Aide-memoire for 3<sup>rd</sup> JRM has also been released. In the Aide-Memoire, no specific observation has been made for West Bengal. As a general observation, it has been recommended that additional fund may be made available to the well performing institutes to be assessed based on the attainment of 10 points of Performance Indicators. A further set of 12 Performance indicators has also been prescribed for all the participating institutes which are to be met by the institutes by 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Resolution :** Members noted the report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> JRM and observation made in the Aide-Memoire. SPFU was requested to hold a review meeting to assess the status of the institutes in respect of the proposed set of new indicators and to initiate such measures as may be required to guide the project institutes properly so as to encourage them to meet the target set with the 12 Performance Indicators..

#### **Agenda No. 6 Misc.**

##### ***1. Extension of TEQIP-II beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2014.***

NPIU has communicated that TEQIP-II is likely to get two years extension, up to December, 2016 subject to the condition that a clear cut road map with deliverables and time line is drawn up by the participating institutes for achieving the desired outcomes by the end of 2 year. Participating institutes have therefore been asked to draw up their Action Plan for the residual activities for the extended Project period and submit by 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 as per the format circulated.

**Resolution:** SPFU should continue to review the performance of the institutes periodically and should comply with the directives of NPIU/MHRD for conduct of different evaluation studies and surveys as given from time to time.

##### ***2. Conduct of Pedagogical Training for 13 Project institutes by IIT-KGP***

SPFU-WB had approached IIT-KGP seeking support for conducting Pedagogical Training for the Project institutes. A meeting was organized in this regard on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 by the Dean, Continuing Education, IIT-KGP. Head, SPFU-WB and DTE along with Project Coordinator and Advisor (M&E) on behalf of SPFU-WB attend the meeting. Head, Centre for Education Technology, Dean of Continuing and two other Sr. Professors of the Centre for Education Tech. attended on behalf of IIT KGP.

IIT KGP has agreed to the proposal of holding Pedagogical training for TEQIP-II institutes of W.B. and has communicated the schedule for 4 batches of training with 70 participants in each batch, to start from 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.

**Resolution:** Prof. Digraskar requested SPFU to continue with its efforts to organize Pedagogical Training for the Project institutes.

### ***3. Faculty and staff development under Management Capacity Enhance program:***

All the 15 participating institutes of West Bengal have been mapped with IIM Raipur for Management Capacity Enhancement Program.

DTE & Head SPFU WB attended two meetings organized at IIM Raipur where modules for different training programs were finalized. IIM Raipur also conducted one TEQIP Conclave on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 where participants from all institutes of the state of WB attended. IIM Raipur has also communicated the schedule for five training program on “Faculty Development for Achieving Excellence” and one Program on Capacity Enhancement for Administrative officers scheduled to be organized from August to December, 2014 at IIM Raipur.

**Resolution :** Members appreciated the initiative taken by DTE and Head SPFU to motivate the participating institutes of the state to take advantage of the training programs organized at IIM Raipur. They advised to continue the efforts and try to cover as many faculties and staff as possible from the participating institutes.

### ***4. Consideration for inclusion of IEST, Shibpur as one of the Centrally Funded Institution under TEQIP-II in view of transformation of BESU (a state funded university) to IEST, a Central institute***

Bengal Engg. & Science University, a state funded university of WB and participating under sub compt. 1.2 of TEQIP II has been declared as Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IEST) with the status of a centrally funded institute.

As the institute has been participating under TEQIP-II as a state funded institute with centre & state funding at 75:25 basis, the state Govt. has to provide 25% of the project fund for the institute. For any CFI, the concerned state Govt. has no financial liability under the project.

**Resolution :** The matter should be referred to MHRD, Govt. of India through the State Higher Education Deptt. for clarification on the following points :

- (i) Whether the institute will continue to function in the existing manner till the completion of the project (with 75:25, Centre:State funding)
- (ii) Whether the institute will function under the project of the state, till the allotted fund is utilized.
- (iii) Any other pattern that may be decided.

As there was no other matter to discuss, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the chair.