

MINUTES OF THE 4TH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING (DIAT, DU, PUNE)
HELD ON 20 FEB 09 AT 1000 HOURS

1. Following members, special invitees and invitees from DIAT attended the meeting:

CHAIRMAN

Shri M Natarajan
 Scientific Adviser to the Raksha Mantri,
 Secretary, Defence R&D and
 Director General Research & Development

MEMBERS

Dr. VK Aatre
 Former SA to RM

Dr. W. Selvamurthy
 DS & CCR&D (LS&HR)
 DRDO Headquarters

Vice Admiral DK Dewan, AVSM
 Chief of Personnel
 Naval Headquarters

Air Marshal Dhiraj Kukreja, AVSM, VSM
 Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff
 (Doctrine, Organisation & Training)
 Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff

Dr. SC Pandey
 Additional Financial Adviser (J) & Joint Secretary
 Integrated Finance (R&D)
 DRDO Headquarters

Dr. (Mrs) Niloufer A Kazmi
 Additional Secretary
 Rep of Chairman, UGC

Lt Gen (Dr) VJ Sundaram (Retd)
 PVSM, AVSM, VSM
 Advisor (Micro and Nanosystems)
 National Design and Research Forum

Dr. Haridwar Singh
 Emeritus Scientist

Air Marshal S Mukerji, SC, VSM
 Air Officer Personnel
 Air Headquarters

Maj Gen SP Singh, VSM
DGMT, Army Headquarters
Rep of DCOAS

Member Secretary

Prof LM Patnaik
Vice Chancellor
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

SPECIAL INVITEES

Prof. Arun Nigvekar
(Ex-Chairman, UGC and
Ex-Vice Chancellor, University of Pune)

Prof. NR Shetty
(President, Indian Society for Technical Education,
Ex-Vice Chancellor, Bangalore University,
Past Secretary, Indira Gandhi Centre for Performing Arts and Vice President,
Executive Council of International Federation of Engineering Education Societies
(IFEES))

Air Marshal BN Gokhale, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)
(Former Vice Chief of Air Staff)

Shri KN Rai
Advisor (SP)
DRDO Headquarters

Dr. SM Veerabhadrapa
Director, HRD
DRDO Headquarters

Dr. Narendra Kumar
Director of Personnel
DRDO Headquarters

Shri SK Deb
US (R&D)
DRDO Headquarters

INVITEES FROM DIAT

Prof. GC Pant
Pro-VC & Dean (Academics)
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

Rear Admiral Rakesh Bajaj, VSM
Dean (MT)
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology

Deemed University

Prof. SB Phadke, Sc.G (Retd)
Professor (Contract)
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

Prof. RD Misal
Finance Officer
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

Col MK Hada
Registrar
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

Col Salim Asif
Chief of Administration
Defence Institute of Advanced Technology
Deemed University

Prof. RA Yadav, Chairman, AICTE, Member and Mrs. Anita Sehgal, Special Invitee could not attend the meeting.

2. Prof. L M Patnaik welcomed all the distinguished members/special invitees/invitees to the 4th Governing Council Meeting (GCM). He stated that on assuming charge as the Vice Chancellor of DIAT on 28 Mar 08, he had tried his best to convene the Governing Council Meeting as soon as possible. The GCM could not be held since April 2006 due to several reasons which were beyond the control of the Vice Chancellor. Prior to the present meeting, an Executive Committee Meeting was held to prepare the Agenda for the GCM.

3. The Vice Chancellor introduced all the distinguished dignitaries present in the meeting some of whom he said were deeply involved in the formation of this University from its inception. Prof Patnaik then requested Shri M Natarajan, Chairman, to make his brief opening remarks.

PART I

4. The Chairman in his brief address expressed his happiness on the changed atmosphere. He presented in brief the experience of his interaction with academic institutions and industries in India as well as abroad. He said full credit must be given to Dr. VK Aatre, former SA to RM to transform IAT into a Deemed University and for his deep involvement in this Institute over long years. He recalled the efforts of Dr. Arunachalam, Dr. Aatre and Dr. Kalam to attempt to make this institution of small arms of DRDO into an independent technical institution like IIT to address the special requirements of advanced knowledge for defence applications. He mentioned about his

exposure to European, US and Russian designs. The Chairman highlighted the efforts to build products like battle tanks under high end technology. He traced the background for the creation of DRDS and then eventually DRTC, the change of character of DRDO from simple laboratory to the present level. The Defence applications need all the specialities; that is why this institution was started. While infrastructure facilities for the institutions can be provided, faculty can be trained to imbibe and infuse knowledge; this cannot happen in a strained atmosphere. The DIAT is funded by the Department of Defence R&D. This is not the only institution the Department of Defence R&D funds, there are a number of other institutions in different areas funded by the Department.

5. On a request from Prof Patnaik, Dr. VK Aatre gave a brief overview about his deep involvement in DIAT from its concept stage and his efforts towards successfully converting this institute into a Deemed University. When Electronics Fellowship Course was conducted at this Institute for 11 years, he very frequently visited this Institute. He mentioned about his setting up an Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Dhananjaya to look into all aspects like AICTE, UGC recognition and how to structure this Institute to get it recognised as a Deemed University. He has asked an assurance from the SA to RM and the Vice Chancellor, for the dream of Dr. Arunachalam and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam to materialise. Running a University is not very easy and he is aware of the difficulty in running institutions.

6. The Vice Chancellor made a brief presentation of DIAT activities. During the presentation following points were deliberated in detail and decisions wherever needed were taken.

- (a) It was observed by some members that the faculty and students ratio is an excellent one. Also the percentage of PhD degree holders among the faculty is quite good.
- (b) It was observed by the members that M.Sc (Military Technology) has 3 semesters for non-tech phase and 2 semesters for tech phase and that some officers of non-tech phase are not science graduates; they hold BA degree. These are not usual practices in the award of M.Sc. degree in Universities. It was explained that the officers entering the course are qualified in some of the Army Courses. The members said that these eligibility specifications and course duration should be got approved by the UGC/AICTE since no formal approval from UGC has been obtained till now. It was stressed that a University can award standard degrees approved by the UGC guidelines. It was resolved that UGC approval for the M.Sc degree be sought at the earliest. Suitable entry qualification requirement, admission test procedure, syllabi update, and possible alternate name such as PG Diploma, certificate course; were suggested for the M.Sc. Course.
- (c) It was also felt that we should give exposure to the officers/ scientists/ engineers to 'Advanced Technology' by conducting short courses. This will be useful, as there are large number of officers in Armed Forces and all of them cannot undergo long courses.

7. The list of Suggestions for Consideration presented to the Governing Council by the Vice Chancellor was considered. Following decisions were taken.

7.1 ✓ The proposal to extend M.Tech Scholarship to Rs.8000/- per month and contingent grant if applicable was approved.

7.2 The proposal for additional Scholarship seats in various Departments desiring to have this provision was accepted.

✓ 7.3 Initially a modest number of ten non-DRDO Ph.D seats have been approved with standard selection, procedure and Scholarships.

✓ 7.4 The honorarium of Visiting Professors is increased to Rs.30,000/- per month from Rs. 20,000/- per month at present.

7.5 Starting of M.Tech degree in the Computer Engineering Department is approved.

✓ 7.6 Fresh Scholarship holders (non-DRDO and non-Service officers) should be taken into DIAT more in number.

7.7 The Governing Council approved that the age for retirement of members of the faculty recruited on regular basis shall be on attaining the age of 65 years, subject to observance and adherence to guidelines prescribed by UGC/AICTE/MHRD.

7.8 Prof. NR Shetty suggested the creation of ten Adjunct Professors.

7.9 Prof. Arun Nigvekar suggested the following:

- (i) The change of name of DIAT to "Defence Advanced Technology University" will be suitable for this Institute. He said that Deemed University can be dropped from the name of the University since UGC has notified this. There was also another suggestion of "Defence University of Advanced Technologies".
- (ii) As a UGC Chairman, he had interacted with Departments like Atomic Energy and Space. He emphasized that research is more important in DIAT for self-sufficiency in futuristic defence requirements. He stressed on the creation of such a structure where research is given more importance.

7.10 The members recommended that the selection of candidates for Ph.D and PG courses need not be done by RAC. It should be done by the University itself as is done in other Universities/institutions. However, RAC experts can be included in the selection process, if need be. The same practice can be followed for recruitment of faculty and staff members, with inclusion of RAC experts if required. However, standard UGC/AICTE/MHRD norms should be followed with the approval of the Chairman, Governing Council; for selection of faculty members.

8. Dr. Aatre recalled the efforts of Dr. Arunachalam who was instrumental in initiating efforts to set up DIAT as a Deemed University. He mentioned that Institutions cannot be created but they have to evolve and there has to be constructive destruction to build new Institutions.

9. Dr. Nigvekar mentioned that short courses can be given credit through a process of examination. A suitable combination of such courses through a formal examination

mechanism can be considered towards a diploma or certificate programme. He stated that the Vice Chancellor is the academic and administrative Head and he is authorised to evolve the operating procedures/structure, if need be, through the appointment of suitable committees. Once the operational budget is allotted, he is at liberty to spend the budget within the financial regulations. The Vice Chancellor is empowered to appoint/recruit staff members for the University and take necessary disciplinary action against students and staff members.

10. Dr. Aatre questioned about the Implementation Committee Report. Dr. Haridwar Singh who was the Chairman of this Committee stated that Phase I of the Committee Report was submitted. It was felt that the activities of the Committee have to be revived.

11. Air Marshal Gokhale mentioned about separate MOUs with DRDO, Services and PSUs, to be set up by the DIAT.

12. About the personal concerns expressed by the Vice Chancellor, Dr. W Selvamurthy said that the Secretary, Department of Defence R&D authorises one of the Chief Controllers on his behalf to facilitate the functioning of the University. The Chairman made it amply clear that the Vice Chancellor, DIAT is the academic and administrative head and is empowered to function independently, without any control from the Services (IDS) and DRDO. The DRDO Headquarters is only facilitating the functioning of the University. DIAT is an autonomous body and the DRDO and the Services (IDS) have no control over the DIAT. The University should evolve its own operating principles/ structure. Once the budget is approved by the competent authorities, it becomes the proprietary of the Vice Chancellor to operate the budget, within the financial regulations. The Vice Chancellor has full freedom on all issues of the University. The Vice Chancellor is at liberty to appoint Committees for academic, financial, accommodation, administration, and on any other issues for the smooth functioning of the University. Since funds are granted by DRDO, necessary administrative and financial procedures are ensured by the DRDO. The Chairman also mentioned that there is no rigidity about percentage of staff from DRDO/Services or any other sources. These can be changed as per the requirements of the University. Vice Admiral Dewan expressed that the sensitivity of services should be considered. It was felt that in future the Governing Council should meet frequently to overcome several bottlenecks at the initial stage.

PART II AGENDA POINTS

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 3rd GCM : The Minutes of 3rd Governing Council Meeting held on 01 Apr 06 were approved.
2. Academic Freedom Regarding Scholarships and Academic Programmes etc. : Complete academic freedom is granted to the University.
3. Tenure of Service Officers: The issue has been deliberated in the meeting. It was decided that due to services constraints the tenure of Service Officers for 3 years is good enough. Service officers should be posted with the approval of the Vice

Chancellor who will select the name from a panel of officers and if not found satisfactory the officer can be posted out within 89 days. This has the sanction from an earlier Governing Council.

4. Permanent Posting of Medical Officer, Chief of Administration, Registrar, Finance Officer, Internal Auditor: These posts should be filled on a permanent basis through open advertisement.
5. Recognition of DIAT as Selection Centre for Campus Interview by the RAC: This has already been considered by the RAC. The first campus interview was held during Feb 09 and six students have been selected for Scientist B posts in DRDO.
6. Academic and Research Facilities to be offered to Friendly Countries: This has been accepted and the Vice Chancellor is empowered to take necessary action. Security aspects should be kept in mind.
7. Convocation Fund: This has already been approved by the Department of Defence R&D and a letter to this effect has been issued.
8. Medical Reimbursement Facilities: In principle the GC has accepted the proposal of strengthening healthcare facilities; in the interim it is approved to set up links with a suitable authorised Hospital for medical services. Appointment of part-time doctors and introduction of health care/insurance scheme adopted in ADA were also approved in principle. Detailed scheme has to be worked out by the DIAT authorities.
9. Review of Statutes: The issues raised by the Services have been discussed with the representatives from DRDO and Services in a meeting held on 13 Feb 2009 and they have been resolved satisfactorily. The GC has suggested to appoint a Committee to look into all aspects of the Statutes and University rules and regulations for faculty members and other members and come up with detailed and comprehensive Statutes, rules and regulations for DIAT, Deemed University. This decision revives the activities of the implementation committee, discussed earlier. The stakeholders, viz Services/HQ IDS and DRDO are suggested to send the names of their representatives on this committee. This committee should be given all documents, the present Statutes, record note of the meeting held on 13 Feb 2009 and any other documents, which are being presently followed at DIAT to suggest any changes to the existing documents. It is resolved that the Vice Chancellor is empowered to set up this Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. R. Natarajan, Ex-AICTE Chairman. The Committee should be requested to submit the report within three months, after which it should be put up to the Governing Council for approval.
10. Appointment of Pro-VC From Services: Dr. Aatre informed the Committee that there was no mention of Pro-VC in the University documents/by-laws as conceived by him. This post is not required. Members expressed the opinion that large Universities do not have the position of Pro-VC. In many cases this post is filled by the Vice Chancellor.

There was also a feeling that such a post is co-terminus with the post of Vice Chancellor. Opinions were expressed regarding the abolition of this post and a Senior

Dean/Professor to be In Charge during the absence of the Vice Chancellor to look after routine duties of DIAT. However the services representative wanted this post to continue in view of the special nature of the University. Some members also expressed that since the rotation scheme of the Pro-VC post is in vogue very recently, it should be tried for some more time before any changes are made. However, it was decided that the above Committee be asked to look into this aspect as well.

11. Any Other Points with Permission of the Chairman:

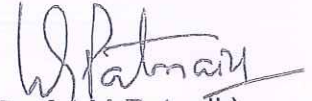
- (a) Prof. Arun Nigvekar suggested that the University should prepare 'Enabling Management Structure' for academic, administrative and financial aspects.
- (b) Prof. NR Shetty informed that after setting up, most universities forget the MOA of the Society which is the base document for making the structure of the University. While making the guidelines, rules and regulations for the DIAT, the Committee appointed above should refer to this MOA and other documents such as Society document; and frame the guidelines, rules and regulations, and operating procedures for the DIAT.
- (c) Annual Reports and Audited Statement of Accounts for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08: The Committee approved these documents.
- (d) The DGMT informed the Committee that the feedback received from the students of TSOC is very encouraging. After this course, they are exceptionally well-equipped to serve in their assignments in the Army.
- (e) A remark was made by VADM DK.Dewan that the services' student strength had been larger than those of the DRDO and others. To this the Chairman explained, this is going to change because the DRDO is recruiting more than 400 scientists every year and they have to be trained in Masters and Doctoral courses of DIAT. It was also observed by others that there are more than 50 Scientists from DRDO who have registered for Ph.D. Also the 49 permanent teaching staff are from the DRDO.. The twelve POINTS programmes running for 20 weeks each have trained about 4000 Scientists so far. A number of DRDO Scientists pursue their M.Tech degree. Thus the contribution of DRDO in DIAT is not any way lower.
- (f) General Sundaram informed that the course he had undergone in DIAT had played a major role in his career and various assignments. He praised his mentors who had taught him during this course. DIAT is a premier institution, unique one and has been serving the requirement of Defence. He has requested the Vice Chancellor, not to get disappointed with the difficulties in running the University. He has assured his full support and assistance in the smooth functioning of the University to the Vice Chancellor.

12. Finally the Chairman summarised that the Vice Chancellor is the ultimate administrative functionary and custodian of discipline of the University to be run in an Autonomous mode. The DRDO and Services will not interfere with the running of the University which should run in the pattern of any other Central University/IIT. The posting of the Service Officers will be with the concurrence of the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor is at liberty to set up various committees, whenever needed, to set the administrative system into operation.

13. The Vice Chancellor conveyed his sincere thanks to the Chairman and to all the distinguished members/special invitees/invitees for their interaction, visionary advice

and guidance. He said that he has received tremendous support from all officers of the DRDO Headquarters, in particular from the CCR&D (LS & HR), Dr. W. Selvamurthy.

14. There being no other points, the meeting adjourned at 1330 hours.
15. The Minutes are issued with the approval of the Chairman, Governing Council.



(Prof. LM Patnaik)
Vice Chancellor, DIAT
Member Secretary
17 Mar 09

Distribution:

All concerned