Minutes of the 91st Governing Body meeting of Indian Council of Philosophical Research held on September 21, 2023, at 11.00 A.M. at India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

The 91stMeeting of the Governing Body of the Council was held on September 21, 2023 at 1100 hours at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The following members were present:-

1. Professor Raghuvendra Tanwar, Chairman, ICPR

Member

2. Shri Subrat Kumar Pradhan, Director (ICR), MoE, (Representative of Secretary, Higher Education)

Member

3. Shri Vivek Kumar, Under Secretary (IFD), MoE, (Representative of Financial Advisor, MoE)

Member

4. Professor Sachchidanand Mishra, Member-Secretary, ICPR Member

From the ICPR office, Dr. Pooja Vyas, Director attended the meeting.

Item No.1: To confirm the minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on April 06, 2023

Comments IFD:

Subject to strict compliance of the relevant Statutory provisions and also strict compliance of the related Government of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commissions, the minutes may be confirmed.

Decision:

The Members noted and approved the minutes of the 90th Governing Body meeting held on April 06, 2023.

Item No.2: To report about the Action Taken on the minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on April 6, 2023

Comments IFD:

Subject to strict compliance of the relevant Statutory provisions and also strict compliance of the related Government of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commissions, the action taken may be noted.

Decision:

The Governing Body considered the Action Taken Report of the 90th Governing Body meeting of the Council held on April 06, 2023 and noted the action initiated by the Council.

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Item No.3: To approve Annual Accounts of the Council for the year 2022-23

Comments IFD:

It is seen that schedules forming part of Council for the year 2022-23. Annual Accounts have not been prepared as per the Revised Formats of Accounts for CEis and instructions/guidelines which were issued vide MHRD's letter No. 29-4/2012- IFD dated 17.04.2015. For example, ICPR has mentioned Current Liabilities & Provisions in schedule-2, however, as per MoE format, designated/earmarked/ endowment funds should be mentioned in schedule-2. Similarly, ICPR has mentioned Fixed Assets in schedule-3, however, as per MoE format, Fixed Assets should be mentioned in schedule-4. The same mistake has been made in most of the schedules. Therefore, ICPR is advised to prepare the Annual Accounts as per format and place before the Governing Body for consideration.

- 2. Further, it is seen that in agenda item No.12, ICPR has informed that C&AG conducted audit of the Annual Accounts for the year 2022-23 on 4-D August, 2023. ICPR may clarify why approval of Finance Committee & Governing Body was not obtained before audit of C&AG.
- 3. As per guidelines, Every Institution should complete its accounts within a period of 3 months after the close of accounting year and make them available for auditing. Auditing of the account and furnishing of relies to the audits objections, if any, together with the translation and printing of reports should be complete within the next 6 months so that the reports and audit account are laid before the Parliament within 9 months after closure of account year.

There Is considerable delay in submission of account 2022-2023. Hence, ICPR may clarify the same.

Decision:

The IFD representative pointed out that the Annual Accounts for the year 2022-23 is not prepared as per the revised formats of Accounts of MoE. It was ensured that from next year, the Annual Accounts of the Council will be prepared as per the format prescribed by the Ministry as suggested by IFD, MoE.

The Governing Body approved the Annual Accounts of the Council for the year 2022-23.

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Item No.4: To purchase the capital assets for ICPR Office, New Delhi

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India Instructions and within the sanctioned Budget grant.

Decision:

The Governing Body resolved that the proposal be re-worked out with proper justification and be submitted in the next Governing Body meeting for consideration and approval.

Item No. 5: To install Solar Panel at ICPR Building

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India Instructions and within the sanctioned Budget grant.

Decision:

The Governing Body resolved that the proposal be re-worked out with proper justification to be submitted in the next Governing Body meeting for consideration and approval.

Item No.6: To repair ICPR Building, Darshan Bhawan, New Delhi

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India Instructions and within the sanctioned Budget grant.

Decision:

The Governing Body resolved that the office should prepare a comprehensive note with Detailed Project Report and matter be placed in the next Governing Body meeting for consideration and approval.

Item No.7: To report installation of video-audio system at ICPR Conference Hall, Darshan Bhawan, New Delhi

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India Instructions and within the sanctioned Budget grant.

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Decision:

The Governing Body opined that the matter should have been submitted in Finance Committee for approval. It is advised that the matter be placed in the Finance Committee with proper justification for consideration and approval. Thereafter, be submitted for Governing Body for consideration.

Item No.8: To consider filling up posts on regular appointment and appointment of consultants/contractual staff in ICPR

Comments IFD:

Since draft recruitment rules of ICPR are pending with Ministry of Education for approval, ICPR is advised to wait for approval of recruitment rules from Ministry.

Decision:

The Governing Body resolved that fresh advertisement be made for the posts of Director (P&R), Superintendent and Assistant as per existing Recruitment Rules.

The Governing Body also approved holding Screening Committee/Interviews against non-available officers as per ICPR Recruitment Rules in the Composition of DPC or Selection Committee by taking Members of equivalent grade from sister organizations like ICHR, ICSSR, IIAS, etc. as a special case.

Item No.9: To consider the draft Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Council for the year 2022-23

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting.

Decision:

The Governing Body approved the draft Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Council for the year 2022-23.

Item No.10:To report about the Budget Allocation and expenditure incurred upto September 01, 2023 for the year 2022-23

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India instructions.

Decision:

The Governing Body noted and approved statement of expenditure incurred against the above grant upto September 01, 2023.

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Item No.11: To report about the action taken against the Transaction Audit Report

Comments IFD:

Each para may be discussed in detail. Pending audit paras may be settled as per GoI rules, in consultation with the office of DGACR.

Decision:

The Governing Body noted the recommendations of the Committee and resolved that a detailed Action Taken Report on the Transaction Audit paras in the format given below be submitted in the next Governing Body meeting for consideration and approval.

Sr.	Observation	of	Recommendation	of	the	Action	Taken	by
No.	Audit		Committee			Council		

Item No.12: To report about the SAR 2022-23 CAG Report

Comments IFD:

Observations of the audit contained in the SAR for the year 2022-23 may be complied with at the earliest.

Decision:

The Governing Body noted that the CAG conducted audit for year 2022-23 from August 04-10, 2023 and approved the agenda item.

Item No.13: To report about the obsolete items lying in the ICPR

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in detail in the meeting as per GFRs, 2017 and other relevant Government of India instructions.

Decision:

The Governing Body noted and approved condemnation of obsolete items to be done by Council as per extant government procedures and rules.

Item No.14: To report about the extension granted to Shri D.P. Bhattahacharya, Consultant (PS)

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in the meeting in the light of relevant provisions/instructions.

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Decision:

The Governing Body did not approve extension of Shri D.P. Bhattacharya, Consultant (PS) beyond 65 years and instructed to relieve him with immediate effect.

However, Governing Body resolved that someone else may be hired a Consultant only for three months following strictly the Government of India rules and norms, in case Member-Secretary feels it most necessary.

Item No.15: To consider the request of Shri Mohinder Pal Chopra, Senior PA for promotion to the grade of Private Secretary

Comments IFD:

The agenda item is not recommended. Any recruitment should be made as per recruitment rules after approval from Ministry of Education.

Decision:

The Governing Body discussed the agenda item and resolved that the post is lying vacant from 2008 and the last incumbent was given ad-hoc promotion only for one day subject to revival of the post from Administrative Ministry. The Governing Body resolved that a request letter be sent to the Administrative Ministry for revival of the post.

Item No.16: To consider re-entrustment of audit of the Council to DGACR for the year 2023-24 to 2028-29

Comments IFD:

Proposal may be sent to Ministry of Education for taking approval of Ministry of Finance.

Decision:

The Governing Body discussed assigning the statutory audit responsibility to DGACR for a further period of 5 years from 2023-24 to 2028-2029 and resolved that a proposal be sent to Ministry for consideration and approval.

Item No.17: To consider proposal for grant of medical facility to the staff of Council

Comments IFD:

Detailed proposal may be sent to Ministry for consideration.

Decision:

The Governing Body noted the implementation of Central Service (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 and resolved that a meeting be convened with the officers of ICSSR and ICHR and the decision of the Committee be sent to the Administrative Ministry for consideration and approval.

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Item No.18:

To consider the case of increase of salary of Shri Suraj Babu, LDC on contract basis

Comments IFD:

ICPR may clarify on what basis contractual employees are being paid remuneration at par with the permanent employees and whether approval of Ministry of Education was obtained before engagement. Further, ICPR is advised to fill all vacant posts on regular basis after approval of the recruitment rules.

Decision:

The Member-Secretary clarified that contractual employees are being paid minimum pay of corresponding pay scale plus other allowances on the basis of "Equal Work and Equal Pay" and they are not granted any annual increment and any other facilities.

Governing Body instructed the council to fill up all vacant posts on regular basis.

Item No.19: To Consider Editorial Board of JICPR and appointment of Chief Editor, JICPR

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in the meeting in the light of relevant provisions/instructions.

Decision:

The Governing Body authorised Hon'ble Chairman for selection of names of the Editorial Board and Editor-in-Chief of JICPR. Hon'ble Chairman advised Member-Secretary to submit a list of scholars for consideration.

Item No.20: To report hiring of Security services and Housekeeping services through GeM

Comments IFD:

May be discussed in the meeting as per GFR17 and other relevant Government of India instructions.

Decision:

The Governing Body approved hiring of Security services from M/s Gayatri Webtech Pvt. Ltd. for providing 06 security guards for 24x7 for the period 07.05.2023 to 11.05.2024 with contract amount of Rs.26,49,673/-, and services of housekeeping from M/s KDS International Pvt. Ltd. for providing 02 housekeeping staff for the period 01.09.2023 to 05.09.2024 with contract amount of Rs.6,02,299/- through GeM.

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Item No.21: To consider Indian Panels for the World Congress of Philosophy to be held at Rome, Italy, during August 1-8, 2024

Comments IFD:

Detailed proposal may be sent to Ministry of Education for consideration.

Decision:

The Governing Body discussed the proposal to send Indian delegation at the World Congress of Philosophy to be held at Rome, Italy, during 1-8 August 2024 and instructed that a detailed proposal be sent to Ministry for further consideration.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Sachchidanand Mishra) Member-Secretary (Raghuvendra Tanwar)

Chairman