



10, Institutional Area, Vasant Kunj,
New Delhi 110 070

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY FOURTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
HELD ON DECEMBER 23, 2019**

The Thirty- Fourth meeting of the Board of Management was held on 23 December 2019 at 14:00 hours at the Conference Room.

PRESENT:

The following were present:

Dr Manipadma Datta, Vice Chancellor (Acting)	Chairperson
Dr Ajay Mathur, DG TERI	Special Invitee
Prof George John	
Prof Bhim Singh	
Dr Nimmi Singh	
Dr Alok Adholeya	
Dr Atul Kumar, Dean (Academic)	
Dr Arun Kansal, Dean (Research & Relationship)	
Dr Ramakrishnan Sitaraman	
Dr Vishnu Konoorayar	
Dr Sapan Thapar	On invitation
Mr Dhanraj Singh	On invitation
Mr Sandeep Arora	On invitation
Capt Pradeep Kumar Padhy (Retd.), Registrar	Secretary

Dr E Somanathan, Dr Sachin Chaturvedi and Mr R R Rashmi were unable to attend the meeting.

The Chairperson placed on record the immense contribution of outgoing members and thanked them for their yeoman service to the institution. He welcomed the new members Prof George John, Prof. Bhim Singh and Dr Nimmi Singh to the Board and briefly shared their background and expertise with other members. The Chair welcomed Dr Mathur, DG TERI to the Board and thanked him for joining the Board as a special invitee. DG TERI stated that TERI & TERI SAS were passing through challenging times and TERI stands behind TERI SAS in these hours of need. He stated that members of the Board are well aware and better equipped to take the hard decisions for the institute for a better future.

ITEM NO.1. To confirm the minutes of the Thirty Third meeting of the Board of Management held on 16 September 2019. The Registrar intimated that the minutes of the Thirty Third meeting of the Board of Management held on 16 September 2019 were circulated to the members of the Board and comments on the same were received with copies to all members. The Board reviewed the comments received and took cognisance of the fact that the VC has formulated a committee to look into the issues of new promotion policy and probation/confirmation rules were applicable only at the initial stage of recruitment.

TS/BM/34.1.1. The Board discussed and confirmed the minutes of the Thirty Third meeting as circulated.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

ITEM NO 2 (a). MoU signed with CPWD, New Delhi. The Registrar informed that a MoU was signed between TERI SAS and CPWD, New Delhi on 24 September 2019 and under the MoU, the two parties had agreed to work together for mutual benefits in collaborative research, joint PhD supervision, joint publications projects, activities in the areas of water science & governance, renewable energy engineering, sustainable agriculture, nano-biotechnology etc. Dean (Academic) informed that CPWD training centre at Ghaziabad, worked on several areas on renewable energy engineering with documented process and data which would be used by researchers at the University and TERI SAS would provide knowledge partnership to CPWD.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(b). MoU signed with University of Science, Engineering and Technology, Gambia. The Registrar informed that an agreement had been signed between TERI SAS and University of Science, Engineering and Technology, Gambia on 30 October, 2019 to explore and implement mutually rewarding viable initiatives focused on among others, exchange of faculty & students, joint research projects, conferences, capacity building programs etc. Dean (Research & Relationship) informed that the education minister of Government of Gambia visited TERI SAS for seeking partnership and monitoring the setting up of a Centre on Sustainability Science & Environmental Studies, renewable energy & engineering and other cultural areas.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(c). MoU signed with Lomonosov Moscow State University. The Registrar informed that a MoU was signed between TERI SAS and Lomonosov Moscow State University on December 10, 2019 to promote research and innovation in climate change ecology, multicultural practices through student and faculty exchange including traditional knowledge available within both countries to tackle climate change and promote ethics and value-based education system. The Chair informed that the MOU with Lomonosov Moscow State University was entered into under the umbrella of BRICS University Network in which TERI SAS was a member. He stated that amongst the 16 institutions from members countries, TERI SAS was the only self-funding non-government institutions and MHRD wanted the institutions to develop collaboration on specific areas.

On a query from a member, the Chair informed that the agreement was for Masters programmes and logistics costs for implementation would be covered from MHRD funding. The Chair mentioned that an agreement was also being developed with University of Durham for conducting workshop jointly so as to identify the areas of common research.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(d). Language Laboratory. The Registrar informed that AICTE while providing Extension of Approval (EOA) for A.Y. 2019-20 for technical programmes had directed TERI SAS to provide additional facilities such as standard Language Laboratory, Workshop-basic and Drawing Halls. He stated that the Vice Chancellor met the Chairperson, AICTE on 23 Sep 2019 and apprised him about the unique character of the institution and sought waiver from all such requirements. He stated that the AICTE eased the requirements which came down to setting up Language Lab only. The Registrar informed that a language lab with 20 nodes had been set up in the Campus and the facility would be used by the university for language training of Indian and foreign students. On the queries of members as to how the lab would be used, the Chair informed that the issue was discussed in Academic Council and as advised a SOP would be prepared to help operationalise the facility. The Chair informed that the University did not have communication faculty and therefore language lab could play a vital role in developing language skills especially in English as the university enrolled students from Africa and Afghanistan. He stated that the facility could be progressively used for future collaboration with foreign universities. Dr Ramakrishnan suggested that future standing of TERI SAS with AICTE would be greatly strengthened if steps could be taken to establish workshop facilities to the extent possible and added that it would impact the NAAC rating in terms of infrastructure as well. Dr Adholeya suggested whether TERI SAS could fulfil other requirements as suggested by AICTE. The Chair informed that the AICTE had already dropped the other requirements, hence it was not needed, therefore not being pursued.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(e). Discontinuation of Distance Education Programmes. The Registrar informed that TERI SAS had been offering two Distance Education Programmes on renewable energy w.e.f. 2012 with the approval of UGC. He stated that the UGC had made it mandatory for Higher Education Institutions to have valid NAAC grading of minimum 3.26 to be eligible to offer Distance Education Programmes. He informed that since TERI SAS received a score of 2.84 in the NAAC accreditation, hence became ineligible to offer Distance Education Programmes and therefore registrations had been discontinued after last enrolment in July 2019. He stated that TERI, the sponsoring society had been requested to offer these programmes as non UGC - professional development courses under its umbrella. The DG, TERI informed that there was a network of both the institutions and people and it would be strengthened further. He stated that till the University gets the desired rating, TERI would be glad to work with the TERI School to offer these programmes. He emphasised the need for thorough preparation and accurate presentation of information to achieve the desired NAAC grade. The Chair apprised the Board that the

IQAC along with an executive were looking into all aspects of NAAC application. Prof George John stated that there was no reason for the University to score below 3.26 and all efforts be made to achieve the score.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(f). Membership of IRENA Coalition. Dr Sapan Thapar informed that the Coalition for Action Steering Group had accepted TERI SAS' membership application. He stated that TERI SAS was one of the few institutions from India to become member of IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) which is an intergovernmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future and has 94 members including private companies, industry associations, civil society, research institutes and international organizations which form a key international network to discuss industry trends, share knowledge and exchange best practices for the global energy transformation. He intimated members that the membership would enable TERI SAS to become part of an international network working on global energy transformation.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(g). Observer Status in UNCCD. The Registrar informed that the fourteenth session of the Conference of Parties (COP 14) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) had accorded observer status to TERI School of Advanced Studies. He stated that this accreditation would be valid for all sessions of the COP and its subsidiary bodies and as an accredited observer, TERI SAS would automatically receive an official invitation to attend the sessions of the COP and its Subsidiary Bodies. Dean (Academic) stated that the UNCCD was one of the treaties of the UN where countries negotiate and prepare action plan for combatting desertification and the participation of institutions is through observer and it would be an opportunity to showcase our work and generate funding interests. He stated that TERI SAS also received the Observer status of UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.). The Chair informed that TERI SAS conducted a special session in UNCCD COP 14 on "Green On My Plate: Our Food, Our Planet, Our Choice" where faculty, PhD scholars and masters students participated.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO 2(h). Meeting with Chairman, UGC. The Chair informed that he met Chairman UGC on 05 November 2019 and apprised him about pressing issues and held discussion with respect to areas related to approval norms for setting up Off Campus Centre, proposal of 12B and other statutory compliances related to infrastructure. He informed that the Chairman UGC had agreed to visit TERI SAS in January 2020 for an interaction with faculty members.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO.3. To record Resolution by Circulation on conferral of Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa. The Registrar informed that as resolved vide the BoM resolution TS/BM/33.11.1

dated 16 Sep 19 an internal committee recommended the name of Dr Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan, renowned space scientist, former Chairman, ISRO, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri for the award of the Doctor of Philosophy, *Honoris Causa*. He stated that a resolution for approval of the name was circulated on 25 Sept 2019 by electronic mail and the Board had resolved to approve the same and the resolution is recorded as under: -

TS/BM/34.3.1. The Board resolved to confer Doctor of Philosophy, *Honoris Causa* on Dr Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan, at the 12th Convocation of TERI School of Advanced Studies.

ITEM NO.4. To discuss and approve revision of Contract with M/s M/s International Tractors Ltd. The Registrar informed that, DDA rules permitted socio-cultural institutions like TERI to sublet 25% of the total build-up area on the condition that 15% of the rent realised be paid to DDA. He stated that since the property of TERI SAS is in the name of TERI, the Governing Council of TERI authorised the University vide their resolution dated 19th Aug 2016(59th meeting) to rent out a portion of the Campus on behalf of TERI and based on the same the BoM vide resolution TU/BM/20.7.1 dated 30 May 2016 resolved to approve subletting of up to 2097.47 Sq Mtrs of space. He stated that the Board was accordingly intimated at its 21st meeting about subletting of the space to M/s International Tractors Limited at a cost of Rs.42, 17,875/- per month with the provision to enhance the amount by 15% every three years. He apprised members that M/s International Tractors Limited occupied the premise in October 2016 and after initial three years of lease period in October 2019 had communicated for substantially reducing the rent arguing that comparable rates in and around University area are much lower and suggested to make the revised rate at par with the other institutional agencies around TERI SAS and to renew the contract.

Mr Dhanraj Singh, Dy Fin Officer presented the financial and contract details of the rent agreement with M/s International Tractors Ltd and clarified the need for negotiation of rent and the points raised by the tenant. The Chair informed about the background of negotiations with M/s International Tractors Ltd. and stated that M/s ITL had shown interest for developing partnership in specific areas. He stated that after few rounds of negotiation at different level of functionaries a 7.5% hike from existing rent rates with existing security deposit amount had been successfully persuaded. Mr Dhanraj Singh mentioned that the revised rates had been discussed in the Finance Committee at its 20th meeting held on 09 Dec 2019. The Chair informed that the premises could not be kept vacant as the rent covers the significant cost of TERI SAS expenses and given the scenario of rent rates in the Vasant Kunj area and the property rates. Dr Ramakrishna suggested that to avoid dependence on one tenant, 06 months before the next renewal cycle the rent space be advertised to seek and check better offers available in the market.

The members of the Board appreciated the circumstances under which the contract with present tenant is continued and concurred with the proposed negotiated rate of the Maintenance fee to Rs 42.37 from existing Rs 35/- and Amenities Fees to Rs 38/- per sqft from existing Rs 30/-.

TS/BM/34.4.1. The Board resolved to approve the following: -

- (a) To renew the contract with M/s International Tractor Ltd with revised maintenance fee rate of Rs 42.37/- and Amenities Fee of Rs 38/- at existing security deposit amount for a period of three years wef 01 October 2019.
- (b) Authorise the Vice Chancellor/Registrar to renew the lease with M/s International Tractors Limited on the revised terms.

ITEM NO.5. To approve appointment of Faculty. The Registrar informed that the Vice Chancellor, has cleared two appointment based on the due selection process, exercising the power conferred at Para 33 (iv) of the MoA and Rules. He presented the names and appointment letters to the Board.

TS/BM/34.5.1. The Board resolved that the action taken by Chairperson, BoM, reported and recorded as per details given below, be approved: -

Ser	Name	Offer letter issued for appointment as	Department
a	Dr Vidhi Madaan Chadda	Assistant Professor	Centre of Post Graduate Legal Studies
b	Dr Imraan Khan	Assistant Professor	Department of Business & Sustainability

ITEM NO.6. To approve the award of Degrees and other academic titles based on Final Examination 2019. The Registrar presented the list of students declared qualified after the last meeting of the Board. He informed that on the executive approval of the Chair, all these students had been awarded Degree at the 12th convocation held on 14 Nov 2019.

TS/BM/34.6.1. The Board resolved to approve the grant of degrees to the students placed at Enclosure 1.

ITEM NO 7. To discuss and approve amendments to Compendium of Rules of TERI SAS. The Registrar presented a proposed list of amendments and stated that the justification for the same had been circulated to members along with the agenda. He stated that some of the amendments had become necessary because of change in designation and the position of Pro VC falling vacant. The DG, TERI suggested that wherever nomination by VC has been suggested be stroked with ProVC as in future the University might have a Pro VC. The Finance Officer stated that Compendium of Rules of the University approved by the Board vide its resolution TU/BM/23.6.1 dated 01 March 2017 stipulated the procurement process and delegated financial powers of University authorities. He stated that after implementation of the rules in May 2017 certain practical difficulties were being faced with respect to aspects such as cash purchase and ex-posto approval process for procurements carried out in emergency. He stated that amendments as proposed to the existing rules had been accepted by the Finance Committee through a resolution by circulation circulated on 18 Dec 2019. Members discussed the amendments and

concurred with them. The Board further recommended that cash/petty transactions up to Rs.10,000/- and credit purchase of items up to Rs. 10000/- without issuance of purchase order could be adopted.

TS/BM/34.7.1. The Board resolved to approve the amendments to compendium of Rules as amended and placed at Enclosure 2.

ITEM NO.8. To report the cases of cessation of employment/contract at TERI SAS. The following details since September 2019 were presented to the Board: -

Ser	Name	Wef
a	Mr Surya P Sethi	31 October 2019
b	Mr Dinesh Varma	29 November 2019
c	Dr Anjal Prakash	30 November 2019

Dr Adholeya suggested that at TERI appointments were made based on outstanding qualifications or experience and need. He opined that in the academics, the faculty teaching load, student ratio also needed to be taken into consideration while appointing people. Dr Adholeya suggested that when the positions were being created, it would be appropriate to bring them to the BoM explaining the need for such positions. The Chairman intimated that at TERI SAS, a practice had long been followed to appoint faculty as and when ‘needed’. He appreciated the observation made by Dr Adholeya and intimated that he had already initiated the work to rationalise strength of manpower in the University and also review the related processes. He further informed that the VC and Deans had been trying to do restructuring of the staff. He stated that there was a huge imbalance in the distribution of faculty in different programmes and departments and efforts were on to rationalise the structure.

The Board noted the matter.

ITEM NO.9. Update on Hyderabad campus. The Registrar gave a brief presentation on the background of proposed off-campus at Hyderabad. He stated that the UGC, in response to a representation made by the University with respect to consideration for approval of the Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad had advised to pursue the proposal under existing 2009, Deemed University Regulation which permitted institutions with NAAC score above 3.26 to have off campus. The Chair stated that consequent to the second accreditation NAAC score of TERI SAS becoming less than 3.26, the University had become ineligible to open Off Campus Centre. He apprised members that to look into alternate possibilities, the DG and himself visited the campus on 23-25 October 2019. He informed that there being no progress in construction for 3-4 months and failure by the contracted firm to revive the bank guarantee, the contracted vendor had been intimated about termination on 18 Dec 2019 and efforts were on to engage another construction firm to complete the task. He stated that after an introductory discussion under the umbrella of Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce, the CEO of Phoenix Group Mr Suresh had shown interest in the project and he as well as Mr Pramath Sinha visited TERI SAS on December 9th to discuss modalities for a collaboration and the proposal was being pursued jointly by TERI and TERI SAS. He informed that the contract of the Director,

Hyderabad Campus cum project manager of the project had been terminated and Associate Director (Admin), TERI SAS would now take care of Hyderabad campus in his place. The Board members suggested that TERI SAS should look at alumni of TERI and TERI SAS to raise funds. The Chair informed that he would discuss the issue with the alumni members in this regard.

The Board noted the matter.

There being no other items for discussion the meeting came to an end at 16:30 hrs.

Sd/

Capt Pradeep Kumar Padhy (retd.)
Registrar

Enclosures: –

1. Additional list of Students who were awarded Degrees and other Academic Titles at 12th Convocation
2. Amendments to the Compendium of Rules

Distribution: -

Electronic Copy:

1. Chancellor, TERI School of Advanced Studies
2. Vice Chancellor, TERI School of Advanced Studies
3. All members of Board of Management
4. Website

Printed Copy:

5. Registrar, TERI School of Advanced Studies

Enclosure 1

(Refer to TS/BM/34.6.1)

**ADDITIONAL LIST OF STUDENTS WHO WERE AWARDED DEGREES AND OTHER
ACADEMIC TITLES AT 12TH CONVOCATION**

(A) Masters degree MBA (BS)

1	Sonali Aggarwal	1700116MBB
2	Kanishka Jain	1700176MBB
3	Rohan Mahajan	1700189MBB

(B) Doctoral degrees

1	Nehru Machineni	1032RPB
2	V Rangarajan	1212REA
3	Anand Kumar	1303RNA
4	Swarnalakshmi Umamaheswaran	1101RPA
5	Parvathi Jayasankar	1344RNB
6	Deepti Sharma	1004RNA
7	Madhuri Nanda	1425WSG
8	Debajit Palit	1127RPB
9	Sudeshna Maya Sen	1408RNA
10	Vivek Tyagi	1343RSB
11	Anoop Anand Malik	1313RBA

Enclosure 2
(Refer to TS/BM/34.7.1)

AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPENDIUM OF RULES

Chapter	Para	For	Read
Compendium Part II Chapter XIV		University Grievance Redressal Committee will consist of the following: - a. Pro VC b. Dean (Academic) c. Dean (Research & Relationship) d. Registrar e. One Professor f. Dy Registrar non-member Secy of this Committee	University Grievance Redressal Committee will consist of the following: - a. Pro VC or Nominee of VC b. Dean (Academic) c. Dean (Research & Relationship) d. Registrar e. One Professor f. Dy Registrar/Asst Registrar non-member Secy of this Committee
Compendium Part I Chapter VIII	8.5 part 3	Faculty Conduct Committee comprising of the following:- a. VC b. Pro VC c. All Deans d. Registrar (Secretary)	Faculty Conduct Committee comprises the following:- a. VC b. Pro VC or Nominee of VC c. All Deans d. Registrar (Secretary)
Compendium Part I Chapter IV, V, XVII, XVIII,		AGM	Associate Director (Admin)
Compendium Part I XIX		AGM	Associate Director (Admin) - Authorised to sign Purchase Order & Contracts within approved financial powers
Chapter I & II		Senior Manager/Manager	Staff at Pay Level 12 and above

Chapter	Article	For	Read
Compendium Part I XVIII	18.6 x	<p>By and large, payments should be made using cheques, credit cards or online payment methods and cash purchases may not be resorted to in normal circumstances. However, wherever it is unavoidable an expenditure up to Rs 2000/- (per transaction) may be resorted and with prior permission of the competent authority under the following conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity required is very less and of immediate nature. • Indenter is not able to provide the correct specifications. • Item not available on credit. <p>For Cash purchases the cash is to be withdrawn against Cash Purchase Approval.</p> <p>The amount of each withdrawn shall be settled within seven days.</p>	<p>By and large, payments should be made using cheques, credit cards or online payment methods and cash purchases may not to be resorted to in normal circumstances. However, wherever it is unavoidable an expenditure up to Rs 10000/- (per transaction) may be resorted and with prior permission of the competent authority under the following conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity required is very less and of immediate nature. • Indenter is not able to provide the correct specifications. • Item not available on credit. <p>Note. <i>Exceptions in the above limit will apply for incidental expenditures carried out during approved outstation Project /Field/Educational Trips. Bills on such cash purchases are to be submitted for ex-posto approval of competent financial authority</i></p>
Compendium Part I XVIII	18.6 xi	Rule does not exist	Approval for purchases upto Rs 10000/- on credit without issuance of Purchase Order (PO)