INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY RASHTRAPATI NIVAS, SHIMLA – 171 005

THE MINUTES OF ONE HUNDERED AND NINETEENTH (119th) MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY, SHIMLA HELD ON THE 03RD JUNE 2022 (FRIDAY) AT 02:00 PM AT SHIMLA (ON HYBRID MODE).

Present:

Professor Shailendra Raj Mehta : In Chair (Virtual Mode)

2. Professor Nageshwar Rao : Director, IIAS

3. Professor Rajneesh Kumar Shukla : Member

4. Professor Sunaina Singh : Member (Virtual Mode)

Shri Prem Chand, Secretary, IIAS was also invited to attend the meeting.

On behalf of Smt. Darshana M. Dabral, Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor (Higher Education), Union Ministry of Education (MoE), Smt. Kiran Arora, Under Secretary, Integrated Finance Division (IFD), MoE attended the meeting as her representative through virtual mode.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members of the reconstituted Finance Committee and also congratulated Professor Nageshwar Rao for assuming the additional charge of the Director of the Institute. Thereafter, the Agenda was taken up along with the item(s)-wise comments received from the office of the Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor (Higher Education), MoE, New Delhi vide e-mail dated 02nd June 2022 (copy attached herewith).

Item No. 1: To confirm the minutes of the 118th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 27th September 2021.

The Minutes were confirmed.

Item No. 2: To consider and approve the action taken report on the minutes of the 118th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 27th September 2021.

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH (119 $^{
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Action Taken under this item was approved.

Item No.3: To consider and approve the expenditure for the Financial Year 2021-22 under approved budgetary heads.

The Committee took note of the expenditure statement pertaining to the Financial Year 2021-22. However, the Committee observed that before sending the Budget Estimate and Revised Estimate to the Ministry, the Institute may get the same approved by the Finance Committee and the Governing Body. The Finance Committee was also apprised of the details of the Budget Estimate (BE) 2022-23.

This apart, the Committee also expressed the view that while placing the expenditure details, a flowchart of expenditure of previous financial year showing all the expenditure head-wise may also be mentioned. This expenditure should also contain the current balance in the bank account.

Item No. 4: To report Separate Audit Report for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 received from the office of the C&AG at Chandigarh.

The Committee deliberated on this item and mentioned that the Institute should make efforts to obtain the Separate Audit Report (SAR) well in time in a routine manner in future. The Committee also mentioned that compliance report on the observations of the audit may also be prepared by the Institute for submission to the audit soon thereafter so that objections do not figure in Balance Sheet of 2021-22.

The Finance Committee also desired that in future arrangements for Power Point Presentation may also be made. Further, it was mentioned that now-a-days, the meetings are conducted on virtual mode; hence, the Institute may also make arrangements for back up of internet connectivity in addition to the main source i.e. NIC/NKN fibre.

The Director apprised the Committee that the Institute has been facing great difficulties in obtaining the services of an Accounts Officer from the office of Principal Accountant General (PAG), Shimla because of the fact that the Institute has a sanctioned post of Accounts Officer in Pay Matrix Level-7. The recruitment rule in respect of the Accounts Officer of the Institute stipulates the following:

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH (119 $^{
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By transfer on deputation of Audit/Accounts Officer or Assistant Audit Officer with 3 years' Service from Audit and Accounts Department; failing which by direct recruitment.

However, the Accounts and Audit Officers in the office of the PAG have been placed in Level-10. Since, the Accounts and Audit Officers in the O/o the PAG are already in higher level, no officer from the office of the PAG working as Accounts and Audit Officer is interested to come to the Institute on deputation. The Institute has already taken up this matter with the Ministry.

The Finance Committee took note of the genuine problems being faced by the Institute in the matter and recommended upgradation of the post of the Accounts Officer of the Institute. In the light of this, it was decided that the Institute may send the proposal to the Ministry at the earliest.

Item No.5: To report the action taken by the former Chairman, Governing Body with regard to enhancement of honorarium to Resource Persons of the Winter School.

The Committee noted the action taken by the former Chairman, Governing Body. It was also decided to place the details of the honorarium given to the speakers invited by the Institute under different categories in the next meeting the Finance Committee for its perusal.

Item No. 6: Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair.

No item was discussed.

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

(Nageshwar Rao)
Director

(Shailendra Raj Mehta) Chairman