

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

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING (180TH) OF THE GOVERNING
BO DY OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY, SHIMLA, HELD ON 08TH
JULY 2025 (TUESDAY) AT 11:30 AM (ON VIRTUAL MODE).**

The Special Meeting (180th) of the Governing Body of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla, was held under the Chairmanship of Professor ShashiPrabha Kumar, Chairperson, Governing Body, on 08th July 2025 (Tuesday) at 11:30 AM (on Virtual Mode). A list of the Members present is given at **Annexure – ‘I’**.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members present, and thanked them for sparing their valuable time to attend the meeting.

Item-wise comments received from the office of the Secretary (Department of Higher Education), Ministry of Education (MoE) and the Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser (Department of Higher Education), IFD, MoE vide e-mail dated 07th July 2025, were placed before the Governing Body for information.

2. The following are the proceedings of the meeting:

SPECIAL ITEM (1): To consider the request of Shri Tikender Singh Panwar, Author and others external members for restoration of membership of IIAS Sports Complex in view of the decision of the Hon’ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla, in CWP No.7329/2025.

The Director briefed the Members of the Governing Body regarding the Indoor Sticky Tennis Court located within the premises of the erstwhile Viceregal Lodge, now housing the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Rashtrapati Nivas. The Director also apprised the Members of a joint representation submitted by Shri Tikender Singh Panwar and other external members.

It was further mentioned that the matter of extending membership of the IIAS Sports Complex to external members other than Fellows, Associates, and employees of the Institute (including their family members) was discussed in detail at the 176th meeting of the Governing Body, held on 01st December 2023. At that time, the Governing Body had resolved that the facilities of the Sports Complex should be extended exclusively to Fellows,

Associates, and employees of the Institute, including their family members. This decision was duly communicated to all external members, including Shri Tikender Singh Panwar.

The Governing Body was informed that, in light of the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh in CWP No.7329/2025 and the joint representation submitted by Shri Tikender Singh Panwar and other external members, this Special Meeting has been convened.

During the meeting, the Governing Body deliberated further on the matter. It was noted that the Sports Complex/Badminton Court in question was originally an old Tennis Court, historically known as a Real Tennis or Royal Tennis Court. It was also highlighted that very few such courts exist in the entire world. In view of its heritage significance, the Institute has a responsibility to preserve it appropriately.

In the light of the directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh in CWP No. 7329/2025, the joint representation received by email from Shri Panwar and other external members was considered by the Governing Body. The Governing Body, however, reiterated its earlier decision that the facilities of the Sports Complex will continue to be extended only to Fellows, Associates, and employees of the Institute, including their family members. The Governing Body authorized the Secretary, IIAS, Shimla, to inform the external members of this decision at the earliest.

ITEM NO.(2): To consider and approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting (126th) of the Finance Committee scheduled to be held on 08th July 2025 at 11.00 AM.

The Director apprised the Governing Body of the single agenda item discussed in the Special Meeting of the Finance Committee and recommendations made thereon. The Governing Body, after due deliberation, unanimously resolved to approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee.

ITEM NO.(3): Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chair.

The Director informed the members that during the 178th meeting of the Governing Body held on 02nd December 2024, it was decided to undertake two projects

at the Institute:

- (i) *Indian Civilization Studies*; and
- (ii) *A Companion to Indian Literature*.

The Governing Body had resolved to constitute two separate Committees to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the aforementioned projects. Both the Committees have since submitted their respective DPRs.

After due deliberation, it was resolved that a separate meeting of the Governing Body will be convened to facilitate an in-depth discussion on both DPRs through virtual mode. In the meanwhile, the Institute will share the DPRs with all Governing Body members enabling them to review the documents and provide their inputs during the meeting.

In accordance with the convenience of the Member of the Governing Body, it was further resolved to have the meeting of the Governing Body, particularly to discuss these DPRs, on 22nd July 2025 on virtual mode.

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

-Sd/-
(Raghavendra P. Tiwari)
Director

-Sd/-
(ShashiPrabha Kumar)
Chairperson

Annexure - 'I'

List of Members of Governing Body, IIAS present in the 179th meeting:

1. Professor ShashiPrabha Kumar, Chairperson, Governing Body, IIAS – In Chair;
2. Professor Shailendra Raj Mehta, Vice-Chairman, Governing Body, IIAS – Member;
3. Professor Raghavendra P. Tiwari, Director, IIAS – Member;
4. Professor Raghuvendra Tanwar, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi– Member;
5. Dr. Jitendra Kumar Tripathi, Joint Secretary, UGC, New Delhi – Representative of the Chairman, UGC, New Delhi.
6. Shri Mukesh Kumar, Director, Integrated Finance Division (IFD), Ministry of Education – Representative of JS&FA, MoE;
7. Shri Jyoti Ranjan, Under Secretary, ICR Division, Ministry of Education – Representative of the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, MoE.

Shri Mehar Chand Negi, Secretary, IIAS, also attended the meeting.

List of Members who were unable to attend the above meeting:

1. Professor Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Chairman, Indian Council of Social Sciences & Research, New Delhi, & Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi;
2. Dr. (Mrs.) N. Kalaiselvi, Director-General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi;
