

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

MINUTES OF THE 182ND (ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO) MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY, SHIMLA, HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2025 (WEDNESDAY) AT 11:30 AM IN THE CAMP OFFICE OF THE INSTITUTE AT NEW DELHI (IN HYBRID MODE).

The 182nd Meeting 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 17th September 2025. A list of the Members present is given at Annexure - 'A'.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members present and thanked them for sparing their valuable time to attend the meeting. The Chairperson specially thanked Professor Shailendra Raj Mehta, who joined the meeting in virtual mode, in spite of his health issues. The Chairperson heartily congratulated Professor Himanshu Kumar Chaturvedi on his joining as Director, IIAS.

Item-wise comments received from the office of the Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser (Higher Education), IFD, MoE vide e-mail dated 17th September 2025, were placed before the Governing Body.

2. The following are the proceedings of the meeting:

Item No.1: To confirm the Minutes of the 179th, 180th and 181st meetings of the Governing Body held on 03rd April 2025, 08th July 2025 and 22nd July 2025 respectively.

The minutes of the 179th, 180th & 181st (Special Meetings) of the Governing Body held on 03rd April 2025, 08th July 2025 and 22nd July 2025 respectively, were confirmed.

Item No.2: To approve the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the Minutes of the 179th, 180th and 181st meetings of the Governing Body held on 03rd April 2025, 08th July 2025 and 22nd July 2025 respectively.

The Secretary, IIAS, apprised the Governing Body of the action taken on the Minutes of the 179th, 180th & 181st (Special Meetings) of the Governing Body held on 03rd

April 2025, 08th July 2025 and 22nd July 2025, respectively item-wise. Thereafter, the Governing Body resolved to approve the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes with the following observations:

- (i) With regard to Item No.2 of the ATR on the Minutes of the 179th meeting, the inventory of the heritage furniture (including photographs) of the Institute, prepared using Tally Software, was presented to the Governing Body. After seeing the details of the inventory prepared, Professor Raghuvendra Tanwar was of the opinion that detailed descriptions of each furniture item should also be prepared by the Institute, with the assistance of a subject expert, and that a valuation of the furniture may also be done. Upon completion of the inventory in all respects, the Institute may consider publishing it as a volume. The Governing Body resolved that the Institute may take appropriate action in accordance with the suggestions made by Professor Tanwar and prepare a consolidated document of the heritage furniture. As the preparation of a consolidated document in accordance with the suggestions made by the Governing Body may take some time, it was mentioned that a complete booklet—including coloured photographs of the heritage furniture—may be placed before the Governing Body at its next meeting for perusal.
- (ii) As to Item No.3 of the ATR on the Minutes of the 179th meeting, it was mentioned that the Institute may prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for time-bound routine activities carried out on a yearly basis—such as the Separate Audit Report (SAR) and other related tasks—to ensure proper follow-up and timely completion.
- (iii) With regard to Item No.5 of the ATR on the Minutes of the 179th meeting, the Governing Body was apprised that the first meeting of the Committee—constituted to scrutinize applications received for the award of the National Fellowship at the Institute and to nominate eminent scholars for consideration by the Governing Body—was held on 31st July 2025 in New Delhi. The Committee did not find any of the applicants suitable for the award of National Fellowship. Consequently, it was decided to prepare a list of eminent scholars whose names may be considered for National

Fellowship by the Governing Body. The recommendations of the Committee may be placed before the Governing Body at its next meeting.

- (iv) While discussing Item No.1 of the Special Meeting (181st) of the Governing Body held on 22nd July 2025, regarding the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by two separate Committees for the proposed projects—(i) *Indian Civilization Studies* and (ii) *A Companion to Indian Literature*—it was reiterated that, as approved by the Governing Body, these academic activities may be integrated into the regular academic framework of the Institute, rather than being implemented in a standalone “project mode.” The necessary financial provisions may be incorporated into the Institute’s regular budget estimates to secure appropriate grant-in-aid for their implementation.

This apart, the Governing Body was of the opinion that a Vision Document—comprising short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals—may be prepared in alignment with the Government of India’s *Viksit Bharat 2047* initiative aimed at building a developed nation. The Vision Document may include the following components:

1. **Engagement of Senior and former Fellows:** Senior Fellows and former Fellows may be invited to deliver lectures to inspire young scholars visiting the Institute as IUC Associates, for encouraging high-quality research that could potentially involve in making government policies.
2. **Five-Year Academic Roadmap:** A five-year roadmap outlining the academic activities to be undertaken by the Institute may be prepared.
3. **International Academic Outreach:** Provision for foreign travel may be included in the Vision Document to facilitate invitation to eminent international scholars for lectures, in order to enhance the academic outreach of the Institute.
4. **International Advisory Body:** An International Advisory Body may be constituted to attract and engage foreign scholars with the activities of the Institute.
5. **Research Guidelines:** Broader guidelines may be formulated to raise the standard of research conducted at the Institute.

After detailed discussion, the Governing Body resolved to authorize the Chairperson and the Director of the Institute to constitute a committee for the preparation of the Vision Plan in line with the above suggestions and to take the matter forward.

However, the Governing Body also expressed the view that a workshop can be organized by the Institute for giving a final shape to the Vision Plan.

Item No.3: To consider and approve the Minutes of the 127th meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled for 16th September 2025.

The Secretary apprised the Governing Body of the agenda items discussed in the 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 with the following observations:

- (I) With regard to Item No.5 of the Minutes of the 127th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 16th September 2025, the Governing Body took note of the fact that the Institute will take appropriate action on the following as recommended by the Finance Committee:
 - (a) The Institute will take up the matter with the higher authorities of the CPWD requesting their intervention in the matter specifically to let the Institute know how the initial estimate of Rs.5,22,89,000/- for a work can be revised to Rs.14,82,11,595/-, which is about three times higher. Also, why the CPWD unilaterally revised the work plan without prior the approval of the Institute.
 - (b) It has come to notice of the Institute that the CPWD in its justification dated 12th September 2025, has mentioned that the RCC retaining wall constructed to strengthen the Boileauganj-HPU Road was proposed to protect entire IAS land on Hill side of Boileauganj-HPU Road so that any further slide of earth from IAS land to downwards on valley side can be completely prevented. Since the Boileauganj-HPU Road belongs to the Municipal Corporation, Shimla, the Institute/CPWD will bring this to the notice of the MC, Shimla, for information and record.
 - (c) On receipt of a response of the higher authorities of the CPWD, the matter will be referred to the Ministry for consideration and approval of the revised estimate.
- (II) As to Item No.7 of the Minutes of the 127th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 16th September 2025, the Governing Body accepted the recommendations of the Finance Committee to the effect that the Institute will start allowing the government offices, banks, PSUs, etc., to use the staying facilities of the Siddhartha Vihar Guest House through appropriate channel and for conducting seminars, symposia, meetings, etc., on payment basis as prescribed by IAS. Subsequently, based on the outcome, the use of Siddhartha Vihar will also be extended to reputed corporate firms. Rent for corporate usage will be determined through a market survey.
- (III) With regard to Item No.12 of the Minutes of the 127th meeting of the Finance

Committee held on 16th September 2025, the Governing Body was apprised that the proposal for enhancement of the sitting fee payable to official and non-official Members/Experts has been recommended by the Finance Committee in lines with Office Memorandum No.F.No.21-1/2015(FD-1/B)/70057 dated 1st November 2024, issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) only.

- (IV) As regards to Item No.13 (Any Other Item), the Director, IAS, informed the Governing Body that the Institute publishes four journals — two in English and two in Hindi — following a blind review process of the research papers received. However, there is currently no provision for paying honorarium to the reviewers. It has been resolved by the Finance Committee that the Institute may start paying an honorarium of ₹1,000/- per research paper reviewed. However, only the articles, which are worth publishing according to the Editor, may be sent for review.

In addition, the Institute may create a panel of reviewers for the purpose and also develop an online portal to ensure transparency in printing of the journals.

The Governing Body accepted the recommendations of the Finance Committee with the observations that the blind review of articles/research papers submitted for the journals should be carried out by a committee constituted specifically for this purpose, rather than by the Editor of the respective journal, in order to ensure transparency.

Item No.4: To ratify the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body regarding continuation of the term of Fellowship of Professor Om Parkash Sharma, Dr. Mansi, Dr. Munish Kumar Mishra, Professor P. Arunachalam, Dr. Jahira Khatun, Professor Ravindra Nath Singh, Dr. Uma Y. Anantani and Professor Brijendra Pandey Fellows.

After deliberations, the Governing Body ratified the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body regarding continuation of the term of Fellowship of Professor Om Parkash Sharma, Dr. Mansi, Dr. Munish Kumar Mishra, Professor P. Arunachalam, Dr. Jahira Khatun, Professor Ravindra Nath Singh, Dr. Uma Y. Anantani and Professor Brijendra Pandey Fellows.

Item No.5: To ratify the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in approving the recommendations of the Fellowship Award Committee for Award of Fellowship and Tagore Fellowship at the Institute.

The Governing Body ratified the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in approving the recommendations of the Fellowship Award Committee for Award of Fellowship and Tagore Fellowship at the Institute.

Item No.6: To report the appointment to the post of Director, IAS, Shimla.

The Governing Body noted, with great pleasure, the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in connection with the appointment to the post of Director.

Item No. 7: To ratify the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body in approving the recommendations of the Academic Committee for organizing two proposals for seminar and one proposal of Visiting Professor for visiting the Institute.

After discussion at length, the Governing Body ratified the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in approving the recommendations of the Academic Committee for organizing two seminars and one proposal of inviting one Visiting Professor at the Institute.

Item No.8: To consider and approve the engagement of an overseas Editor in the Editorial Board for the journal of the Institute, *Summerhill: IAS Review* for the purpose of indexing it in the Scopus database.

After extensive deliberation, the Governing Body approved the proposal for engagement of an overseas Editor in the Editorial Board for the journal of the Institute, *Summerhill: IAS Review*. The Governing Body authorized the Director, IAS, to finalize an overseas Editor in consultation with the Chairperson, Governing Body.

Item No.9: To consider and approve the request for modification in the title of the research proposal submitted by Dr. Gurpreet Singh, Fellow of the Institute.

The Governing Body resolved to approve the request for modification in the title of the research proposal submitted by Dr. Gurpreet Singh, Fellow of the Institute.

Item No.10: To consider the request of Professor Sachidananda Mohanty, National Fellow, for granting additional Duty Leave for the purpose of attending to his official commitments at the UGC and the Ministry of Education, as a special case.

The Governing Body discussed the matter and expressed the view that there are already sufficient provisions for leave to the National Fellows/Fellows as

mentioned in the agenda paper. However, the Governing Body mentioned that in the instant case, special leave may be granted to Professor Sachidananda Mohanty, National Fellow by the Director of the Institute, on case-to-case basis after production of relevant documents by the concerned Fellow.

Item No.11: To report the appointment of administrative staff by the Institute.

The Governing Body noted the action taken by the Institute with regard to the appointments of the administrative staff based on the existing Recruitment Rules (RRs).

Item No.12: To consider and approve the promotion of Shri Keshav Ram to the post of Garden Chowdhary.

The Governing Body resolved to defer the item for the time being.

Item No.13: To report the Orders of the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal in Original Application (OA) No.063/000926/2017 (tilted Shri Khem Raj Verma & Others Vs. Uol & Others) regarding regularization of the services.

The Secretary, IAS, apprised the Governing Body on the details of the case. After due deliberation, the Governing Body resolved that the Institute may contest the case in an appropriate court of law.

Item No.14: To ratify the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed between the Institute and the Union Ministry of Education for the Financial Year 2025-26.

The Governing Body ratified the action taken by the Chairperson, Governing Body, in approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed between the Institute and the Union Ministry of Education for the Financial Year 2025-26.

Item No.15: To consider and approve the Director's Report on academic and other activities at the Institute during the period from 01st April 2025 to 31st August 2025.

The Governing Body considered and approved the Director's Report.

Item No.16: Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chair.

The Director apprised the Governing Body that the Institute will complete 60 years of its establishment on 20th October 2025. To commemorate this milestone reached, the Institute is planning a series of academic events, including the unveiling of a brass-coated bust of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Founder of the Institute, to be installed in the Seminar Hall of the Institute. Also, a Seminar on the 'life and works' of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan will be organized.

This apart, a seminar celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and a workshop on *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, will be organized. Also, the Institute proposed to organize seminars and conferences in the various parts of the country in collaboration with universities and other academic institutions.

The Governing Body appreciated the proposal of the Director and resolved to approve the planned celebrations.

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

-Sd/-
(Himanshu Kumar Chaturvedi)
Director

-Sd/-
(ShashiPrabha Kumar)
Chairperson

Annexure - 'A'

List of Members of Governing Body, IIAS present in the 182nd meeting:

1. Professor ShashiPrabha Kumar, Chairperson, Governing Body, IIAS – In Chair;
2. Professor Shailendra Raj Mehta, Vice-Chairman, Governing Body, IIAS – Member (in virtual mode);
3. Professor Himanshu Kumar Chaturvedi, Director, IIAS – Member;
4. Professor Raghuvendra Tanwar, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi– Member;
5. Shri Subrat Kumar Pradhan, Director (ICR Division), Ministry of Education – Representative of the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, MoE;
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. Dr. Vineet Joshi, Chairman, University Grants Commission, New Delhi (in additional charge);
2. Professor Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Chairman, Indian Council of Social Sciences & Research, New Delhi, & Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi;
3. Dr. (Mrs.) N. Kalaiselvi, Director-General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi;
