

Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur

Minutes of the 2nd Special meeting of the Finance Committee held on 5th March 2025 at 15:00 hrs through VC/ hybrid mode.

The following members were present:

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| 1 | Smt. Tejaswini AnanthKumar, Dr.hc, Chairman and cofounder, Adanya Chetana Foundation, Bengaluru | Chairperson |
| 2 | Prof. V.M.S.R. Murthy, Director, IEST, Shibpur | Ex-Officio Member |
| 3 | Mrs. Garima Sharma
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India
Attended online | Representative of
Joint Secretary (TE) |
| 4 | Prof. Amit Roy Chowdhury, Professor, Department of Aerospace Engineering & Applied Mathematics | Member |
| 5 | CA. Biswajit Bhattacharyya
Registrar, IEST | Member Secretary |

Shri Sanjog Kapoor, JS &FA could not attend the 2nd Special meeting of the Finance Committee due to his prior commitment. However, the Under Secretary, IFD, MoE, GOI, vide letter no.F.No.3-3/2014-IFD dated 05.03.2025 addressed to the Registrar, IEST, communicated the approved comments of the JS & FA, MoE on each agenda item of the 2nd Special meeting of the Finance Committee; the same were taken into consideration at the time of discussion. He was granted leave of absence.

At the outset, Chairperson Finance Committee welcomed all the members physically as well as those who attended in the online mode. The Chairperson also introduced the new Registrar, CA. Biswajit Bhattacharyya, and requested him to present the agenda items of the meeting. The following agenda items were discussed:

Item 2nd Spl.01 To consider and recommend the recommendations of the 7th Emergency meeting of the Building and Works Committee scheduled to be held on 01.03.2025 for approval of the BoG.

Recommendations of the 7th Emergency meeting of the Building and Works Committee, held on 01.03.2025 will be placed on table for consideration and recommendation to BoG for approval.

Resolution 2nd Spl.01

Director, IEST, Shibpur informed that the sources of fund for the B&WC Agenda ITEM No. EM 07.01 will be from OH-31 & OH-35 based on the nature of the expenditure and sources of fund for other works mentioned in the B&WC Agenda No. EM 07.02, EM 07.03, EM 7.04 and EM 7.05 will be from OH-35.

The Registrar, IEST Shibpur also informed that the some amount of grant-in-aid is receivable from the Ministry under the head OH-35 (i.e. for Project Mode and EWS Scheme).

[Annex: Agenda Item No. 2nd Spl. 01]

After detailed discussion and deliberations It was RESOLVED THAT

- (i) Finance Committee considered all the recommendations of the B&WC for the proposed works/projects of IEST, Shibpur exhibited in the Annexure alongwith the sources of fund as stated above and recommend the same to BoG for consideration and approval.
- (ii) The Registrar was requested to reconcile the sanction of grant-in-aid and fund released till date by MoE and send the details to MoE for release of balance grant-in-aid, if any.

Item 2nd Spl.02 To consider and recommend the revision of dearness relief of the pensioners of the erstwhile Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur, who have been superannuated on or before 04.03.2014 for approval of the BoG

There are 22 Pensioners and 05 Family Pensioners of the Institute who retired before transformation of BESU Shibpur to IEST Shibpur i.e., 04.03.2014. Presently they are drawing pension as per West Bengal State Aided University (Death cum Retirement Benefit) Scheme, 2010 and applicable Dearness Relief (@125%) which they have drawn before conversion.

Afterwards, The Higher Education Department, Govt. of West Bengal issued revised scheme called West Bengal State Aided University (Death cum Retirement Benefit) Scheme, 2020 vide Memo No.175-Edn(U)/EH/1U-10/2020 dated 14.02.2020 (copy attached) for revision of pension and other retirement benefits w.e.f. 01.01.2016.

Now, the rate of Dearness Relief on unrevised pension is 161% and on revised pension is 14%. Copy of the Memorandum No. 1090-F(P2) dated 01.03.2024 of Government of West Bengal, Finance Department is enclosed.

The matter is placed before the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendation to the BoG for approval of the following:

- (i) Release of Dearness Relief (DR) @161% on unrevised pension as per the Memorandum No. 1090-F(P2) dated 01.03.2024 of Government of West Bengal, Finance Department and subsequent amendment of the rate of DR from time to time issued by the West Bengal Government till the approval of the implementation of the Revised Pension as per Memo No.175 - Edn(U) / EH / 1U-10/2020 dated 14.02.2020.

- (ii) Implementation of the Revised pension as per Memo No.175-Edn(U)/EH/1U-10/2020 dated 14.02.2020 of West Bengal Government as well as the Dearness Relief @14% corresponding to the revised pension to the 27 nos. of pensioners/family pensioners as stated above.

[Annex: Agenda Item No. 2nd Spl. 02]

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Resolution 2nd Spl.02

Deputy Secretary, MoE, GoI pointed out that MoE, GoI has already given a clear directive that the liabilities for settling the pension of the above-stated 27 numbers of pensioners/family pensioners are with the Government of West Bengal, considering the provision in the Statute. The reason for placing the stated agenda in the meeting of the Finance Committee again was not clear.

Prof. Amit Roy Chowdhury, Member, BoG explained that the above-stated employees were the employees of erstwhile BESU, Shibpur, which was an autonomous body under the State Government, like IEST, Shibpur, which is also now an autonomous body under the Ministry of Education, GoI. During erstwhile BESU period the State Government had released the fund to BESU.

Prof. Amit Roy Chowdhury, Member, BoG further pointed out that there is a conflict between the Act and Statute of IEST, Shibpur and highlighted that to respect the provision made in the Act necessary amendment in the statute may be required immediately.

It was also pointed out by the Director, IEST Shibpur, that all the pension-related issues have already been communicated to the Joint Secretary, MoE, GOI vide an Institute's letter no. GoI/04/2025 dated 03.02.2024.

The Under Secretary, IFD, MoE, vide letter no.F.No.3-3/2014-IFD dated 05.03.2025 addressed to the Registrar, IEST, communicated the comment of the IFD on the agenda items of the 2nd Special Meeting of the Finance Committee approved by the JS &FA, MoE, wherein, it was mentioned that the issue needs to be examined in detail as per Cabinet Approval with regard to the payment of pensionary dues of employees who retire prior to the conversion of BESU to IEST Shibpur.

Considering the above and after detailed discussion and deliberations, it was **RESOLVED THAT**

The Institute's letter No. GoI/04/2025 dated 03.02.2024 addressed to the Joint Secretary(TE), MoE be sent again by the Institute to Mrs. Garima Sharma, Deputy Secretary, MoE, for reconsideration of the above-stated points and communicate the decision of the MoE in this matter for further necessary action on the following points:

- a) Employees of BESU retired before 04.03.2014 (date of conversion to IEST, Shibpur)
- b) Retired and serving employees who joined on and after 01.01.2004 and before 04.03.2014.

Item2nd Spl.03

To consider and ratify the temporary loan taken from IRG (Internal Resource Generation) amounting to Rs. 6 crore for settlement of retirement benefits and meeting of other statutory liabilities due to release of insufficient Grants-in-Aid under the head salary (OH 36)

It may kindly be noted that MoE vide letter no. F.No.36-4/2024-TS.III dated 19.02.2025 communicated the revised allocation for the Financial year 2024-25. Copy of the letter is enclosed.

It is observed that IEST, Shibpur requirement under the head (OH-36) for the period of January 2025 to March 2025 is amounting to Rs.33.00 crore approx. (i.e. Rs.11.00 crore per month) for meeting the liabilities towards payment of salary, statutory liabilities and settlement of retirement benefits, etc. However, MoE has released an amount of Rs.17.90 crore for the month of January 2025 and February 2025 instead of Rs.22.00 crore. Institute vide letter no. GoI/07/25 dated 24.02.2025 has informed about the shortages of fund to MoE with a request to release the balance grant of Rs.15.10 crore in the 1st week of the Mar. 2025. The copy of the letter is enclosed.

For meeting the immediate liabilities including settlement of retirement benefits of the employees etc. a temporary loan of Rs.6.00 crore had to be taken from the IRG of the Institute with the approval of the Chairperson, BoG. The said temporary loan requires to be recouped from TSA when the balance grant under head OH-36 for the Financial Year 2024-25 will be released by the MoE in the month of March 2025.

The matter is placed before the BoG for information and ratification.

[Annex: Agenda Item No. 2nd Spl. 03]
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Resolution 2nd Spl.03

The Under Secretary, IFD, MoE, vide letter no.F.No.3-3/2014-IFD dated 05.03.2025 addressed to the Registrar, IEST, communicated the comment of the IFD on the agenda items of the 2nd Special Meeting of the Finance Committee approved by the JS &FA, MoE that "May be Considered".

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Ms. Garima Sharma, Deputy Secretary (NITs-II) informed that there is nothing in the NIT Act that provides for loan to be taken from the IRG. Section 21 of the NIT Act says that every institute shall maintain a 'Fund' which would include moneys provided by the Central Government, fee and other charges received by the Institute, money received by way of grants, gifts, donations and other sources and that this 'Fund' is to be applied towards meeting the expenses of the Institute. Therefore, Central Govt. grants and IRG, together from the 'Fund' of the Institute for the meeting the expenses of the Institute.

After detailed discussion and deliberations, it was **RESOLVED THAT**

The Finance Committee noted the fact and recommended the BoG for ratification of the amount of Rs. 6.00 crores taken from IRG with the approval of the Chairperson, BoG, for meeting the liabilities towards payment of salary, statutory liabilities, and settlement of retirement benefits, etc.

Item 2nd Spl.04 Any other Item with permission of the Chair

No Item was considered.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair



(CA Biswajit Bhattacharyya)

Secretary, BoG, IEST, Shibpur & Registrar, IEST, Shibpur



(Prof. V. M. S. R. Murthy)
Director, IEST, Shibpur



(Smt. Tejaswini AnanthKumar)
Chairperson, FC, IEST, Shibpur