

ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES
AIU HOUSE, 16-COMRADE INDRAJIT GUPTA MARG,
NEW DELHI

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 29.9.2020 AT 11.30 AM THROUGH VIRTUAL MODE. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Prof. Tej Partap	In the Chair
Col. Dr. G Thriuvasagam	Member
Prof. M M Salunkhe	Member
Prof. N C Gautam	Member
Prof. (Dr.) Ami Umakant Upadhyay	Member
Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal	Secretary General & Member Secretary
Mrs. Ranjana Parihar	Deputy Secretary (F) & Secretary

Chairman called the house to order. Then, Chairman, Prof. Tej Partap, President, AIU welcomed all the members. The Secretary General also welcomed the members in the first virtual meeting of the Finance Committee.

Subsequently, Prof. M M Salunkhe raised an observation with regard to rule position for co-option of a member by the President, AIU in the Finance Committee. The Secretary General clarified that as informed by the Meeting Cell, the term of the committee has been 2 years from 2012 onwards, i.e. for the period 2012-14, 2014-16, 2016-18 and 2018-2020. However, in case a vacancy arises within two years, the term of a member co-opted by the President AIU is for the remaining period.

Thereafter, Agenda items were taken up for discussion, consideration and decision.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

1. To confirm the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held at AIU House on 12.09.2019.

Confirmed.

(Appendix-I) (Pp -1-6)

ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES

2. To report action taken on the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 12.09.2019.

Noted.

(Appendix-II) (Pp-7-10)



ITEMS TO REPORT

3. To report that Dearness Allowance @ 5% was paid to AIU Staff members as per Bye Law 2.1 effective from 1.7.2019.

Noted and ratified. Members took a note of the fact that DA installments due from July 2020 and January 2021 have been put on hold by the GOI in view of pandemic crisis. Therefore, no provision for DA has been made in the RE 2020-21 in this regard.

4. To report pending Annual Subscription (Membership Fee) of the Association receivable from 132 members for the year(s) 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 & 2019-20.

Resolved that the Deputy Secretary (Finance) need to pursue the matter rigorously with the Universities to expedite collection of Membership Fee by writing letters, e-mails and by making telephone calls.

Letters to Universities in arrears for more than 3 years be written by the President, AIU citing the services and benefits provided by AIU to the Members failing which their membership is likely to be suspended. State-wise and Zone-wise lists of Universities in arrears of Annual Subscription be provided to the Governing Council Members for taking up the matter with the concerned Universities.

(Appendix-III) (Pp-11-13)

5. To report that 425 member universities have yet to pay the Annual Membership Fee of the Association for the Financial year 2020-21.

Resolved that the Deputy Secretary (Finance) need to pursue the matter rigorously with the Universities to expedite collection of Membership Fee by writing letters, e-mails and by making telephone calls.

State-wise and Zone-wise lists of Universities in arrears of Annual Subscription be provided to the Governing Council Members for taking up the matter with the concerned Universities.

(Appendix-IV)(Pp-14-21)

6. To Report sanction of the Ministry of Education in favour of AIU as Grant-in-aid (General) amounting to Rs. 250 lacs under Object Head-31 for the FY 2019-20.

Finance Committee noted with appreciation and further resolved that all efforts be made to ensure that maximum amount of grant is released in favour of AIU against the sanctioned grant of Rs. 250 lakhs approved by the MoE so that the activities of the Association do not suffer due to paucity of funds.



7. To report compliance of GFR 230(8), 2017 with regard to refund of interest earned on grant-in-aid sanctioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development during the FY 2018-19.

Noted and ratified.

8. To report for Assessment Proceedings U/S 143 (3) by the Assessing Officer under the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Noted and ratified with appreciation for the efforts made by the office for assessment proceedings before the CIT (Appeal).

9. To report the progress of promoting receipts / payments through PFMS (Public Financial Management System).

Noted and ratified.

10. To report that Goods and Services Tax, over and above the Membership Fee from Public and Private Universities, is being charged effective from 1.4.2020.

Approved with a direction to take up the matter with the universities for payment of Annual Subscription with GST. However, cases from where GST amount is not forthcoming in spite of repeated reminders, old rate of Annual Subscription may be accepted as a special case during the current financial year.

Members deliberated with regard to two different rates of Annual Subscription of Rs. 59000/- for Universities established under State/Central Government and that of Rs. 177000/- in respect of self-financed, private and deemed to be universities. Finally, the members resolved that a Sub-Committee be constituted to look into two different rates of Membership Fee, including the possibility of taking up the matter with MoE for providing compensation for subsidized services being offered to Public Universities, and submit a detailed report before the Governing Council and General Body for consideration and decision.

11. To report that AIU has taken automation initiative for prompt receipt of funds through Payment Gateway Portal of Canara Bank (Paytm) during the FY 2019-2020 for receipt of payment for various services provided to Students/Institutions.

Noted and ratified.



ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

3. 12. To consider the Revised Estimates for the year 2020-21 and the Budget Estimates for the year 2021-22 in respect of following Budget(s) along-with relevant schedules:

- AIU Main Budget
- Government Grant General (MHRD) Budget

4. The Finance Committee noted the reduction in release of grant by the MoE in view of pandemic crisis.

4. After due deliberations, Budget(s) were approved. However, members insisted that all efforts be made to reduce the recurring expenditure of the Association as far as possible. The concerned Divisional Head(s) need to maintain close liaison and follow up with the concerned Ministries to expedite the sanction and release of grants from the MoE and Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. Efforts be made to ensure digitalization of manual activities as far as possible.

Prof. M M Salunkhe brought to the notice of the Finance Committee members that earlier a Committee was constituted by the Governing Council to look into the Staff Structure and Recruitment Rules of the Association, however, a report of the Committee is still awaited.

5. Members suggested that a Committee under the Chaimanship of Col. Dr. G Thiruvasagam will look into the salary expenditure after doing an internal assessment and re-work on the number of posts vis-à-vis the utility of the staff strength in place as on date and suggest the ways and means of reducing the expenditure to avoid any deficit in the Budget.

(Appendix-V) (Pp -22-25)

6. 13. To consider the Receipt and Payment Account, Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet, Audit Report and Points for Attention for the Management in respect of AIU including AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme for the year 2019-20 received from M/s. Sanjay Satpal & Associates, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi, AIU Auditors.

6. The Finance Committee considered the Receipt & Payment Account, Balance Sheet along with Audit Report of AIU & AIU Group Gratuity Scheme for the Financial Year 2019-20 received from the Statutory Auditors M/s. Sanjay Satpal & Associates, CA and after due deliberations the same is recommended for approval of the Governing Council.

(Appendix-VI) (Pp -26-49)



To consider the Revenue Account, Balance Sheet along-with audit report for the year 2019-20 in respect of AIU Provident Fund Trust received from M/s. Gaurav K Arora & Co., Chartered Accountants, New Delhi.

The Finance Committee considered the Revenue Account, Balance Sheet along with Audit Report of AIU Provident Trust for the Financial Year 2019-20 received from the Statutory Auditors M/s. Gaurav K Arora & Co., CA and after due deliberations the same is recommended for approval of the Governing Council.

(Appendix-VII) (Pp-50-56)

15. To consider the appointment of AIU Auditors for the Financial Year 2020-21 in respect of AIU, AIU PF Trust and AIU Employees Group Gratuity Scheme.

Recommended that M/s. Sanjay Satpal & Associates shall be the Statutory Auditors for AIU, AIU Group Gratuity Scheme and AIU Provident Fund Trust for the FY 2020-21 on the last approved remuneration for Audit and other related works.

(Appendix-VIII) (Pp-57)

16. To consider appointment of Auditor for the FY 2019-20 under CGST Act, 2017.

Recommended that M/s. Gaurav K Arora & Co. shall be the Auditors for the Financial Year 2019-20 under CGST Act, 2017 on the last approved remuneration for Audit and other related works.

17. To consider Sitting Allowance to Outside Experts other than Vice Chancellors/Members/Ex Members for Committee(s) constituted by the Secretary General for various office administration work.

Resolved that Sitting Allowance be paid @ Rs. 2000/- to all the outside experts for Committee(s) constituted by the President, AIU and Secretary General for various office administration and other related work. However, if Vice Chancellors' (Present or Former) are appointed on these committees, they may be paid Rs. 3000/- as the Sitting Allowance.

18. To consider for granting the reimbursement of Mobile Bills up to Rs. 500/- in respect of following officials of AIU whose nature of work entails communication with member universities, vendors and other stakeholders for AIU Meetings including various operational activities.

Resolved that following staff members be reimbursed Mobile bill up to Rs. 500/- per month on functional ground as a special case effective from 1.10.2020:

1. Shri Satya Pal Singh, Sr. PA to Secy' General
2. Shri Vijendra Kumar, Assistant (Meetings)



19. To consider request of the Consultant(s) for Arrears as per 7th CPC during the contractual term.

Members discussed the matter that a consolidated Professional Fee/Remuneration only is to be paid to the Consultants, who are hired after superannuation, and on purely temporary basis.


It was reported that all the Consultants hired during the period 2016-2019, have been paid consolidated Professional Fee, fixed at the time of their retirement as Consultant, no arrears, whatsoever, become due over and above the Professional Fee paid to them. The Members of the Finance Committee opined that payment of consolidated Professional Fee/Remuneration paid to Consultants was already on a higher side, as compared to remuneration paid to Consultants in sister Organizations like UGC, and also the revised rates adopted by AIU for hiring Consultants in the 353rd meeting of the Governing Council.

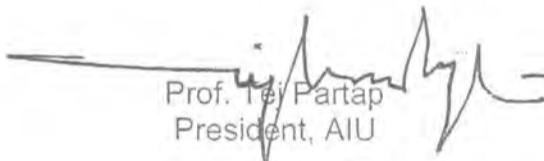
Members also took note of AIU Bye Law 9.2 (i) which states that temporary employee or a person appointed on part-time or daily wages basis will not be entitled to the benefits to which permanent employees are entitled.

On the request of one of the members, the matter was put to vote. Five out of the six members approved the proposal that the Consultants hired by AIU during 2016-2019, were rightly paid consolidated Professional Fee fixed while recruiting them, as per the approval of the Governing Council, which was accepted by the Consultants. Hence, no arrears, whatsoever, are due to them. However, Prof. M. MSalunkhe preferred to give a note of dissent in this regard.

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Members desired that the Finance Committee should meet at least thrice in a financial year to ensure financial firmness in AIU.


7/10/20
Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal
Secretary General


Prof. Tej Partap
President, AIU
7/10/20