

**Association of Indian Universities**  
**Minutes of 364<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting: Through Blended Mode**

**Venue: AIU House**  
**16, CIG Marg**  
**New Delhi-110002**

**Date: July 20, 2021**  
**Time: 10:35 am**

**Present**

1.	Col. Dr. G Thiruvassagam, President, AIU	In Chair
2.	Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice President, AIU	Member
3.	Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra	Member
4.	Prof. Roop Kishore Shastri	Member
5.	Dr. Jagannath Patnaik	Member
6.	Prof. O R S Rao	Member
7.	Prof. Rajan Welukar	Member
8.	Prof. Ina Shastri	Member
9.	Prof. S Sudalaimuthu	Member
10.	Prof. S Sudarsana Sarma	Member
11.	Prof. (Dr.) P Kaliraj	Member
12.	Prof. R V Raja Kumar	Member
13.	Prof. (Dr.) Upinder Dhar	Member
14.	Prof. K Seetharama Rao	Member
15.	Prof. (Dr.) Ami Umakant Upadhyay	Member
16.	Dr. C Raj Kumar	Member
17.	Dr. Premavathy Vijayan	Member
18.	Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General, AIU	Member Secretary

The following members could not attend the meeting:

1. Dr. Tej Partap, Imm Past President, AIU
2. Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak
3. Prof. Bikaschandra Singha Mahapatra
4. Prof. S Mahendra Dev
5. Prof. (Dr.) Sunil Kumar Joshi

Col. Dr. G Thiruvassagam, President, AIU, Prof. Rajan Welukar, Prof. S Sudalaimuthu, Prof. (Dr.) Ami Umakant Upadhyay, Dr. C Raj Kumar and Dr (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, SG, AIU attended the meeting in person from AIU House.

The President and Secretary General, AIU welcomed all members of Governing Council. Col. Dr. G Thiruvassagam, President, AIU in his opening remarks welcomed all members of Governing Council especially Prof. R V Raja Kumar, Prof. K Seetharama Rao, Dr. C Raj Kumar and Dr. Premavathy Vijayan, who were attending the GC meeting for the first time.

After this, the agenda items were taken up for discussion, consideration and decision.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTE**

364/01 To confirm the Minutes of the 363<sup>rd</sup> Governing Council Meeting held on June 30, 2021 through virtual mode.

*Confirmed.*

#### **ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES**

364/02 To report action taken on the Minutes of the 363<sup>rd</sup> Governing Council Meeting held on June 30, 2021 through virtual mode.

*Noted.*

#### **ITEMS FOR REPORTING**

364/03 To consider presentation by Col. (Dr.) G Thiruvassagam, President, AIU

Col. Dr. G. Thiruvassagam, President, AIU made a presentation to the Members of the Governing Council. While giving his overview about the functioning of AIU, he made few observations such as AIU reputation among universities and apex bodies, establishing

rapport with all the stakeholders of Higher Education and Association of Universities Abroad, inadequate participation of Vice-Chancellors in the conference/webinar/survey, Financial Procedures in Pay Fixation and Career Advancement, expenditure on salary component etc. He also mentioned Action Plan highlighting the various activities proposed to be undertaken including creating a portal for Indian and foreign students. He also emphasized on the restructuring of AIU. He also proposed organizing Round Table for newly appointed Vice Chancellors and Orientation Programmes for Registrars and Finance Officers.

All the GC members appreciated the presentation given by Col. (Dr.) G Thiruvassagam, President, AIU and committed their support for fulfilling the AIU mandate. The following suggestions were made:

**Suggestions by GC Members:**

Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice President, AIU congratulated Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal for her incredible efforts for improving the visibility of AIU. He suggested that in order to provide effective services to its member universities, AIU should emphasize on the student-based activities while adopting student centric approach and activities. He also appreciated the idea of conducting state level meetings of member universities in close coordination with state higher education councils. He proposed that AIU should help the state universities in effective implementation of NEP 2020 and requested AIU to take up the matter with Ministry of Education for its effective implementation.

Prof. O R S Rao suggested that AIU may take appropriate steps to resolve the concerns of state universities. In order to align with the new technologies and to fulfil the expectation of the Industry, AIU may effectively utilize the services of CII. He appreciated the idea of establishing a committee on "Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship".

Prof. P. Kaliraj in his remarks emphasized on the implementation of the NEP both at the level of Central Government and State Governments and flagged the issue of funding for implementation of NEP.

Prof. K. Seetharam Rao also opined that AIU should play a leading role in implementation of NEP.

Dr. Premavathy Vijayan emphasized on inclusive education for differently abled persons including faculty as well as students. She proposed that a "Disability Coordination Committee" may be constituted by the AIU in addition to the committees proposed by the President AIU.

Prof. S. Sudalaimuthu mentioned about the enhancement of income of AIU by way of consultancy services and he also emphasized that AIU should publish journals in the UGC Care List.

Prof. Ami Upadhyay appreciated the presentation and committed her support to the AIU.

Prof. C. Raj Kumar while thanking the President for his nomination on the Governing Council of AIU mentioned that although in the last two years AIU has made national and international presence, it needs to be strengthened further. It should focus on the issues where AIU alone can contribute. He felt that AIU should be the most influencing voice of universities for the Government and the regulatory authorities. He felt that presently AIU is not being taken seriously by the Government authorities which has to be taken care of. He also felt that AIU should take up the legal regulatory reforms in higher education. He apprised the GC about the joint collaboration of AIU and OP Jindal Global University for bringing out the Implementation Strategy for NEP which was released by the former Education Minister. He emphasized that to increase the revenue of AIU, it may explore the possibilities of endowment funds from philanthropic bodies and institute research professorship which shall go a long way in promoting research in AIU.

**Prof. Rajan Welukar appreciated the presentation of the President, AIU and congratulated Prof. Suranjan Das for his tenure as Vice President, AIU. He felt that AIU although doing lot of work is failing in its advocacy. The AIU should be having consultative meetings on different issues by creating consultative groups which should be given tasks of preparing the business plan and implementation strategy on various issues including NEP. He also stressed on investing AIU funds in such securities where the investment is optimized.**

**The Members also requested that a committee may be constituted on "Implementation of NEP" and also on "Student enhancement and enrichment".**

After detailed deliberation, the enclosed Action Plan presented by the President in the meeting was approved.

The members further decided to constitute various adhoc committees such as:

- i. Implementation of NEP 2020 Committee
- ii. Accreditation and Ranking Committee
- iii. Disability Coordination Committee
- iv. Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship Committee
- v. Students' Welfare Committee
- vi. Consultancy Committee

The President, AIU was authorized to nominate the members of these committees.

**364/04 To report the following changes in the composition of AIU Governing Council:**

- (a) Prof. R V Raja Kumar, Director, Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneshwar will be representing on AIU Governing Council on the basis of individual seniority from Central Zone for the period of 02 Years i.e., w.e.f. from 07.07.2021 to 06.07.2023 in place of Prof.

N C Gautam, VC, MGCGV, Chitrakoot who has completed his tenure on the Governing Council.

- (b) Dr. Jagannath Patnaik, VC, ICFAI University, Sikkim will be representing on AIU Governing Council on the basis of individual seniority from East Zone for the period of 02 Years i.e., w.e.f. from 02.07.2021 to 01.07.2023 in place of Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar, VC, Netaji Subash Open University, Kolkata who has completed his tenure on the Governing Council.
- (c) Dr. C Raj Kumar, VC, O P Jindal Global University, Sonapat will be representing on AIU Governing Council on the basis of co-option by President, AIU for the period of 01 Years i.e., w.e.f. from 01.07.2021 to 30.06.2022.
- (d) Dr. Premavathy Vijayan, VC, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women University, Coimbatore will be representing on AIU Governing Council on the basis of co-option by President, AIU for the period of 01 Years i.e., w.e.f. from 01.07.2021 to 30.06.2022.

***Noted.***

### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

364/05 To consider nomination of AIU representatives on the following organisations:

[Note: As per AIU Bye-Laws Chapter-3, followings representatives of AIU are required to be nominated on the following organisations:

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Name of the Organization</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>No. of person(s) to be nominated</b>	<b>Mode of Representation</b>
1.	Association of Commonwealth	One year	4	By rotation in order of seniority of Vice-Chancellors of such

	Universities (ACU) Council			Universities/ Institutes as are members of both AIU and ACU
2.	All India Board of Management Studies, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India	Three Years	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
3.	Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Governing Body	Three Years	3	Election by inviting nominations from universities having Medical Faculty
4.	Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI), New Delhi, Executive Committee	Two years	1	Nomination by the Governing Council from amongst such member universities as are members of IASSI
5.	Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi, Governing Body	Three years	3	i. President AIU (ex-officio) ii. 02 Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
6.	Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination, New Delhi	Three years	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
7.	American Studies Research Centre (ASRC), Hyderabad	Two years	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
8.	Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Committee on Documentation	One year	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council

	Services & Research Information			
9.	Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, Standing Committee	Three years	2	Nomination by the Governing Council from amongst such member universities as are corporate members of the Indian Law Institute
10.	H.P. State Council for Higher Education	-	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
11.	Government of Rajasthan Committee on Autonomous Colleges	-	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
12.	Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras. 'Shaashi Parishad'	Three years	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council
13.	Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati University Ajmer, Committee on Autonomous Colleges	-	1	Nomination by the Standing Committee/ Governing Council

***The GC resolved to authorize President, AIU to nominate representatives of AIU in the above-mentioned organizations which may be reported to the Governing Council.***

364/06 To consider grant of membership of the Association of Indian Universities to the following University:

- (1) SAGE University, Indore, Madhya Pradesh w.e.f. April 01, 2021.
- (2) Madhyanchal Professional University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh w.e.f. July 08, 2021 (Date of UGC letter).
- (3) National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, Rajasthan w.e.f. April 01, 2021.

***The GC resolved to grant membership of the Association of Indian Universities as per AIU rules and regulations; to the above-mentioned Universities from the date mentioned against each university.***

364/07 To consider and approve the minutes of Equivalence Committee meeting held on July 13, 2021.

***Approved. However, decision on the Item No. 07 of the minutes of Equivalence Committee Meeting was deferred and it was resolved to place before the GC, the parameters laid down for granting equivalence to 4 years Fellow Programme in Management of Self-Financing Autonomous Management Institutions with PhD Programme of Indian Universities.***

364/08 To consider extension of validity of NAAC accreditation by 2 years.

***The GC resolved that AIU may take up the matter with NAAC for extending the validity of NAAC accreditation of the universities till the academic year 2022-23.***

364/09 To consider revisiting the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021.

***The GC resolved that AIU may take up the matter with UGC for revisiting the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021.***

364/10 To consider reconstitution of AIU Sub-Committees.

***The GC resolved to amend the tenure of all the five Sub-committees of the Association from two years to one year i.e., w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June. It was also resolved to change the name of "Staff Affair Committee" to "Establishment Committee".***

***It was resolved to amend the Chapter 2, Rules and Regulations, Para 12 (v) of the AIU Bye-Laws accordingly the same may be reported to General Body for the approval.***

364/11 To consider theme for discussion at AIU National Seminar scheduled to be held during for 96<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of the Association scheduled to be held during 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 and Sub-themes for AIU Zonal Vice Chancellors' Meets 2021-22.

***The GC resolved to approve the theme for 96<sup>th</sup> AGBM as "Realizing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Higher Education Institutions" and the themes for Zonal Vice Chancellors' Meet 2021-22 as mentioned below:***

- Zone -1: Realizing SDGs 1,2,3,6 (Poverty, Health, Hunger and Sanitation) through Higher Education Institutions)
- Zone: 2: Realizing SDGs 8,9, 16,17 (Employability, Industrialization, Strong Institutions, Inclusivity and Partnerships) through Higher Education Institutions
- Zone 3: Realizing SDGs - 7, 13,14,15 (Energy, Climate, Life below Water and Life on Land) through Higher Education Institutions
- Zone 4: Realizing SDGs - 5,10,11,12 (Gender Equality, Reduces Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Economic Influences) through Higher Education Institutions
- Zone 5: Realizing SDG4 (Quality Education) through Higher Education Institutions.

***Prof. C. Raj Kumar suggested that AIU may consider collaborating with United Nation's University, Tokyo, which is primarily working on SDGs, for organizing the national conference.***

364/12 To consider the proposal of Agri-Tourism for University Students to visit Agriculture Universities as part of educational visit in collaboration with Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR).

**Approved.**

364/13 **To consider grant of membership of the Association of Indian Universities to the following University:**

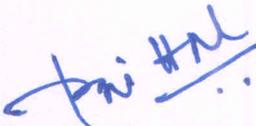
- (1) University of Ladakh, Leh w.e.f. July 09, 2021 (Date of UGC letter).
- (2) Dr. Vishwanatha Karad MIT World Peace University, Pune, Maharashtra w.e.f. July 14, 2021 (Date of UGC letter).
- (3) Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar w.e.f. April 01, 2021.

***The GC resolved to grant membership of the Association of Indian Universities as per AIU rules and regulations; to the above-mentioned Universities from the date mentioned against each university.***

**Any other Item**

Prof. G. Thiruvassagam, President, AIU, also apprised the members about a report submitted by an audit expert, Mr Selvin regarding anomalies in pay fixation during the appointment, career advancement and the implementation of the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission in AIU. The members took note of the report and authorized the President to appoint an expert to vet the report before taking further action.

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

  
**(Dr. Pankaj Mittal)**  
**Secretary General**

  
**Col. (Dr.) G Thiruvassagam**  
**President**

## **ACTION PLAN**

### **Steps to be taken to gain the confidence of the Member Universities in the AIU and its Programmes**

- Allotting one official / staff for each of the 50 Universities to attend AIU related activities and grievances of the Universities with the Apex Bodies besides nominating a Nodal Officer in each Member University.
- Obtaining feedback from the Universities on the present programmes of AIU and other areas of service by sending a questionnaire through Google Form.
- Forming a Task Force involving the Vice-Chancellors other than GC Members to work and liaison with Apex Bodies; concerned official has to visit the Universities at least two times a year.
- Visiting and meeting the officials of the Apex Bodies at least twice a Month to submit the grievances of the Universities and obtaining relevant reply / response.
- Conducting Orientation and Training Programmes on leadership for the Vice-Chancellors and Registrars of the Universities in Collaboration with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- Organizing Meetings with the Chancellors and Pro Chancellors of Deemed to be and Private Universities to brief them about AIU activities and thus gaining their support.
- Conducting State Level Vice Chancellor's Meeting at periodical intervals by inviting the top officials of the Apex Bodies.
- Launching a Portal for Foreign students, to furnish details about the Universities, Courses, Fees, Visa procedures etc.
- Launching a portal for Indian students, aspiring to obtain admission in Foreign Universities and Indian Universities.
- Launching a portal for the Faculty of the Universities, to facilitate the Faculty and Student Exchange Programmes.

- The AIU News to be published as a Research Journal, which is to be listed in the Scopus and UGC.
- Providing Centralized E-Resources of the Libraries or Digital Resource Databases of National and International Universities, Research Bodies etc.
- Allocating funds up to Rs. 25000 to member university to support joint conferences/joint research. AIU shall also support in arranging for National and International Resource persons as Participants as well as distribution of medals and certificates to students and participants etc.
- Distribution of Merit Certificates to the Students.
- Organizing MOU among the Universities of the State and Nation.
- Obtaining replies and Action Taken Report from the Apex Bodies against the recommendations of the AIU and promptly communicating this information to the Member Universities.
- Notifying periodically the UGC/Scopus listed journals for the benefit of researchers.
- Making available the services of retired officials from the Apex Bodies to guide and help the member Universities for Accreditations such as NAAC and NBA and Rankings such as NIRF, ARIIA etc.

**Undertaking the following projects and enhancing existing projects:**

- AIU Journal on Higher Education
- Faculty Development Programmes for online Teaching
- Round Table of Newly appointed VCs
- Consultancy Service
- National Integration Train
- Further strengthening of AIU portal
- Coffee Table Book on AIU

- Documentary/Film on AIU
- Inviting the Chairman/Director/Chief Executives of regulatory bodies to the AIU when Governing Council Meeting is convened for, interaction and Lunch/Dinner
- Constituting Committees to study issues relating to the implementation of the NEP 2020, awarding NIRF Ranking, NAAC Grading etc. and submit recommendations to the authorities of the concerned Apex Bodies in person.