

Kerala State Higher Education Council
Minutes of the 12th Executive Body meeting held on 31-05-2019

The Twelfth Executive Body Meeting of the third KSHEC was held on 31-05-2019 at 11.00 am. at the office of the Council. Prof. Rajan Gurukkal P.M. Vice Chairman presided.

The following members attended the meeting.

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| 1. Prof. Rajan Gurukkal P.M. | : | Vice Chairman, KSHEC |
| 2. Dr. Rajan Varughese | : | Member Secretary, KSHEC |
| 3. Prof. Gopinath Ravindran | : | Member, Executive Body, KSHEC |
| 4. Smt. Haritha V. Kumar IAS | : | DCE for Principal Secretary, Higher Education |
| 5. Dr. Fathimathu Zuhara | : | Member, Executive Body, KSHEC |
| 6. Dr. J. Rajan | : | Member, Executive Body, KSHEC |
| 7. Dr. R.K. Suresh Kumar | : | Member, Executive Body, KSHEC |
| 8. Dr. K.K. Damodaran | : | Member, Executive Body, KSHEC |

The following agenda was transacted and decisions taken.

Item No. 1. State Specific Criteria of State Assessment and Accreditation Centre (SAAC)

Reported the details of the deliberations in the consultative meeting organised to develop State Specific Criteria of SAAC such as commitment to social inclusiveness, striving for equity & excellence & Fostering Scientific temper and Secular Outlook.

Item No. 2. All Kerala Higher Education Survey

Reported the progress made in the All Kerala Higher Education Survey and details of government letter directing all higher education institutions in the state to co-operate with the survey through its circular No. HEDn. C3/149/2018 –HEDN dated 22-05-2019.

Item No. 3. ICCR - Unification of Fees of foreign students in state Universities

Resolved to accept the recommendations of the KSHEC “**Report on the unification of fees in respect of foreign students studying in the universities in Kerala**”. Further resolved to setup a Nodal Agency in KSHEC for coordinating various academic and administrative matters of foreign students studying in universities of Kerala sponsored by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

Item No. 4. Priority to VHS students in B-Voc Degree Courses

Resolved to recommend to all the universities in the state to implement reservation /preference to Vocational Higher Secondary students in admission to B -Voc courses in colleges/ Institutions, by giving

1. either ten percentage reservation to VHS students in B -Voc courses in the concerned/ same subjects
Or
2. vocational subjects (both theory and practicals) should be considered for index marking
or
3. 50 marks to be given as weightage for VHS passouts to all B –Voc courses.
as suggested by the Director, Directorate of Vocational Higher Secondary Education,
Thiruvananthapuram

Item No. 5. UGC letter – Validity of pursuing two or more degrees simultaneously

The meeting considered the UGC letter (Do No. F.126/2007(CPP-II) dated 4th April 2019 seeking the views on the issue of pursuing two academic programmes simultaneously by students.

It was resolved to recommend to the UGC that students may be permitted to pursue not more than one distance/ on- line course along with one degree programme in regular mode.

Item No. 6. Reporting – Implementation of UGC Regulation

The legal opinion obtained in the implementation of UGC Regulation was forwarded to the government. After discussion, it was further resolved to recommend to the government that the relief being enjoyed by the teachers in Universities and Aided Colleges on the strength of the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 17-07-2018 may be extended to the teachers in Government Colleges also, as a matter of natural justice and for maintaining healthy academic atmosphere in the state

Item No. A1. Engaging Data Entry Operator (on daily wages) w.e.f. 13-05-2019

Resolved to engage Smt. Ajitha. S as Data Entry Operator on daily wages w.e.f 13-05-2019 to cope up with the increased workload pertaining to the State Assessment and Accreditation Centre.

Item No. A2. Consultative Meeting on State Assessment and Accreditation (SAAC) on June 7th

The details of the arrangements for the State Level Consultative Meeting on State Assessment and Accreditation (SAAC) scheduled for 7th June were discussed. It was reported that Prof. N.V. Varghese, Vice Chancellor, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, (NIEPA), Prof. Renganath H. Anne Gouda, Former Vice Chancellor & Director National Assessment & Accreditation Council (NAAC), Prof. Mohan B Menon, Former Deputy Vice

Chancellor, Wawasan Open University, Malaysia, and Prof. N J Rao, Professor Emeritus, CEDT, IISC, Bangaluru are expected to attend the meeting.

Item No. A3. Council Development Fund

Resolved to set up a Kerala State Higher Education Development Fund (KSHECDF) for KSHEC. Its purpose is to receive overhead charges of Project funds, institutional fees and other income from the beneficiary institutions and persons.

The Concept of Development Fund

The Development Fund (DF) is a scheme instituted in several universities in order to empower the Heads of Departments with freedom to mobilize resources for meeting contingency, a condition which most of the external funding agencies insisted up on in the National Programme of Action, 1992. It is a measure to liberalise the rigid rules of audit by introducing a system of periodic accounting and post-audit of transactions in place of the time consuming centralised fund administration and pre-audit system of the University, which delay the development activities of the Departments. This scheme of Development Fund has enabled the University Departments to build up through consultancy and project overheads a contingency fund for meeting development expenditures over and above their budgeted allocation. The proposal is to adopt the practice subject to the following regulations:

Regulations:

1. KSHEC shall be competent to open a savings bank account for mobilizing a DF by the income generated out of consultancy ,training programmes and special academic services rendered by KSHEC to the higher education institutions in the state/country.
2. KSHEC shall be competent to take up consultant service in quality assurance strategies.
3. KSHEC shall be competent to operate the DF account against the expenses approved by the Executive Body (EB) of the Council.
4. For all expenses exceeding Rs.10,000 (Ten thousand only) the Member Secretary has to obtain approval of the EB of the Council.
5. The EB of the Council shall annually review the DF accounts at the year end.
6. Contributions, Overhead Charges of the Projects, Project Surplus, Consultancy fees, and the revenue out of Training Programmes shall belong to the DF.

7. Officials/staff of KSHEC shall not be entitled to any personal claim to the funds generated by them individually and severally for the DF, except what is due by way of personal TA/DA/Honorarium as per the rules.
8. Finance Officer KSHEC shall be the authority for all transactions of the DF and the audit report thereof to be prepared for the purpose of post audit.
9. All the bills/vouchers shall be retained at the office of the Finance Officer KSHEC.
10. The Finance Officer shall draw out a format for annual statement of accounts for DF suitable for easy incorporation into the Annual Accounts Statement of KSHEC.

Item No. A4. Fixation of fee for SAAC Assessment and Accreditation

After discussion it was resolved to fix Rs 1.5 lakh for Universities and Rs.1 lakh for institutions/colleges as fee for SAAC Assessment and Accreditation.

Item No. A5. Complaints against Private Universities

Resolved to obtain legal advice on matters/ complaints relating to the Private Universities in the state.

Item OA

Resolved to recommend to the Government, proposal for appointment of Research Officers on deputation for State Assessment and Accreditation Centre (SAAC)

The minutes were read and confirmed.

The Executive Body meeting began at 11.00 am and came to an end at 2.00 pm



Vice Chairman



Member Secretary