

## Kerala State Higher Education Council

### Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Governing Body of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council held on 25-10-2021 at KSHEC, Thiruvananthapuram

The 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Body meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council was held on 25-10-2020. (Video Conferencing)  
Dr. Bindu, Hon. Minister for Higher Education and Chairperson, KSHEC presided.

The following members attended the meeting

1. Dr. R. Bindu - Hon. Minister for Higher Education
2. Prof.(Dr). Rajan Gurukkal P.M - Vice Chairman, KSHEC
3. Sri.Sanjay Kaul IAS - Secretary, Finance Department
4. Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai - Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala
5. Dr.R.Chandrababu - Vice Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University
6. Prof. Gopinath Ravindran - Vice Chancellor, Kannur University
7. Prof. Dr. M.K. Jayaraj - Vice Chancellor, University of Calicut
8. Prof. Dr. K.N. Madhusoodanan - Vice Chancellor, Cochin University of Science and Technology
9. Prof. V.Anilkumar - Vice Chancellor, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University.
10. Dr. K. Mohanan - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health science
11. Dr. R. Saseendranath - Vice Chancellor, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University
12. Dr. Saji Gopinath - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation And Technology (Digital University Kerala)
13. Dr. P. M. Mubarak Pasha - Vice Chancellor, Sreenarayanaguru Open University
14. Dr. K.C. Sunny - Vice Chancellor, The National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS)
15. DR.K.Riji John - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies
16. Director - The Kerala Engineering Research Institute, Peechi
17. Dr. Rajan Varughese - Member Secretary, KSHEC
18. Dr. J. Rajan - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
19. Dr. Fathimathu Zuhara - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
20. Dr. Suresh Kumar - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
21. Sri N. Sathyanandan - Member - Governing Body, KSHEC

The following agenda was transacted and decisions taken at the meeting:

#### Item No.1 Annual Report 2020-21.

Approved the Annual Report for the year 2021-21

**Item No.2 Annual Audit and Accounts Report 2020-21.**

Approved the Audit and Accounts Report for the year 2021-21

**Item No.3 Guidelines for Chief Minister's NAVA KERALA Post Doctoral Fellowship.**

Approved the guidelines for NAVA KERALA Post Doctoral Fellowship with the following modifications (Revised Guideline attached)

- a. To include recognized research centres of Universities in affiliated/ recognised institutions in the list of institutions.
- b. To permit MD Degree holders in medicine from recognized Universities that are approved by appropriate Councils for the Fellowship.
- c. To include Veterinary and Fisheries in the Agriculture and Allied Science category.
- d. To permit scholars who are not Keralites working in research related to Kerala in the Universities/ Institutions in Kerala.
- e. Age relaxation of five years for women, SC, ST, OBC and Persons with Benchmark Disability candidates.
- f. To permit scholars who have submitted their PhD thesis to apply for the Fellowships.

It was also decided to extend the last date for application up to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and to give wide publicity of the Fellowship through the Universities in the State and prominent media including *Current Science* and *EPW*.

Selection Committee:

Chief Minister's NAVAKERALA Post-Doctoral Fellowships are intended for the promotion of original research in interdisciplinary issues relating to REBUILD KERALA involving the primacy of sustainability, equity and resilience. Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), authorised to administer the Fellowships, has identified experts of international reputation in their fields to be Chair Persons of the following Areas of Knowledge. They will chair the Committee of academics, who matter in the Area concerned as specialists of convergence research. These specialists would be invited under the direction of the Chairperson concerned and on demand, as the specialisation involved in the research proposals requires.

**Area Wise Chair Persons of the Selection Committee**

**Area One: Climate Change**

**Dr. S.K. Satheesh,**

Professor and Chairman,

Divecha Centre of Climate Change, IISc.

[satheesh@iisc.ac.in](mailto:satheesh@iisc.ac.in)

**Area Two: Ecological Sciences**

**Dr. Raghavendra Gadagkar**

DST Year of Science Professor,

Centre for Ecological Sciences,

IISc

[ragh@iisc.ac.in](mailto:ragh@iisc.ac.in)

### **Area Three: Life Science**

**Dr. Satyjit Mayor,**

Professor & Director,

National Centre for Biological Science,

mayor@ncbs.res.in [jitumayor@gmail.com](mailto:jitumayor@gmail.com).

### **Area Four: Material Science**

**Dr. Rohini M. Godbol,**

Professor, Centre for High Energy Physics,

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[rohini@iisc.ac.in](mailto:rohini@iisc.ac.in)

### **Area Five: Chemical Science**

**Dr. E.D. Jemmis**

DST Year of Science Professor,

Centre for Inorganic and Physical Chemistry,

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[jemmis@iisc.ac.in](mailto:jemmis@iisc.ac.in)

### **Area Six: Economic Studies**

**Dr. Jayati Ghosh,**

Chair Person, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning,

(Currently Director, Political Economy Research Institute,

University of Massachusetts) Jawaharlal Nehru University.

[jghosh@umass.edu](mailto:jghosh@umass.edu)

### **Area Seven: Marginal Community Studies**

**Dr. Sukhadeo Thorat,**

Former Chairman, UGC

[thoratsukhadeo@yahoo.co.in](mailto:thoratsukhadeo@yahoo.co.in)

### **Area Eight: Political Studies**

**Dr. Rajeev Bhargava,**

Professor and former Director,

Centre for Study of Developing Societies,

[rbhargav4@gmail.com](mailto:rbhargav4@gmail.com)

### **Area Nine: Historical Studies**

**Dr. Kumkum Roy,**

Professor, Centre for Historical Studies,

Jawaharlal Nehru University

[kumkumroy@mail.jnu.ac.in](mailto:kumkumroy@mail.jnu.ac.in)

### **Area Ten: Humanities & Liberal Arts**

**Dr. Udayakumar,**

Professor.

Centre for English Studies,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University,  
[udayakumar@mail.jnu.ac.in](mailto:udayakumar@mail.jnu.ac.in)

### **Area Eleven: Geological Studies**

**Dr. Rajendran C.P**

Associate Professor, Geodynamics Unit,  
Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)  
[rajendrancp@jncasr.ac.in](mailto:rajendrancp@jncasr.ac.in)

### **Area Twelve: Medical Science**

**Dr. M.S. Valiathan**

National Research Professor  
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### **Item No.4 Report of the SAAC Peer Team Visit to Bishop Moor College, Mavelikkara.**

Approved the Report of the SAAC Peer Team Visit to Bishop Moor College, Mavelikkara and resolved to award 'A' Grade (CGPA - 3.21) to the college in the SAAC assessment held on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

### **Item No.5 Action Plan for Empowering Higher Education.**

Reporting - The Action Plan for empowering Higher Education based on the deliberation in the workshop organized by the Department of Higher Education and KSHEC was forwarded to the state government.

## **OA**

### **Item No.OA.1 Minutes of the Executive Body meetings held on 06.07.2021 & 22.10.2021.**

Reported the Minutes of the Executive Body meetings held on 06.07.2021 & 22.10.2021.

### **Item No. OA.2 Vice Chancellors 'Selection: Proposal for amendments to provisions concerned in Acts of the Universities in Kerala.**

Reporting – The following proposal for amendments to provisions concerned in Acts of the Universities in Kerala was forwarded to the government.

## **Vice Chancellors 'Selection: Proposal for amendments to provisions concerned in Acts of the Universities in Kerala**

The Kerala State Higher Education Council, exercising its powers provided for in Act 2007 and (Amendment) Act 2018, proposes amendments of the provisions regarding the selection of the Kerala Universities 'Vice Chancellors 'Selection Amendment, 2021.

### **Context**

- i) The persistence of anomalies in the Acts of universities of Kerala in relations to stipulations regarding the Selection of Vice Chancellors provided for in the University Grants Commission Regulations 2010 and 2018.
- ii) Lack of uniformity in the stipulations concerned in the Acts of universities of the State.
- iii) Delay in the compliance of the University Grants Commission's requirement from the Universities/State Government to modify or amend the provision concerned in Act/ Statutes of the universities in tune with the Regulations of the Commission.

### **Objectives**

- a) To remove anomalies in the Acts of universities of Kerala in relations to the stipulations regarding the Selection of Vice Chancellors provided for in the University Grants Commission Regulations 2010 and 2018.
- b) To unify the provision concerned in the Act of each and every university in the State.
- c) To satisfy the University Grants Commission's requirement from the Universities/State Government to modify or amend the provision concerned in Act/Statutes of the universities in tune with the Regulations by the Commission.
- d) To avoid litigations arising due to the anomalies in relation to the University Grants Commission's stipulations as well as due to the anomalies in the University Acts in the State.

### **The Amendment**

It was the University Grants Commission Regulations 2010 that for the first time had stipulated conditions regarding the Selection of Vice Chancellors vide Regulations Part III Section 4 Clause 7.0 Selection of Pro-Vice Chancellor/Vice Chancellor of Universities, pp.7893-94. These stipulations have been modified in the University Grants Commission Regulations 2018 Part III Section 4 Clause 7.0 Selection of Pro-Vice Chancellor/Vice Chancellor of Universities, pp.87-88.

#### **a) University Grants Commission Regulations 2010**

- i) Persons of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment are to be appointed as Vice Chancellors. The Vice Chancellor to be appointed should be distinguished a academican with a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a university system or ten years of experience in an equivalent position in a reputed research and/ or academic administrative organisation.

ii) The selection of Vice Chancellor should be through proper identification of a Panel of 3-5 names by a Search Committee through a public Notification or nomination or talent search process or a combination. The members of the above Search Committee shall be persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and shall not be connected in any manner with the university concerned or its colleges. While preparing the panel the Search Committee must give proper weightage to academic excellence, exposure to the higher education system in the country and abroad, and adequate experience in academic and administrative governance to be given in writing along with the panel to be submitted to the Visitor/Chancellor. In respect of State and Central Universities, the following shall be the constitution of the Search Committee: a) A nominee of the Visitor/Chancellor, who should be the Chairperson of the Committee;

b) A Nominee of the Chairman, UGC

c) A Nominee of the Syndicate/Executive Council/Board of Management of the University.

iii. The Visitor/Chancellor shall appoint the Vice Chancellor out of the Panel of names submitted by the Search Committee.

iv. The Conditions of service of the Vice Chancellor shall be prescribed in the Statutes of the universities concerned making him/her eligible for all service related benefits.

v. The term of the Vice Chancellor shall form part of the service period of the incumbent concerned making him/her eligible for all service related benefits.

7.4.0 The universities/State Government shall modify or amend the relevant Act/Statutes of the universities concerned within six months of adoption of these Regulations.

#### **a) University Grants Commission Regulations 2018**

University Grants Commission Regulations 2018, which prevail today repeat all the above provisions except the stipulation regarding the constitution of the Search Committee (the last sentence under ii). The last sentence is replaced by a new sentence as follows: One member of the Search Committee shall be nominated by the Chairman, University Grants Commission for selection of Vice Chancellors of State, Private or Deemed to be Universities. Further, sub clauses (a) and (c) thereunder have been removed.

While the UGC Regulations 2018 stipulating that 'the members of the Search-cum-Selection Committee shall be persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and shall not be connected in any manner with the university concerned or its colleges,' retain only (b) above i.e. a member in the Search Committee shall be nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission.

The explicit factor about Regulations 2018 is that the nominating Agency of the other two members of the Search Committee can be decided by the University/State Government.

**Accordingly the following Amendments are Proposed:**

Other details under (i) and (ii) remaining the same after removing (a) and (c) of Regulations 2010 the stipulations as amended read asunder:

In respect of Universities in the State, the following shall be the constitution of the Search Committee:

- a) A nominee of the State Government, who should be the Chairperson of the Committee;
- b) A Nominee of the Chairman, University Grants Commission or the Chairman/equivalent of any other body mandated for areas of knowledge exempted by the UGC.
- c) A Nominee of the Syndicate of the University concerned.

These amendments are proposed by the Council for action without delay.

**Item No. OA.3 Starting M Phil Courses in Universities.**

Resolved to urge the universities to initiate steps for starting an additional Masters programme through Research for Master's Degree holders. Resolved to make such additional Masters Programmes in Applied fields involving industrial tie-up or Institutional collaboration.

**The minutes were read and confirmed.**

**The meeting which began by 4.00 pm came to an end by 5.15 pm.**



**Vice Chairman**



**Member Secretary**

**Chief Minister's Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships**  
**Govt. of Kerala Department of Higher Education**  
**&**  
**The Kerala State Higher Education Council**

**Revised Guidelines**

The Government of Kerala have introduced the prestigious Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships scheme for meeting innovation and development needs of the state through promoting quality research spanning the sectors like social, economic, agriculture, development and industry. The scheme envisages 500 individual Post Doctoral fellowships and each one carries an amount ranging from 50,000/- to 1,00000/-per month.

**Eligibility Conditions:**

- Applicant should be a Keralite in origin and should possess Ph.D degree in Science, Technology, Social Science, Arts and Humanities. Scholars who are not Keralites but working in research related to Kerala in Universities/Institutions in Kerala.
- Candidates who have submitted their Ph.D. thesis can also apply.
- MD holders in medicine from recognised Universities that are approved by appropriate councils can apply
- All experts both in India and abroad can apply for these fellowships
- The period of fellowship will be for two years, which may be extended for one more year, if required.
- The upper age limit is 40 years as on the date of notification, with relaxation of five years for women and candidates from other eligible categories.( 5 years relaxation will be given to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/physically challenged/women)
- Fellowship amount will be granted based on the progress of the project work
- Applications shall be accompanied with synopsis of the project proposal
- The post-doctoral fellowship registration can be done either in departments/centres or schools of the Universities/ Recognised Research Centres and the studies will be undertaken in collaboration with outside hospitals, industries and technical centres.
- To set up laboratory and other facilities, an additional amount of Rs.50000 will be made available subject to requirement.

- Priority of fellowships will be based on the present developmental needs of Kerala especially the following sectors
  - *In order to explore the possibilities of Ayurveda and eco-diversity*, the fellowship may be in the sectors of Bio-Informatics, Computational Biology, Bio Manufacturing, Bio-Processing, Genetic Engineering, Cell and molecular Biology, Systems Biology and Biotechnology.
  - *Against the backdrop of commercial crops and rubber*, polymer science and technology is another priority sector. The composites of bamboo, coir and wood will also be given priority in this sector.
  - *In view of the major leap in cyber physical digital technologies*, sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Block Chain, Internet of Things, Machine learning, Big data Analysis, Gaming, Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Digital Security Systems, Geo Spatial Systems, Quantum Technology and Application, Space Technologies, Advanced Materials, Edge Computing etc.
  - *Based on the major leaps in the scientific branches of genetics and genomics*, Genetic Medicine, Stem Cell biology, Medical imaging, Bio Medical Photonics, Medical devices and modelling, Brain Computer interface, epidemiology, Assistive Technologies, Genomics in medicine, Social Medicine, Public Health, Health Science and Technologies.
  - *We need to strengthen the search for the alternative possibilities for reducing the use of fossil fuels*. In this background, sectors like Energy storage, Fuel cells, E-mobility, Battery technologies, Photo Voltage, Solar, thermal, bio energy modelling, Bio-mass recycling.
  - *For the all-round development of agricultural sector of Kerala* – Food Science and technologies, Food Processing, Land and Water Management, Agricultural Sciences, Veterinary and Fisheries, Organic Farming, Agricultural value-added products, Precision Agriculture, Agriculture drones.
  - *For facing the challenges of climate change and for scientifically tackling recurring natural calamities* – Housing, transport and Infrastructure, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Carbon foot printing, Hydrological Modelling, land slide prediction, Disaster forecasting, Waste recycling, Pollution control.

- *Considering the importance of Innovation Sector* – Innovation eco systems, Innovation studies, frugal innovation, Innovation Methodologies.
- *In order to reinforce the indigenous culture of Kerala*, Social equality and cohesion of Kerala – Archaeology and Material culture studies, Migration Studies, Art, history, language, Social studies, ecological laws, Intellectual property rights, Econometric Modelling of Kerala economy, Digital transformation of Kerala Co-operative sector, handling of new generation technologies including fintech.

### **How to apply?**

Eligible candidates may submit the **application in the prescribed format** with all relevant documents as prescribed through online mode. An undertaking from Head of any of the recognized Research Centres/Schools of Universities/ Departments stating that they have no objection to allow the PD Fellow to carry out the programme. The candidate may also submit a brief profile in the prescribed format along with the application form. The application should contain mailing address, contact number and e-mail ID. The soft copy of the application must also be sent to [heckerala@gmail.com](mailto:heckerala@gmail.com). The hard copy of the application should be sent to **The Member Secretary, The Kerala State Higher Education Council, Science and Technology Museum Campus, Vikas Bhavan P.O. Thiruvananthapuram – 695 033**

### **Mode of Selection**

The selection of the Post Doctoral Fellowships under the Nava Kerala Scheme from amongst the eligible applications through a process of evaluation of project proposals by the selection committee. Eminent experts from respective subject domains should be included in the selection committee constituted for the purpose. Subject experts may be included for detailed evaluation if necessary, of project proposals in the respective discipline in which a member of the selection committee will be chaired.

### **Procedure for submission of Statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate:**

First year – within three months of completion of project period. Second year, within 6 months. The PD Fellows should submit three copies of the Annual Progress Report and Final Technical Report along with the soft copies within the above mentioned duration.

### **Periodic Review of the Projects:**

Review and monitoring of the progress of the project will be done by the selection committee/subject committee formed for the purpose.

### **Final Technical Report Evaluation:**

The Final Technical Report (FTR) submitted within 6 months after completion of the project shall be evaluated by the selection committee.

Further resolved to constitute Selection Committee for the Nava Kerala Post-Doctoral Fellowships.

**Chief Minister's NAVAKERALA Post-Doctoral Fellowship: Selection Committee** Chief Minister's NAVAKERALA Post-Doctoral Fellowships are intended for the promotion of original research in interdisciplinary issues relating to REBUILD KERALA involving the primacy of

sustainability, equity and resilience. Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSEC), authorised to administer the Fellowships, has identified ten experts of international reputation in their fields to be Chair Persons of the following Areas of Knowledge. They will chair the Committee of academics, who matter in the Area concerned as specialists of convergence research. These specialists would be invited under the direction of the Chairperson concerned and on demand, as the specialisation involved in the research proposals requires.

### **Area Wise Chair Persons of the Selection Committee**

#### **Area One: Climate Change**

Dr. S.K. Satheesh,  
Profesor and Chairman,  
Divecha Centre of Climate Change,  
IISc. [satheesh@iisc.ac.in](mailto:satheesh@iisc.ac.in)

#### **Area Two: Ecological Sciences**

Dr. Raghavendra Gadagkar  
DST Year of Science Professor,  
Centre for Ecological Sciences,  
IISc [ragh@iisc.ac.in](mailto:ragh@iisc.ac.in)

#### **Area Three: Life Science**

Dr. Satyjit Mayor,  
Professor & Director,  
National Centre for Biological Science,  
[mayor@ncbs.res.in](mailto:mayor@ncbs.res.in) ([jitumayor@gmail.com](mailto:jitumayor@gmail.com)).

#### **Area Four: Material Science**

Dr. Rohini M. Godbol, Professor,  
Centre for High Energy Physics,  
IISc [rohini@iisc.ac.in](mailto:rohini@iisc.ac.in)

#### **Area Five: Chemical Science**

Dr. E.D. Jemmis DST Year of Science Professor,  
Centre for Inorganic and Physical Chemistry,  
IISc [jemmis@iisc.ac.in](mailto:jemmis@iisc.ac.in)

#### **Area Six: Economic Studies**

Dr. Jayati Ghosh, Chair Person,  
Centre for Economic Studies and Planning,  
(Currently Director,  
Political Economy Research Institute,  
University of Massachusetts) Jawaharlal Nehru University.  
[jghosh@umass.edu](mailto:jghosh@umass.edu)

#### **Area Seven: Marginal Community Studies**

Dr. Sukhadeo Thorat,  
Former Chairman,  
UGC  
[thoratsukhadeo@yahoo.co.in](mailto:thoratsukhadeo@yahoo.co.in)

**Area Eight: Political Studies**

Dr. Rajeev Bhargava,  
Professor and former Director,  
Centre for Study of Developing Societies,  
[rbhargav4@gmail.com](mailto:rbhargav4@gmail.com)

**Area Nine: Historical Studies**

Dr. Kumkum Roy,  
Professor,  
Centre for Historical Studies,  
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**Area Ten: Humanities & Liberal Arts****Dr. Udayakumar,**

Professor.  
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**Area Eleven: Geological Studies**

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**Area Twelve: Medical Science****Dr. M.S. Valiathan**

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