

Kerala State Higher Education Council
Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Governing Body of the 3rd Council held on
21-01-2020 at KSHEC, Thiruvananthapuram

The 5th Governing Body meeting of the 3rd Council was held at the office of the Council on 21-01-2020. Dr. K.T. Jaleel, Hon. Minister for Higher Education and Chairman, KSHEC presided.

The following members attended the meeting

1. Dr. K.T. Jaleel - Hon. Minister for Higher Education
2. Prof.(Dr). Rajan Gurukkal P.M - Vice Chairman, KSHEC
3. Dr. Usha Titus IAS - Principal Secretary Higher Education & State Project Director, RUSA
4. Dr. B. Ekbal - Member, Kerala State Planning Board
5. Dr. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai - Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sabu Thomas - Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University
7. Dr. K. N. Madhusoodanan - Vice Chancellor. Cochin University of Science & Technology
8. Dr. Dharmarajan P.K. - Vice Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit
9. Prof. Gopinath Ravindran - Vice Chancellor, Kannur University
10. Dr. V.Anilkumar - Vice Chancellor, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University & Vice Chancellor (i/c) University of Calicut.
11. Dr. Rajasree M.S. - Vice Chancellor, APJ Abdul kalam Technological University
12. Dr. K. Mohanan - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health science
13. Dr. R. Saseendranth - Vice Chancellor, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University
14. Dr. K.C. Sunny - Vice Chancellor, NUALS
15. Dr. A Ramachandran - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies
16. Dr. Ciza Thomas - Director (i/c), Directorate of Technical Education
17. Ms.V. Vigneswari IAS - Director, Collegiate Education Department
18. Dr. R. V. G. Menon - Member - Governing Body, KSHEC
19. Dr. J. Rajan - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
20. Dr. K.K Damodaran - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
21. Sri N. Sathyanandan - Member - Governing Body, KSHEC
22. Dr. Rajan Varughese - Member Secretary, KSHEC

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

Item No.1 Annual Report 2018-19.

Approved the Annual Report 2018-19

Item No.2 Annual Audit and Account Report for 2018-19.

Approved the Annual Audit and Account Report for 2018-19

Item No.3 Report on Problems of Filling up Teaching Posts in Universities.

After detailed discussion, the report on Problems of Filling up Teaching Posts in Universities was approved and recommended to forward the same to the Government.

It was resolved

- (1) To urge the universities to speed up the process of filling up all teaching posts in universities based on UGC Regulation 2018.
- (2) To urge the universities to do away with the practice of giving regional weightage in admission to various programmes in the universities/ colleges and to make use of biometric security system instead of password in the examination system in universities.
- (3) To constitute a committee with the following members to examine the modalities for starting new programmes in emerging areas of importance in universities taking advantage of tenure track scheme.
 - (a) Prof.Rajan Gurukkal, Vice Chairman, KSHEC,
 - (b) Dr.B.Ekbal, Member, Kerala State Planning Board,
 - (c) Dr.Usha Titus, Principal Secretary. Higher Education,
 - (d) Prof.Sabu Thomas, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University,
 - (e) Dr.A.Ramachandran, Vice Chancellor, KUFOS,
 - (f) Dr.R.V.G.Menon, Member Governing Body, KSHEC
 - (g) Dr.Rajan Varughese, Member Secretary, KSHEC, (Convenor)

- (4) The proposal of Dr. B. Ekbal related to university/state sponsored programme as given below was accepted by the Governing Body.

"When the Universities start new integrated and inter disciplinary programmes and till new posts required for such programmes are sanctioned by the government, the Universities may meet the expenses for salary emoluments for teachers to be appointed for such programmes from fees collected from the students. To keep the fees at an affordable level, only moderate fees should be charged from students. The additional expenditure necessary for running the programmes may be met by Government by giving additional funds to Universities as and when required in the form of matching grants. A formula may be evolved for giving additional grant/ matching grant such as 75:25 (75% by the Government & 25% by the University) or any other ratio decided by the Government. This project can be called University/ State Sponsored programmes."

- (5) The committee was also entrusted with the task of designing a model programme spread across different universities in the state to facilitate student mobility between higher education institutions/ programmes.

Item No.4 Report on Unification of Fees of Foreign Students in State Universities

Approved the report on Unification of Fees of Foreign Students in State Universities and resolved to forward the same to the Government/ Universities. The hon'ble Higher Education Minister urged the universities to initiate steps to attract foreign students to state higher education institutions.

Item No.5 National Education Policy – 2019 - State specific suggestions.

Approved the state specific suggestions related to Higher Education in the state formulated in the context of the National Education Policy – 2019 and forward the same to the Government.

Item No.6 Assessment, Accreditation & Ranking Framework.

Approved the SAAC Manual.

It was resolved to reduce the registration fee for SAAC to Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) from Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) proposed earlier for affiliated colleges and the fee for Universities to Rs. 1,50,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Thousand only). The accredited colleges will be eligible for reimbursement of registration fee.

SAAC/ NAAC Accreditation is mandatory for all higher education institutions including self financing Colleges in the state which have completed six years of existence. Accreditation shall be a precondition for starting new programmes in affiliated colleges.

It was also resolved to establish the Kerala Institutional Ranking Frame Work (KIRF) to rank Higher Education Institutions in the state.

Item No.7 Consortium for e-journals.

Resolved to establish an e-journal consortium with participation of all the state universities and the Kerala State Higher Education Council acting as the nodal agency of the consortium.

Item No.8 Creation of new posts for the functioning of the Kerala State Higher Education Council.

It is reported that the file related to the creation of new posts for the functioning of KSHEC is pending with the Finance department for approval.

Item No.9 Unnathi Bhavan –Permanent Campus for Higher Education Council.

The matter related to the establishment of Unnathi Bhavan will be taken up urgently with the University of Kerala.

Item No.10 Minutes of the Executive Body Meetings on 01/11/2018, 14/12/2018, 01/02/2019, 28/03/2019, 31/05/2019, 16/07/2019, 05/09/2019, 08/11/2019 & 17/12/2019.

Approved the Minutes of the Executive Body Meetings

Additional Agenda

Item No. A1. Upper Age Limit –Assistant Professor/ Professor.

Resolved to recommend to the government to dispense with the upper age-limit set for Asst. Professor (40) and professor (50) for direct recruitment in Universities/Colleges as per UGC Regulation 2018.

Item No. A2. Common Entrance test for undergraduate programmes

Resolved to recommend to the government to continue with the present system of Single Window System (SWS) of admission for UG/PG programmes followed by the universities in the state.

Item No. A3. Draft Guidelines for Designing Post-Graduate General Programs of Kerala (as proposed by the Committee for Restructuring Post Graduate Curriculum in State Universities/ Colleges.

Approved the Draft Guidelines for Designing Post-Graduate General Programs of Kerala proposed by the Committee for Restructuring Post Graduate Curriculum in State Universities/ Colleges.

Item No. A4. Report of the Committee Constituted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council for standardising the Non teaching posts of Universities.

Approved the Report of the Committee Constituted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council for standardising the Non teaching posts of Universities and to forward the same to the Government.

Item No. A5. Implementation of government order (GO(P) No. 18/2019/HEDN Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 29/06/2019) in KSHEC – Revision of Scale of Pay under UGC Scheme in Universities and other institutions .

Resolved to revise the scales of pay of Vice Chairman and Member Secretary of KSHEC in accordance with the Government Order (GO(P) No. 18/2019/HEDN Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 29/06/2019) pertaining to revision of scales of pay under the UGC scheme.

Further resolved to initiate steps to revise the scale of Pay (UGC) of Research Officers/ Documentation Officer (on deputation) in the KSHEC, based on recommendation of their parent institutions.

Item No. A6. Proposal for a Library Network (Kerala Academic Libraries Network(KALNET)

Resolved to initiate steps for the formation of a library network (Kerala Academic Libraries Network (KALNET) with the participation of all university libraries in the state.

The minutes were read and confirmed.

The meeting which began by 10.00 AM came to an end by 11.45 AM.

Member Secretary

Vice Chairman