

MINUTES OF THE 181ST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE, HELD ON FRIDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 2017 AT 11.00 A.M. IN CONFERENCE HALL, HOTEL HINDUSTAN INTERNATIONAL, A-112, JANPATH, UNIT -3, KHARVEL NAGAR, BHUBANESWAR - 751001, ODISHA.

Present :

1. Ar. Biswaranjan Nayak : Chairman, in chair
2. Ar. Vijay Garg : Vice-Chairman
3. Ar. Ranees Vedamuthu : Member
4. Ar. Alok Ranjan : Member
5. Ar. Amogh Kumar Gupta : Member
6. Ar. Abhay Purohit : Member
7. Ar. Amitava Roy : Member

In attendance:

- Shri R. K. Oberoi : Registrar – Secretary
Shri Deepak Kumar Singh : Asst. Administrative Officer

The Chairman welcomed the members and thanked them for sparing their valuable time for attending the meeting. Thereafter, the regular agenda of the meeting was taken up.

ITEM NO.1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 180TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE.

The minutes 180th Meeting of the Executive Committee, as circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

ITEM NO.2 ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Action taken report as attached with the Agenda was perused and noted by the members.

ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM GA01- GOA COLLEGE OF INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE, GOA, FOR REPLY/RESPONSE WHICH IS SHOW CAUSE NOTICE ISSUED BY THE COUNCIL REGARDING EXTENSION OF APPROVAL FOR IMPARTING OF 5 YEAR FULL-TIME B.ARCH. DEGREE COURSE

The Chairman informed the members that the Executive Committee at its 178th Meeting held on 07th September, 2017 noted that the Institution had not submitted application to the Council seeking extension of approval during 2016-2017 due to which inspection could not be carried out by the Council. So the Institution was not granted approval to impart B.Arch. degree course during 2016-2017. The institution was therefore directed to show cause as to why it did not submit application for extension of approval for 5 year B. Arch degree course imparted during 2016-2017.

The institution has submitted the reply/response vide letter dated 16.11.2017.

The Executive Committee deliberated in detail in the matter and decided to grant conditional approval for the academic session 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 subject to recruitment of faculty and with the condition that the institution must shift to its permanent campus within 1 year and comply with the deficiencies pointed out by the inspection team of the Council. The Committee further decided that the Institution be informed that in case of non-compliance of deficiencies before the inspections for academic session 208-2019, its intake may be reduced to Zero.

ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER THE E-MAIL DATED 20.11.2017 OF SHRI A.R. RAMANATHAN, MEMBER AND LETTER DATED 22.11.2017 OF SHRI J. MANOHARAN, MEMBER, REGARDING CLOSURE/ WINDING UP INSTITUTIONS.

The Executive Committee perused the e-mail dated 20.11.2017 from Shri A.R. Ramanathan, Member and a letter dated 22.11.2017 from Shri J. Manoharan, Member regarding decision of the Executive Committee taken at its 177th Meeting for transfer of students from institutions which were not able to fill up upto 30% of their sanctioned intake.

The Committee decided that the matter be placed before full Council in its next meeting.

ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR CONDUCT OF NATA 2018 EXAMINATION ONLINE.

The Chairman informed the members that as per its decision limited tenders were invited from reputed firms for conduct of NATA 2018 Examination online. The last date of submission for Tender was 30.11.2017.

As the process for selection of service provider for online conduct of NATA 2018 Examination cannot be further delayed, it was decided by the Chairman, Executive Committee to open the single Tender received and negotiate with the firm. Accordingly, the Tender was opened by a Committee consisting of Shri Biswaranjan Nayak, Chairman, EC, NATA Convenor & EC Member Dr. Raneer Vadamuthu and Shri R. K. Oberoi, Registrar, COA.

The Committee expressed its satisfaction over process followed and desired that the concerned Agency may be finalized and all other formalities and formal agreement be done for smooth conduct of NATA 2018 Examination.

ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER THE LETTER NO.4-59/2015-TS.VI DATED 30.10.2017 OF MHRD, GOVT. OF INDIA, REGARDING APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS, 2017.

The Executive Committee perused the letter no.4-59/2015-TS.VI dated 30.10.2017 received on 06.11.2017, from the MHRD, Govt. of India, in response to Council's proposal for approval of the Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2017.

The Committee after deliberations on the same decided that appropriate clarifications be sent to the Ministry about the present status and authority of the Council as upheld by various Courts requesting the Ministry to approve the proposed Regulations so as to enable the Council to carry out the statutory functions enshrined in the Architects Act,1972.

ITEM NO.7 TO CONSIDER THE LETTER NO.4-50/2017-TS.VI dated 23.11.2017 RECEIVED FROM MHRD, ON THE ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Executive Committee perused the letter no.4-50/2017-TS.VI dated 23.11.2017, from the Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India, on the Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts of the Council for the financial year 2016-17.

The Committee decided that appropriate clarifications in the matter be sent to the Ministry.

ITEM NO.8 TO CONSIDER THE LETTER NO.4-45/2017-TS.VI DATED 23.11.2017, OF MHRD, W.R.T. REPRESENTATION RECEIVED FROM ONE SHRI KAPIL DEV TO THE COMMITTEE OF PETITIONS, LOK SABHA, PARLIAMENT OF INDIA.

The Executive Committee perused the letter no.4-45/2017-TS.VI dated 23.11.2017 from MHRD, Govt. of India, w.r.t. representation of Shri Kapil Dev and others to the Committee of Petitions, Lok Sabha, Parliament of India.

The Committee perused the letter dated 09.11.2017 sent by the Council to MHRD and concurred with the same. The Committee also perused the Ministry's letter dated 23.11.2017 to Council and the reply sent to the MHRD by the Council vide letter dated 09.11.2017 and noted the same.

ITEM NO.9 TO CONSIDER RENOVATION OF COA PREMISES AT NBCC CENTRE, OKHLA, NEW DELHI.

The Chairman informed the members Council is presently functioning from two premises i.e. from its own premises at Core 6A, IHC and Core 4A. The space at Core 4A, is on Rent and the Rental Agreement for this space will end in February 2018 and the IHC will again make draw for allotting the space instead of extending the rental agreement. The Council purchased premises at NBCC Centre, Okhla New Delhi which is presently in raw condition and required to be furnished to make it operational.

The Executive Committee has already approved an amount of Rs. 75,00,000/- (Rs.75 Lakhs) in the Budget Estimates for the financial year 2017-2018.

The Executive Committee deliberated in detail in the matter and decided to invite Expression of Interest for appointment of a Consultant/ Architect for designing and carrying out the comprehensive services for interior design of office premises of Council at NBCC Centre, Okhla, New Delhi.

ITEM NO.10 TO DECIDE THE NORMS AND STANDARDS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR UNDERTAKING INSPECTIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC SESSION 2018-2019.

The Executive Committee deliberated in detail in the matter and decided that the Central Government be requested to approve the proposed 2017 Regulations as early as possible since inspection for the academic session 2018-2019 are due and institutions would have to prepare themselves accordingly. The Committee also noted that the 1983 Regulations have become obsolete and redundant in the context of undergraduate architectural education in the country.

ITEM NO.11 TO CONSIDER THE E-MAIL DATED RECEIVED FROM MR. SAYED MOHAMMED LUQMAN, STUDENT OF MANIPAL UNIVERSITY.

The Chairman informed the members that the Executive Committee at its 167th Meeting held on 10th December, 2016 considered the request of Manipal School of Architecture & Planning, Manipal regarding regularization of admission of Mr. Sayed Mohammed Luqman into 1st years of 5-year full-time B.Arch. Degree course at the institution during 2013-2014. He had secured an average NATA score of 76 in two NATA attempts and i.e. 77 in first and 75 in second attempt.

The Executive had decided that the institution should pay a penalty of Rs.5.00 Lakh for admitting the student in violation of norms of COA and the concerned students should qualify the NATA Test to continue his B.Arch. Course further.

The Council is now in receipt of an e-mail dated 27.06.2017 from Mr. Sayed Mohammed Luqman, who could not qualify NATA 2017 examination, for allowing him to continue the B.Arch. Course.

The Executive Committee deliberated in detail in the matter and decided that institution should deposit the penalty at the earliest and upon submission of penalty, the applicant be allowed to appear once more in NATA 2018 Examination so that he may continue with the course. Accordingly, the applicant and the institution be informed of the decision of the Executive Committee.

ITEM NO.12 TO CONSIDER MAKING APPROPRIATE COMPENSATION TO STAFF OF THE COUNCIL FOR UNDERTAKING EXTRA WORK FOR NATA 2017.

The Executive Committee at its 177th Meeting held on 14.08.2017 noted the efforts made by the Council staff for conduct of NATA 2017 Examination which was conducted off-line at different Examination Centres all over India. The Executive Committee had directed the Registrar-Secretary to submit a proposal in the matter for its consideration.

The Committee perused the recommendations submitted by the Registrar-Secretary on the extra work carried out by the staff of the Council and accordingly compensating them. The Committee appreciated the remarkable work done by the entire staff of the Council in the conduct of NATA 2017 examination and requested Shri Amogh Kumar Gupta, Member, to suggest a proposal recommending the compensation/ honorarium to be paid to Council staff suitably.

ITEM NO.13 TO CONSIDER THE LEGAL OPINION RECEIVED FROM COUNCIL'S ADVOCATE SHRI V.N.RAGUPATHY REGARDING A NOTE RECEIVED FROM CBI, MUMBAI.

The Chairman informed the members that Council received a letter dated 13.02.2017, ACB, CBI, Mumbai in Preliminary Enquiry no.4 of 2016 against Shri V. S. Sohoni, Nashik, former President, of the Council, forwarding therewith a Self-contained Note for further action by the Council of Architecture. As per the decision of the Council the same was forwarded to the MHRD and the MHRD requested the Council to take appropriate action in the matter.

The Executive Committee at its 178th Meeting held on 07.09.2017, decided to seek legal opinion in the matter. Accordingly, the legal opinion was sought in the matter. The Committee perused the legal opinion and decided to again approach the concerned Advocate with relevant file/records for his detailed opinion in the matter.

ITEM NO.14 TO CONSIDER THE EMAIL RECEIVED FROM HR01-SUSHANT SCHOOL OF ART & ARCHITECTURE, HARYANA REQUESTING COUNCIL TO RE-CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF 2 YEAR OF FULL-TIME M. ARCH. (INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE) DEGREE COURSE FOR 2017-2018

The Executive Committee noted that the HR01-Sushant School of Architecture, Haryana had applied for introduction of three 2-year M.Arch. courses, among others, M.Arch.(Interior Architecture) for the academic session 2017-2018. The Executive Committee of Council of Architecture at its 173rd Meeting held on 26.06.2017 had perused the assessment report of the Expert Committee and had rejected the introduction of two M.Arch. courses while granting approval to M.Arch.(Built heritage).

The institution filed review application against the decision of the Executive Committee and the same was considered by the Executive Committee at its 175th Meeting held on 23.07.2017. The Executive Committee decided to approve M.Arch. (Landscape Architecture) but rejected the review application for introduction of M.Arch.(Interior Architecture) due to deficient faculty available at the institution and disposed of the review application.

The institution has vide email dated 11.08.2017 again requested once again to re-consider grant of approval for introduction of M.Arch.(Interior Architecture) for the academic session 2017-2018. The Committee perused the relevant documents and upon deliberations decided to reject the proposal of the institution as the academic calendar is already over and application as well as review application had already been disposed of by the Committee earlier.

ITEM NO.15 TO CONSIDER THE REPORT/ MINUTES OF THE PG BOARD OF COA FOR GRANT OF EQUIVALENCE OR OTHERWISE TO CERTAIN QUALIFICATIONS GRANTED BY FOREIGN/ INDIAN AUTHORITIES.

The Chairman informed the members that PG Board at its meeting held on 27.11.2017 considered the various foreign / Indian qualifications for equivalence with Master's Degree in Architecture of Indian University and submitted its report/ recommendations in the matter.

The Committee perused the Report of the Committee and decided that all cases recommended by the Committee be referred to Association of Indian Universities for recommending equivalence with Master's Degree of an Indian University.

The Registrar – Secretary was asked to take further action in the matter.

ITEM NO.16 TO APPROVE THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT, COA IN APPOINTING PROF. S.S. RAY AS HONORARY DIRECTOR OF TRC BHUBANESWAR.

The Chairman informed the members that Shri John Kuruvilla who was offered appointment as Director TRC Bhubaneswar, has vide e-mail dated 11.11.2017 regretted his inability to join the post of Director, TRC Bhubaneswar. Consequently, in order to operationalise the TRC the President, COA, vide letter no.CA/5/2017/COA-TRC dated 14.11.2017 has appointed Prof. S.S. Ray as Honorary Director of TRC Bhubaneswar. The Committee noted the appointment of Prof. S.S. Ray as Hon. Director of TRC Bhubaneswar.

ITEM NO.17 ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

- i) To approve availing SBI Bank Payment Gateway for accepting NATA 2018 Examination Fee with existing Account with the Bank.**

The Registrar-Secretary informed the members that in order to accept the NATA 2018 Examination Fees online it is proposed to avail the services of SBI Bank for providing its Payment Gateway. The Committee agreed with the proposal and resolved as under :

Resolution No:249

Resolved that :

The President, Council of Architecture and Registrar – Secretary are authorised to enter into agreement with State Bank of India for providing its Online Payment Gateway for receiving NATA 2018 Examination Fees.

- ii) **To approve opening of Savings Account with Indusland Bank, Ltd., Defence Colony Branch, New Delhi for availing its Online Payment Gateway for accepting NATA 2018 Examination Fee.**

The Registrar-Secretary informed the members that in order to accept the NATA 2018 Examination Fees online it is proposed to avail the services of Indusland Bank Ltd., Defence Colony, New Delhi, apart from SBI for providing Online Payment Gateway for accepting NATA Fees and other fees being received by the Council. The Committee agreed with the proposal and resolved as under :

Resolution No:250

Resolved that :

- i) The President, Council of Architecture and Registrar are authorized to open a Savings Account with Indusland Bank, Defence Colony Branch, New Delhi, for receiving NATA 2018 Examination Fees and other fees being received by the Council.
- ii) The President, Council of Architecture and Registrar are authorised to enter into agreement with Indusland Ltd. for providing its Online Payment Gateway for receiving NATA 2018 Examination Fees and other fees being received by the Council.
- iii) **To approve the Calendar of Training Programme proposed by the Director TRC Pune.**

The Executive Committee perused Calendar of Training Programme as proposed by the Director, COATRC, Pune and approved the same.

- iv) **To approve the conduct the ECBC Training Programme at Bhubaneswar in January 2018.**

The Executive Committee perused the proposal of ECBC Training Programme schedule and agreed with the same decided that dates of programme be finalized according to availability of Master Trainers of ECBC.

v) To consider the proposal for association with 3rd World Congress of Vedic Sciences being held on 12.01.2018 at Pune.

The Executive Committee perused the e-mail dated 27.11.2017 received from Director, COATRC, Pune regarding request received from Dr.Vijay Bhatkar, President, Vigyana Bharati and Vice-Chancellor, Deccan College, Deemed University for Association with Council of Architecture for 3rd World Congress of Vedic Sciences scheduled to be held on 12.01.2018 at Pune. Hon'ble President of India and other important dignitaries are expected to be part of this programme.

The Executive Committee upon deliberations in the matter and agreed to associate with this programme so as to spread awareness and promote Architecture education and profession.

vi) To fix the NATA 2018 Examination Fees to be charged from students.

The Executive Committee noted that the Council was earlier charging Rs.1250/- towards NATA examination fees and this amount needs to be enhanced looking at the expenses to be incurred by the Council for conducting online Examination by engaging a reputed Agency.

The Executive Committee, therefore, fixed Rs.1800/- as NATA 2018 Examination Fees for General category candidates and Rs.1500/- for SC/ST category candidates.

vii) Continuation of Mr. Muralikumaran as Advocate of the Council.

The Executive Committee decided that Mr. N. Muralikumaran, be not appointed as an Advocate of the Council in any of the cases in future as he is running an Architectural Institution.

The meeting ended at 6 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

R. K. Oberoi
Registrar – Secretary
Dated :

Biswaranjan Nayak
Chairman, Executive Committee