



**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Executive Council of the University held on 20/8/2021 at 3pm on digital platform.**

**Members Present:**

1. Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor, Chairperson
2. Professor Goutam Paul – Chancellor's Nominee
3. Dr. Urmila Ukil – Chancellor's Nominee
4. Professor Kajal De – Member
5. Professor Chandan Basu – Member
6. Professor Manan Kumar Mondal-- Member
7. Professor Anirban Ghosh—Member
8. Dr. Atindra Nath Dey – Member
9. Dr. Ashit Baan Aich – Member
10. Smt. Anamika Das – Member
11. Dr. Sintu Ganai – Member
12. Smt. Ananya Roy Chowdhury (Mitra) – Member
13. CA Kishore Sengupta, Registrar and Secretary to the EC
14. Dr. Sudeshna Chatterjee (Biswas), Dy. Registrar, Academic-Invitee

The Special Meeting the Executive Council was convened to ratify the minutes of the meeting of the CIQA Committee of the University. The minutes of the following meetings were placed before the members present in the meeting for consideration.

1. 6<sup>th</sup> CIQA meeting held on 2/10/2020
2. 7<sup>th</sup> CIQA meeting held 13/3/2021
3. 8<sup>th</sup> CIQA meeting held on 23/4/2021
4. 9<sup>th</sup> CIQA meeting held on 7/8/2021

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor took the Chair and with the permission of Chair, the Registrar and Secretary to the EC initiated the discussions. He greeted all the esteemed members and explained the reasons behind convening the special meeting of the Executive Council.

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in his introductory remarks, appraised the House that the University has been awarded Grade A (CGPA 3.05) by the National Assessment and Accredited Council (NAAC) in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle. The accreditation will remain valid up to 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2026.

Professor Goutam Pal, Chancellor's Nominee expressed his happiness for being associated with this University and congratulated the NSOU team comprising Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Director-CIQA, all Directors of Schools of Studies, Faculty Members, Officers, Non-Teaching Staff and all participating in various functions of the University at different levels, for their hard work and sincere efforts towards achieving this recognition as the first State Open University in its maiden attempt, in India.

Professor Manan Kr. Mandal, Director, School of Humanities, NSOU conveyed his sincere thanks to all members of the University for their active participation in entire process of Assessment and Accreditation (A & A) of NAAC since 2019. He also reminded that we must take appropriate preparatory steps for the A & A process of 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle to maintain our journey towards excellence.

With the permission of the Chair, Director-CIQA began to report the minutes of the meetings (as mentioned) of CIQA committee agenda wise. All the members present in the meeting actively participated in the deliberations and gave their opinion on respective issues.

**Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> CIQA meeting held on 2/10/2020**

Reported and approved by the House with the noting as under:

**Sl. No.5:** CIQA-NSOU resolved to organize a programme on effective implementation of UGC (ODL Programmes & OL Programmes) Regulations 2020 at NSOU. UGC has invited to attend an Awareness Programme, on virtual platform, regarding smooth implementation of UGC (ODL Programmes & OL Programmes) Regulations 2020 on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 11am. All Heads of Academic and Administrative Departments have been informed to attend the virtual awareness programme on the scheduled date and time.

**Minutes 7<sup>th</sup> CIOA meeting held 13/3/2021**

Reported and approved by the House

**Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> CIOA meeting held on 23/4/2021**

Reported and approved by the House with the following observations:

**Sl. No. 6:** After accreditation for 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle, it is mandatory for all HEIs to submit Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) through NAAC portal within prescribed date. Accordingly, NSOU has to submit the information as per requirements of seven criteria as laid down in NAAC SSR. Be it noted that NAAC has already revised the format of SSR applicable to OUs. Director-CIQA requested all the Heads of Schools/academic/ administrative department to provide the data/ information in prescribed format as and when asked for the purpose of AQAR on priority basis.

**Sl. No.8: Ph.D. under old regulations:** The Vice-Chancellor appraised the house on present status of distribution of Ph.D. certificates to eligible candidates under old (pre-2009) UGC regulations. He also elaborated on the delay in this process due to a prolonged litigation starting from the Trial Bench to Division Bench and finally to the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the issue of equivalence of Ph.D. degrees awarded in Open and Distance Mode (by the NSOU) and that of Conventional Universities. This issue was thoroughly contested in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and ultimately the said degrees awarded by the NSOU have been given due clearance by the Apex Court. The legal opinion received from the empanelled Ld. Sr. Counsel of NSOU (Dr. Chapalesh Bandyopadhyay) was also placed before the House for consideration. The date of authentication of the Certificates by Vice-Chancellor would be the date of the meeting of this Special EC i.e., 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. It was reported that a total of 106 candidates registered prior to the date of implementation of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for award of M.Phil. / Ph.D. degree) Regulations 2009 would be eligible to get the PhD certificates under old (pre-2009) UGC- Regulations (detailed break up being : SoH-33, SoSS-30, SPS-20 & SoSci-23) and the Certificates are ready for distribution.

**Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> CIOA meeting held on 7/8/2021**

Reported and approved by the House with following observations.

**Sl. No. 9:** All the members present in the meeting appreciated the initiatives taken by the University to promote outcome-based research activities among the faculties. The full-time, regular faculties of the university in substantive posts may now apply for financial assistance in the prescribed format as per guidelines framed by the CIQA. The officers (in administrative / academic departments) may also participate in such research project as a co-PI with the respective faculties (subject to concurrence of the latter).

Professor Goutam Pal, Chancellor's Nominee, proposed for constitution of an Apex Monitoring Committee to monitor the progress the aforesaid research projects as recommended for funding by the Project Selection/ Recommending Committee. Professor Pal also emphasised on developing Learner centric LAB rather than Faculty centric LAB. It was also discussed that both Faculty and Admin staff may mobilize funds from external agencies like UGC/ DST/ ICSSR/ AAOU/ ICDE etc.

**Sl. No.10:** It was reported that there was no LSC in Kolkata district to offer BA-Economics (HEC) as per the Prospectus in the current academic session 2021-22. The Committee deliberated the issue and requested the VC to take decision in this regard separately.

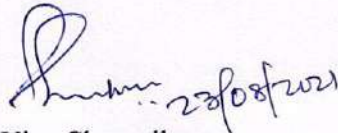
**Sl. No.14 and Sl. No.6 (7<sup>th</sup> Meeting):**

The University has already published the admission notification for 14 Under Graduate Degree Programmes under CBCS (2021-22 session). Now, it would be necessary to develop SLMs for 87 courses in the 1<sup>st</sup> year (Sem 1 & 2). Since most of the SLMs under CBCS are being developed in English version, faculties have been requested to give extra efforts for translating the SLMs in BENGALI version too.

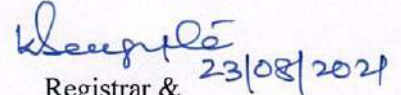
With the permission of Chair, Director CIQA informed the House that University has constituted "NSOU Equivalence Committee". However, it was suggested that the same may be renamed as "NSOU Standing Committee on Equivalence" which was duly approved.

As there were no more issues to discuss, the meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

To Vice-Chancellor



Vice-Chancellor



Registrar & Secretary to the EC, NSOU