

**MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

Third meeting of the Governing Board was held at the UGC office, New Delhi, on 17th July, 1997 at 11:15 hrs. Following were present :

In the Chair :

Prof. Yash Pal

National Research Professor

Members :

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| 1. | Dr. G. D. Sharma | Secretary, UGC |
| 2. | Shri P. P. Kale | Communication Expert |
| 3. | Prof. T. Viswanathan | Director, INSDOC |
| 4. | Prof. S. B. Vora | Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Univ. |
| 5. | Shri Pramod Kumar | Director, INFLIBNET and
Secretary to the GB |
| 6. | Shri S. M. Salgar | Scientist-G, INFLIBNET |

Invitee :

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| 1. | Dr. Y. Narasimhulu | Deputy Secretary, UGC |
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Also present :

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| 1. | Shri C. K. Shah | Admn. Officer-III, INFLIBNET |
| 2. | Shri R. K. Sharma | Under Secretary, UGC |
| 3. | Shri V. R. Dabral | Section Officer, UGC |

Other members of the GB who were unable to be present :

1. Prof. Jayant Narlikar
2. Dr. Vasant Gowarikar
3. Prof. Govardhan Mehta
4. Prof. A. K. Agarwal
5. Prof. J. P. Gupta
6. Ms. Harsha Parekh

The deliberations on the various agenda items are summarised below :

1.0 CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed the members and invitees to the meeting. In his opening remarks, he said that automation of libraries is no more a frightening problem. This was realised at Patiala after talking to librarians and others. If one visits any laboratory, one finds a new culture generating. Scientists are using Information Technology in a big way. INFLIBNET, inspite of enormous delays still does not have a network of its own. He informed that he has already written to the Finance Minister requesting for a

grant of Rs.20 crores for establishing a VSAT network. He has sent letters to the Education Minister and the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission also in this regard. He felt that Step-by-step approach was not necessary and a network should be established in a year or two.

Dr. Sharma informed that IGNOU is planning OPEN-NET, a network for linking open universities. This network will also connect universities. He added that IGNOU is trying to get funds for this purpose. It was decided that without losing any further time we should try to establish a VSAT Network possibly in a year.

It was decided that a small group be set up to prepare a detailed project proposal. Shri Kale was apprehensive that Private VSAT vendors can establish only Closed User Group(CUG) Network with no access to INTERNET as per existing rules of DOT. He wanted that a DOT representative should also be a member of this group. The Chairperson wondered weather INFLIBNET and CSIR can collaborate in this venture. Prof. Viswanthan told that CSIR is planning to set up a VSAT Network of its own which will essentially be a CUG Network. Prof. Yash Pal proposed that following committee be set up immediately to prepare a detailed project proposal for VSAT Network.

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| 1. | Shri P.P. Kale | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof.T. Viswanathan | Member |
| 3. | Shri S.M. Salgar | Member |

The Chairman of the committee may associate one or more persons from outside if required. The committee may also hire a professional agency to prepare the project proposal and tender document. Prof. Yash Pal desired that this

document should be ready by 16th August, 1997. Prof. Viswanthan requested Prof. Yash Pal to write to Minister of Communication for allowing INTERNET connectivity to universities on the proposed network. Prof. Yash Pal said that all this can be included in the report and then he will take necessary action.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SECOND GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Second Governing Board Meeting were circulated to the members. Since no comments were received the minutes were confirmed. *

3.0 ACTION TAKEN ON THE ACTION ITEMS GENERATED IN SECOND GB MEETING

3.1 VIDEO PROGRAMMES ON INFLIBNET WITH THE HELP OF EMRC, PUNE

Shri Kale told that INFLIBNET has not yet requested EMRC, Pune for producing Video Programmes for Training. Shri Pramod Kumar explained that earlier decision was to produce video programme for training purpose but what Academic Staff College would like to have is a video programme about INFLIBNET to increase awareness. Prof. Yash Pal suggested that INFLIBNET should send a request to EMRC, Pune for producing the Video Programmes in 15 days. He advised that in Training Courses run by the Academic Staff Colleges INFLIBNET should try to depute it's staff for giving lectures on INFLIBNET and also arrange live demonstration if possible. This will help popularise INFLIBNET activities among universities. Dr. Sharma asked the Director to write to him regarding any help required in this regard.

3.2 Discussion took place regarding getting Synopsis of Ph.D. theses from universities for incorporation in INFLIBNET Database. Director, INFLIBNET told that letters have gone to universities requesting them to send the data to INFLIBNET. Our database already has about 60,000 records of theses from different universities. However these records have mostly bibliographic information only. Synopses are not available. Prof. Yash Pal offered to write a letter to

the VCs in this connection. Draft for the same to be sent by Director.

Prof. Viswanathan informed that INSDOC is in the process of bringing out CD-ROMs of Ph.D. theses produced in India. He felt that INFLIBNET and INSDOC should collaborate in this venture. Director, INFLIBNET agreed.

3.3 MOU FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A draft copy of proposed MOU for associate members is with UGC. Comments/suggestions may be given to INFLIBNET by the UGC in 15 days.

4.0 PRESENTATION OF STATUS REPORT BY DIRECTOR

Director, INFLIBNET Centre summarised the Status Report of the Centre provided with the agenda papers. INFLIBNET Centre has placed an order for VSAT with ERNET project of DOE in March, 1997. It was decided to follow it up.

5.0 PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR F.Y. 1996-97

Duly audited accounts for F.Y. 1996-97 were presented by the Director of the Centre. This was discussed and passed by the GB.

6.0 REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR VSAT NETWORK

Lot of Discussion took place regarding this matter and details of the deliberation are given under Agenda item 1.0 i.e. Chairperson's Remarks

7.0 LAND FOR CENTRE'S PREMISES

Chairperson informed the Board that Chairperson of the Council and Chairman of the GB have already discussed and it has been decided that INFLIBNET Centre will be moved to New Delhi. Building for INFLIBNET Centre will be constructed in JNU Campus, New Delhi, along with offices of UGC and CEC. Shri Salgar was requested to send INFLIBNET Centre's requirements of space to the Secretary, UGC within a week. Director remarked that this decision will put lot of inconvenience to the employees of the Centre. Shri Kale and Prof. Vishvanathan also wanted to know if this decision could be reconsidered.

Chairperson clarified that the decision has been forced on us and has been finalised at the level of the Chairperson of the Council.

8.0 FORMATION OF USER'S COMMITTEE

Chairperson advised that the formation of User's Committee may be taken up after the VSAT Project Proposal is prepared.

9.0 REVIEW OF BYE-LAWS AND SERVICE CONDITIONS

Chairperson requested UGC to review the Bye-laws prepared for INFLIBNET Centre on priority and give their comments/recommendations within a fortnight.

10.0 IDENTIFICATION OF 5-6 UNIVERSITIES FOR PROVIDING VSATs

It was decided that since this will form part of the total network proposed under Rs.20 crores, this decision should be postponed.

11.0 LEASING OF ACCOMMODATION FOR EMPLOYEES

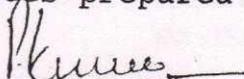
GB approved in principle the proposal put forward by INFLIBNET Centre for providing leased accommodation for its staff at Ahmedabad. GB recommended that the rates followed by NAC at Bangalore for providing leased accommodation to its employee may be followed by INFLIBNET Centre at Ahmedabad.

12.0 COST OF ILMS SOFTWARE

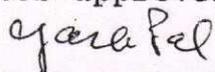
ILMS software is presently being provided free of cost to university libraries. There is demand for this software from several institutions other than universities also. The cost of this software for distribution to others needs to be decided. Chairperson, GB requested Prof. Vora to work out cost for this software. Necessary details to be provided by INFLIBNET Centre.

The Meeting ended at 14:00 hrs. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes prepared by


(Pramod Kumar)
Secretary

Minutes approved by


(Yash Pal) 4.8.97
Chairperson