

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
NO. EC/40/2024**

25th Jan, 2024

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological University

Venue: VC Office

Mode Offline/Online

03.00 pm.

The 40th special meeting of the Executive Council was held on Thursday, 25th January, 2024, at 03.00 p.m. which was continued on 04th February, 2024, at 09.30 a.m. at the main campus of the University. Following members and special invitees were present for this meeting.

27.(1)(a)	Professor Karbhari V. Kale	Vice Chancellor	Chairman (Ex-officio)
27.(1)(c)	Yet to be nominated	Chancellor Nominee	Member
27.(1)(d)	Yet to be nominated	Dean	Member
27.(1)(d)-1	Yet to be nominated	Heads of the University Department	Member
27.(1)(d)-2	Yet to be nominated	Heads of the University Department	Member
27.(1)(f) -1	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -2	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -3	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -4	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -5	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -6	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -7	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -8	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -9	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(f) -10	Yet to be nominated	Head of Affiliated Institute	Member
27.(1)(g)-1	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Regional Center	Member
27.(1)(g)-2	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Regional Center	Member

27.(1)(g)-3	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Regional Center	Member
27.(1)(g)-4	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Regional Center	Member
27.(1)(h)-1	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Sub Center	Member
27.(1)(h)-2	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Sub Center	Member
27.(1)(h)-3	Yet to be nominated	Representative of Sub Center	Member
27.(1)(i)-1	Yet to be nominated	Professor of University	Member
27.(1)(i)-2	Yet to be nominated	Assistant Professor of University	Member
27.(1)(j)-1	Shri. Praveen V. Sardeshmukh	Government of Maharashtra Nominees	Member
27.(1)(j)-2	Dr. Raghunath S. Holambe	Government of Maharashtra Nominees	Member
27.(1)(j)-3	Shri. Ashok M. Shelhalkar	Government of Maharashtra Nominees	Member
27.(1)(j)-4	Shri. Yogesh Bompilvar	Government of Maharashtra Nominees	Member
Ch. III (17)	Prof. A. W. Kiwelekar	Registrar	Secretary (Ex- Officio)
	Prof. S. L. Nalbalwar	Dean Academics	Invitee
	Prof. S. M. Pore	Dean Research & Developments	Invitee
	Shri. Omkar Ambapkar	Finance Officer	Invitee
	Shri. V. S. Chavan	University Engineer	Invitee
	Dr. H. S. Joshi	OSD Affiliation	Invitee
	Dr. S. G. Karad	Faculty In-charge Sports	Invitee
	Shri. G. H. Kalsekar	Store Department	Invitee

Following members could not attend the meeting, and leave of absence was granted to them.

27.(1)(b)	Dr. V. M. Mohitkar	Director of Technical Education M.S.	Member (Ex-officio)
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Prof. A. W. Kiwelekar, Registrar, welcomed all the members of the Executive Council. The proceedings of the meeting started with the permission of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.

Item No. 1: To confirm the minutes of the 39th meeting of the Executive Council held on 13th December, 2023.

The draft minutes of the 39th meeting of the Executive Council held on 13th December, 2023 were placed before the meeting for confirmation.

Resolution: The Executive Council approved the minutes of the 39th meeting.

Item No. 2: Action Taken Report of the minutes of the 39th meeting of the Executive Council held on 13th December, 2023.

The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes of the 39th meeting of the Executive Council held on 13th December, 2023 was tabled and presented by the Registrar Prof. A. W. Kiwelekar before the Executive Council.

The members expressed concern about not getting reference documents well in advance and informed the Registrar to ensure that the documents are shared with the members of the Executive Council well in advance.

Resolutions: The ATR was accepted by the Executive Council.

Item No. 3: Minutes of the Central Purchase Committee and Building and Works Committee for information and necessary approvals

The Central Purchase Committee (CPC) meetings were held on 12th Oct 2023 and 23rd January 2024; and the Building and Works Committee (BWC) meeting was held on 25th January 2024. The minutes of the CPC meetings were tabled before the Executive Council for information and necessary approvals.

The members discussed in detail the procurement proposals from the Sports Section and Estate department for the upcoming *Krida Mahotsav* 2023 and also from some of the academic departments. Minutes of the CPC meetings are attached Annexure I.

Further, the minutes of the Building and Works committee held on 25th January 2024 were presented to the Executive Council. The members discussed in detail about the ongoing and proposed construction activities. The minutes of the BWC are attached in Annexure II.

Resolutions: The minutes of the meeting of the Central Purchase Committee held on 12th Oct 2023 and 23rd January 2024 (Annexure I) and the minutes of the meeting of Building and Works Committee 25th January 2024 (Annexure II) are approved by the Executive Council.

Item No. 4: Appointment of In-charge University Engineer and Officer on Special Duty (OSD)

4.1 Appointment of an In-charge University Engineer on contract basis:

Mr. V. S. Chavan, University Engineer, was superannuated on 31st December 2023. The university has already undertaken many development projects. At present, there is no alternate arrangement to handle the responsibilities of the University Engineer. Therefore, it was proposed to appoint Shri. V. S. Chavan as in-charge University Engineer on contract

basis as per the Government Resolution: संकीर्ण - २७१५/ प्र. क्र. १००/१३ Dated 17 December 2016, and संकीर्ण - २७१५/ प्र. क्र. १०० (भाग १) /१३ Dated 08 September 2023.

Resolution: After detailed discussion and deliberations, the Executive Council resolved that Mr. V. S. Chavan be appointed as in-charge University Engineer (Contract-basis) for a period of Six months from the date of his superannuation or till the appointment of regular University Engineer, whichever is earlier.

4.2 Reappointment of Shri. Daladhan S. Kukade, retired Administrative Officer GoM and Shri. Prakash B. Avhad, retired Section Officer, Higher and Technical Education Department(HTE) as OSD.

Shri. Daladhan S. Kukade, retired Administrative Officer of GoM and Shri. Prakash B. Avhad, retired Section Officer, Higher and Technical Education Department (HTE) was appointed as OSDs at our university. They were assigned the activity of liasoning with the government departments and follow up of various proposals sent to the Government. Their tenure as OSD was over on 30/11/2023. The establishment section has submitted a request for continuation of their services. The request from the establishment section for continuation of Shree Kukade and Shree Avhad as OSDs is presented for the necessary approval.

Resolution: After detailed discussion and deliberations, the Executive Council resolved that the Shree Kukade and Shree Avhad may be reappointed as OSDs for the administrative work and liasoning with government offices for the follow up of the various proposals of the University.

Item No. 5: Request from G H Rasoni Institute of Life sciences Nagpur for provisional admission of the students admitted to their institute in AY 2022-23

G H Rasoni Institute of Life sciences Nagpur is affiliated to our university since AY 2022-23. Their name was not included in the admission process by the CET cell. They have completed the admissions of a total 59 students at the institute level. However, the CET cell has not accepted the admissions of these students. The Honorable High Court Nagpur bench has also not accepted these admissions and directed the CET cell to transfer these admissions to other institutes. The institute has appealed against this in the Honorable Supreme court and the court has not given any verdict till date.

Now the students are in the third semester of their study and the institute is requesting the University to provisionally admit the students and conduct their examinations with the undertaking that the final decision of the Honorable Supreme Court will be binding on them.

Resolution: After detailed discussions, it was resolved that, as the matter is in the Honorable Supreme Court and is listed for hearing on 06-02-2024. The decision about the admissions of these students is not under the purview of the University, which is under the purview of the Admission Regulatory Authority and CET Cell, the University cannot take any decision in this matter unless there are any clear directives from either of the above mentioned authorities or from the honorable Supreme court regarding the enrollment of the students and conduction of the examinations.

Item No. 6: Preliminary recommendations of the Committee for investigation of discrepancies in processing of results by software

Dr. H S Joshi, Member Secretary of the Committee for investigation of discrepancies in processing of results by software, informed the Executive Council that, two meetings of the 'Committee for investigation of discrepancies in processing of results by software' were conducted on Jan 03, 2024 and Jan 17, 2024, respectively.

It was also informed to the Executive Council that the Chairman of the committee Prof. Peshve has communicated his unavailability to work on the above mentioned committee. Also one more Member Mr. Hemant Chafale has communicated his unavailability to work on this committee through phone call and through whatsapp message.

Looking into the fast developments taking place in the matter, it was necessary to conduct the meeting and update the members about the developments in the subject matter. Hence, the meeting dated 17-01-2024 was conducted under the chairman-ship of Prof. Santosh Shelke.

The preliminary recommendations of the committee were tabled in the Executive Council

For further proceedings of the committee, it was requested to nominate a new Chairman for the committee.

Resolution: After due deliberations, the preliminary recommendations of the committee for investigation of discrepancies in processing of results by software were accepted. It was also unanimously decided that Dr. Vishal Pande, I/c Dean Pharmacy will now be the Chairman and Prof. R S Holambe, EC Member, will be one of the members on the committee for investigation of discrepancies in processing of results by software. The committee will further investigate the matter and give their recommendation to the Executive Council.

Item No. 7: Any other points with permission of the chair.

7.1. Approval of AQAR report recommended by IQAC

Prof. S.L. Nalbalwar, IQAC Director, informed the Executive Council that AQAR report for AY 2022-23 is recommended by IQAC and it is to be submitted to the NAAC after approval of the council.

Resolutions: After discussion and deliberations, the Executive Council approved the AQAR (AY 2022-23) for submission to the NAAC office.

7.2. Approval to start new programs from AY 2024-25

It is proposed to reduce the intake of following of the existing programs from AY 2024-25 looking into the low response in the enrollment and for better utilization of the infrastructure for the proposed new programs under NEP2020.

Sr. No.	Program	Existing Intake	New intake after reduction
1	M.Tech (Advanced Communication Technology)	30	18
2	M.Tech (VLSI Design)	30	18

3	MBA (Innovation Entrepreneurship and Venture Development)	30	18
4	Master of Computer Applications (MCA)	60	30
5	M.Tech (Cyber Security)	30	18

The spare intake due to reduction in intake as above can be better used to start with the following courses from AY 2024-25 for effective implementation of NEP2020 and enhancing employability.

1. M.Pharm in Industrial Pharmacy (15 intake)
2. M.Pharm in Quality Assurance (15 intake)
3. B.Tech in Hotel Management and Catering Technology (30 intake)
4. M.Tech in Data Science (18 intake)
5. Integrated (Dual Degree) M.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (60 intake)

Resolutions: After discussion and deliberations, EC approved the proposal for starting new programs and reduction in intake for few of the existing programs from the AY 2024-25. It was also resolved that the expenditure towards infrastructure and appointment of faculty members for these new programs will be initially done through the University funds.

7.3 Report of the Fact Finding Committee in the matter of Vardhaman College of Pharmacy Karanja Laad Washim:

The University has appointed a Two Fact finding committee based on the complaints received from the students & parents of the Vardhaman College of Pharmacy, Karanja, Washim. The university has received the report that The management representatives did not turn up to put up their say in front of the first Fact Finding committee. However, the university has given one more opportunity by appointing one more fact finding committee. The committee visited the institute personally and observed that there is truth in the complaints made by the students and their parents. There was a shortage of faculty members and also the academics were not conducted properly. The copies of the same are tabled for reference. The report of the committee appointed by the Director of Technical Education (DTE) also has similar observations and they have recommended that the university should de-affiliate the institute.

- In the meanwhile, the DTE has given the recommendations for the conduct of the practical examinations and the internal marks updating through another institute in the case of the complaining 14 students.
- The institute has now applied for new 01 Pharm D and 04 M Pharma Courses for the AY 2024-25 and have applied for the NoC for the same from the University.

Resolution: After due deliberations, it was resolved that as per the requests from the students and the recommendations of DTE, the practical examinations of these 14 students can be taken at the nearby institute. However, as the records of the performance of these students is with the Vardhaman College of Pharmacy, Karanja Lad, Washim, their internal marks should be updated by the same institute with the strict instructions from the university to be fair with the students while assigning the internal marks.

Further, with respect to the NoCs for starting the new courses at the institute, it was decided that looking into the current situation at the institute, the complaints by the students and their parents, the report by the committee constituted by DTE and the reports of the two Fact Finding Committees constituted by the University, as the institute is not able to run the present courses properly, the NoC can not be given for starting of the new courses at the institute.

7.4 Refund of Excess fees paid by the institutes by mistake

During the process of application for Affiliation, some of the institutes pay an excess amount by mistake. For example, some of the institutes have paid fees for the MBA program for which our University does not give affiliation, some institutes have paid fees as their transactions were failed, some institutes have counted their courses wrongly and paid the extra fees. We often get requests from such institutes for refund of the extra fees paid by the institutes by mistake. It is proposed to give permission for refund of the excess fees paid by the institutes by deducting 10% administrative charges and the taxes paid on these amounts.

Resolution: After due deliberations, it was resolved that the extra fees paid by the institutes for the affiliation process may be refunded after deducting 10% of the basic fees (excluding taxes) as the administrative charges and the taxes paid (if any) by the university on this amount.

7.5 Advocate fees and expenses towards the court matters related to affiliated institutes to be recovered from the respective institutes

As the university is growing, the court matters related to the affiliated institutes are also increasing day by day. Majorly the cases are related to the service related matters and pending dues of the employees of the institutes or related to the students grievances against the institute. However, in all these matters university is also made a part and the university has to pay heavy fees to the advocates and bear the related expenses. In view of this, it is proposed that all the expenses towards the court matters including Advocate fees related to affiliated institutes to be recovered from the respective institutes.

It was also informed to the Executive Council that the university had invited expressions of interest for the empowerment of advocates through the university website. The university has received the responses which were placed before the council.

Resolution: After due deliberations, it was resolved that all the expenses towards the court matters including Advocate fees related to affiliated institutes to be recovered from the respective institutes. However, if as per the court of law if the university is found guilty or responsible for the said matter, in such case the university should bear all the expenses towards the court matter including the fees of the advocate. If in such a case the cost is already recovered from the institute, then the same must be refunded to the institute or adjusted against any other dues pending from the institute or against the affiliation fees for the subsequent year.

Further, the executive council accepted the list of empanelment of advocates (Annexure III) in consultation of Advocate Ashok Shelhalkar. The EC also suggested that the list may be appended from time to time.

7.6 Approval to the panel of experts for the selection of Principals at Affiliated Institutes

As per the Section 75 (1) (b) of DBATU Act 2014, out of the three persons having special knowledge of the subject or subjects in which instruction is being provided by the college or

institution, of whom two shall be nominated by the Executive Council and one by the Academic Council, being persons not in the service of the University.

We are regularly getting proposals for selection of Principals at affiliated institutes. Therefore it is proposed that the list of experts may be approved for the selection of Principals at Affiliated Institutes. As the Chairman of the Executive Council, the Honourable Vice Chancellor, may nominate two names from amongst the list of experts approved by the Academic Council. The list may also be appended as per the approval from the Executive Council from time to time.

Resolution: The list of experts as attached (Annexure IV-A&B) is approved for the nomination of subject expert by the Executive Council for the selection of Principals at Affiliated Institutes. As the Chairman of the Executive Council, the Honourable Vice Chancellor, may nominate two names from amongst the list of experts approved by the Academic Council. The list may also be appended as per the approval from the Executive Council from time to time.

7.7 One Member to be nominated from the Executive Council on scrutiny committee

University has invited applications for affiliation for AY 2024-25. As on date, 338 (continuation) and 92 (new institutes) have applied for Affiliation during A Y 2024-25. Out of new institutes 73 are from Pharmacy and 19 from Engineering disciplines have applied for affiliation to our university. There are more than 75 applications for other processes such as change in intake/course etc. The process is still ongoing and few more applications are expected.

It is required to process affiliation proposals received to the University for A Y 2024-25. To scrutinize these applications at the University level for the purpose of considering the applications for affiliation, as per section 49(2), the scrutiny committee is proposed to be arranged as per Statute S13.9. The structure of proposed Scrutiny Committees is as specified below.

Sr. No	Position	Members as per Statutes	Nomination
1	Chairman	One Director of Regional Centre	
2	Member Secretary	One Joint Director of Sub Centre	
3	One Dean	Dean	
4	Member	One member of the Board from members nominated by the Academic council	
5	Member	One member of the Board from the members nominated by the Executive Council	

Resolution: The name of Shri Ashok Shelhalkar was nominated as member on the Scrutiny Committee as per Statute S13.9 in the capacity of 'One member of the Board from the members nominated by the Executive Council

7.10 Request for affiliation for new courses/institutes, change in intake/courses, etc. after due date

As per the affiliation process manual 2024-25, the last date for application for various types of activities for affiliation for AY 2024-25 was 31st Oct 2024 with regular fees and 31st Dec 2024 with late fees of Rs. 2, 00, 000/-.

However, many institutes are claiming that they got the clarity from the apex bodies about the changes in intake/courses after the last date of application as per our affiliation manual i.e. 31/12/2024.

Based on the decision in the Executive Council dated 21st April 2022 in a similar situation, the affiliation process is reopened again till the last date of application as per the apex bodies with a super-late fees of Rs. 5, 00, 000/- in addition to the late fees of Rs. 2, 00, 000/-. The notification regarding this was issued on 20-01-2024 (DABTU/Affiliation/2024-25/774). The applications are open only for the change in intake/course cases.

It was informed that the affiliation section is getting requests from the institutes:

- To accept the applications without late fees and super late fees.
- To accept the applications for new institutes also.

Resolution: After due deliberations, as the number of applications for new institutes received so far is very high. Looking into the admission status of the existing institutes and to maintain the quality of education, it was resolved that the applications for the new affiliation will not be accepted any more for the AY 2024-25. For the existing affiliated institutes, the application may be continued to be accepted with Late fees of Rs. 2, 00, 000/- and super-late fees of Rs. 5, 00, 000/- till the last date as per the respective apex bodies. The request to wave-off the super-late fee cannot be accepted.

7.11 Updates about Selection/Approval of Principal at the M S Bidve College of Engineering Latur

Dr. H S Joshi, OSD Affiliation section informed the Executive Council that the M S Bidve College of Engineering Latur has published the advertisement after approval from University for the post of Principal as per Sixth pay commission rules on 01/04/2023. The university received the scrutiny committee report dated 15-05-2023 wherein total 06 applications were received out of which 02 candidates were found eligible. However, the university received a letter requesting cancellation of the recruitment process as per their letter 16/05/2023. Now again on 11-12-2023 the university received a request to reconsider the earlier process of selection of principal at M S Bidve College of Engineering Latur and to give approval to Mr. B V Dharne as officiating principal in the meanwhile.

Resolution: After due deliberation, it was resolved that the permission may be given to continue with the selection process of the Principal at M S Bidve College of Engineering Latur according to Sixth Pay rules as per their advertisement dated 01/04/2023. However, the approval of Mr. B V Dharne cannot be given as he is not qualified for the post of Principal.

7.12 Appointment of Ombudsperson for the students Grievances

It is required to appoint OMBDSPERSON for redressal of grievances of students under the UGC (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2023.

As per UGC (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations 2023,

- i. Each University shall appoint Ombudsperson for redressal of grievances of students of the university and colleges/institutions affiliated with the university under these regulations.
- ii. There shall be one or more part-time functionaries designated as Ombudspersons to hear, and decide on, appeals preferred against the decisions of the SGRCs.
- iii. The Ombudsperson shall be a retired Vice-Chancellor or a retired Professor (who has worked as Dean/HOD) and has 10 years' experience as a Professor at State/Central Universities/Institutions of National Importance/Deemed to be Universities or a former District Judge.
- iv. The Ombudsperson shall not, at the time of appointment, during one year before appointment, or in the course of his/her tenure as Ombudsperson, be in conflict of interest with the Institution where his/her personal relationship, professional affiliations or financial interest may compromise or reasonably appear to compromise, the independence of judgment towards the Institution.
- v. The Ombudsperson shall be appointed for a period of three years or until he/she attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier, from the date of assuming office, and shall be eligible for reappointment for another one term.
- vi. For conducting the hearings, the Ombudsperson shall be paid a sitting fee, per diem, in accordance with the norms fixed by the respective university and shall, in addition, be eligible for reimbursement of the expenditure incurred on conveyance.
- vii. The University may remove the Ombudsperson from office, on charges of proven misconduct or misbehavior.
- viii. No order of removal of Ombudsperson shall be made except after an inquiry made in this regard by a person, not below the rank of a retired judge of the High Court in which a reasonable opportunity of being heard is given to the Ombudsperson.

In view of above it was requested to nominate a suitable person as OMBUDSPERSON for redressal of grievances of students for a period of three years from the date of his appointment.

Resolution: After detailed discussions and deliberations, the Executive Council unanimously resolved that a suitable person as per the UGC regulations 2023 should be appointed immediately, as the OMBUDSPERSON for redressal of grievances of students for period of three years from the date of his appointment as per the UGC (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2023.

7.12 Filling up Statutory Posts in the University

It was informed to the EC that the Government of Maharashtra through its letter No संकीर्ण 1111/(11/24)/ ता शि-2 dated 19/01/2023 permitted the university to fill up the statutory posts as per the procedure laid down in the Statues of the university. These posts include the Registrar, Dean (Academic), Dean (Research and Development), Director (ICT), and Director (Examinations). The Draft of advertisements for these posts was tabled to the EC.

Resolution: After discussion and deliberations, EC approved the draft of advertisements for fill up these five statutory posts namely Registrar, Dean (Academic), Dean (Research and Development), Director (ICT), and Director (Examinations).

7.13 Reappropriation of funds for FY 2023-24

The annual budget of the University for the financial year 2023-24 was approved by the

University authorities. A review of the expenditures and financial demands from various sections was taken. The Finance Officer presented an item wise proposal before the Executive Council for approval. (Annexure V attached) It was proposed to reappropriate some of the funds from the budget for FY 2023-24.

Resolution: After due discussion and deliberation the Executive Council approved the reappropriation of the funds. It was also advised by the council that the concerned departments should ensure that the funds allocated to them as per their demands are properly utilized before the end of the current financial year.

7.14 Balance sheet of IoPE for FY 2022-23 and University for FY 2021-22, 2022-23 and merging of accounts of IoPE with the university from the FY 2023-24

The Institute of Petrochemical Engineering (IoPE) was a conducted institute of this university till the end of the FY 2022-23. After the FY 2022-23, IoPE has been merged with the university.

As per the letters issued by the Government of Maharashtra, (No tashavi 3711/(47/16)tashi-2) dated 5th November 2018 and letter dated 30 March 2023, the previous account heads of IoPE need to be merged with the University account heads.

To execute the account merging process, the University has to approve the balance sheets of the University 2021-22, 2022-23 and the balance sheet of IoPE for the FY 2022-23 as attached in Annexure VI. Also, the permission to prepare a combined balance sheet for the university and IoPE from the FY 2023-24 is needed.

Resolution:

The Executive Council discussed the matter at a length and approved the balance sheets of the University FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and the balance sheet of IoPE for the FY 2022-23. Accordingly, merging of accounts of IoPE with the main accounts of the university from the FY 2023-24 is approved. The executive council directed to prepare the combined budget hence onwards.

7.15 Absorption of Mr S U Waikar, System Analyst as in the Assistant Professor cadre

Mr. S U Waikar has been working as a System Analyst in the University since 21st July 2007. As per the GR No. Sankirn-2013/(31/13)/TaShi-2 Dated 27/12/2016, the Government of Maharashtra has permitted the university to absorb Mr. S U Waikar as an Assistant Professor (Computer Engineering) after fulfilling all the requirements. A committee was constituted by the university to verify the fulfillment of the requirements. The committee has recommended that Mr. S U Waikar can be absorbed in the post of Assistant Professor (Computer Engineering). The matter was discussed in the 33rd meeting of the Executive Council held on 18th July 2022 and the executive Council empowered Hon. Vice-Chancellor to take the appropriate decision. Subsequently, the legal opinion was sought from the legal advisor of the University. According to the opinion from the legal advisor, Adv. Jalisatgi, Mr. S U Waikar can be absorbed as Assistant Professor in Computer Engineering.

Resolution:

After due discussion and deliberation, the Executive Council has approved the absorption of Mr. S U Waikar, System Analyst, as an Assistant Professor (Computer Engineering) with effect from 21st July 2007 as per the above mentioned GR and submit the proposal for his pay fixation to the Government of Maharashtra and thereafter the remaining promotions under CAS be initiated as per the norms of the government.

7.16 Functioning of the grievance cell

The University has constituted a Grievance Redressal Cell (GRC) to look into the grievances related to the Faculty and Staff of the affiliated institutes as per notification DBATU/Affi/notification/2023/575 dated 11/09/2023.

In the meanwhile, during the proceedings of the Honorable High Court at Chh. Sambhajinagar (the then Aurangabad) in the matter of Writ Petition No. 2292 of 2023, the Honorable High Court has pointed out some observations in the above-mentioned notification and the subject matter:

1. The notification is for affiliated institutes and not for the colleges
2. The notification is about Grievance Redressal Cell and not about the Grievance Committee as per the provisions under section 86 of the DBATU Act 2014 and the mentions in statute 10.72.
3. The faculty and staff members of the colleges affiliated to DBATU cannot approach the college tribunals, as the college tribunals are only applicable to the universities governed by the Maharashtra Public University Act 2014 and the Agricultural Universities.

As per clause 86 of the DBATU Act 2014, there is a provision for constitution of the Grievance Committee and as per Statute S10.72 there is a mention of it as an appellate authority. However, the modus operandi for the same is not available in our Act or statutes. The same could not be found in the common statutes for the Universities in Maharashtra. Hence it is proposed to

- to cancel the Grievance Redressal Cell constituted as per DBATU/Affi/notification/2023/575 dated 11/09/2023.
- to constitute the Grievance Committee as per the clause 86 of DBATU Act 2014 and the constitution similar to that given in Chapter VII clause 79 of Maharashtra Public University Act 2016.
- to form a committee to formulate the modus operandi, types of matters that can be handled under the Grievance Committee, the honorarium and other requirements for the functioning of the cell etc.
- to request the Government of Maharashtra to constitute a college tribunal for our University

Resolution:

After due deliberations it was resolved that the Grievance Committee should be constituted as per the clause 86 of DBATU Act 2014 and similar to that given in Chapter VII clause 79 of Maharashtra Public University Act 2016. The committee of the following members to be constituted to formulate the modus operandi, types of matters that can be handled under the Grievance Committee, the honorarium and other requirements for the functioning of the cell etc.

Shree Ashok Shelhalkar, EC Member

Chairman

Prof. S L Nalbalwar, Dean Academics

Member

Prof. Vishal Pande, Dean Pharmacy

Member

Dr. H S Joshi, OSD Affiliation

Member Secretary

7.17 Process of Ph.D. guide recognition

Dr. S. M. Pore, Dean (R & D), informed the EC that the university has received applications from many faculty members of the University for recognition as a guide for PhD. As per the ordinance O.17 of the university, a committee is required to be constituted to carry out the process of recognition of Guides for Master's and Ph. D. degrees. Accordingly, two persons are to be nominated by the Executive Council.

Resolution: The Executive Council nominated the following two to be members of the committee which will carry the process of Guides for Master's and Ph. D. as per ordinance O.17:

1. Dr. Yogesh Mahajan
2. Dr. A. P. Shesh

7.19 Regarding starting a new sub-center of the University at Latur.

Shree Praveen Sardeshmukh, informed the executive council that there is a public demand for starting a new Sub center of the University at Latur. Latur is one of the major educational hub of Maharashtra and there are many institutes affiliated to the institute from the nearby locations to Latur. Starting a new sub-center at Latur will help the institutes and students from that region to get their academic work done smoothly and conveniently.

It was placed on the records to the council that, as per the DBATU Act 2014, four regional centers and five sub-centers are already constituted. Further, creation of the new regional center or sub-center of the university requires certain procedures, which is under the purview of the Government of Maharashtra.

Resolution: Looking into the fact, the executive council, in principle, resolved to create a sub-center at Latur region, as proposed by Shree Praveen Sardeshmukh subject to condition that, the detailed comprehensive proposal with full justification be received from the academic institutes and the public representatives from Latur region. After receiving such a proposal, it will be forwarded to the Government of Maharashtra for their consideration.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair and members.
