

## SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF 35<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
HELD THROUGH ONLINE / OFFLINE MODE AT PERMANENT CAMPUS, SIKKIM  
UNIVERSITY, YANGANG, SOUTH SIKKIM - 737134  
ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 FROM 11:30 A.M. ONWARDS

### Members present:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Prof. Avinash Khare, Vice-Chancellor       | Chairman   |
| 2. Prof. Pramod Tandon [EC'S Nominee]         | Member   |
| 3. CMA (Dr.) B.B. Mishra [EC'S Nominee]       | Member   |
| 4. Dr. A.N. Shankar [EC'S Nominee]            | Member   |
| 5. Shri Mrytyunjay Behara [Visitor's Nominee] | Member (Represented by<br>Shri Praveer K. Saxena, US (CU), MoE)                  |
| 6. Shri Sanjog Kapoor [Visitor's Nominee]     | Member (Represented by<br>Shri Mohammed Rizwan, Director<br>(Finance), IFD, MoE) |
| 7. Dr. Avichal Kapur [Visitor's Nominee]      | Member (Represented by Dr. Mriganka S.<br>Sarma, Dy, Secretary)                  |
| 8. Shri Pratap Keshari Dash [Finance Officer] | Secretary  |
| 9. Shri K.V.S. Kameswara Rao, Registrar       | Special Invitee  |

Dr. C.B. Chhetri, Internal Audit Officer, was present to assist the Committee.

Having attained the quorum, the Chairman called the meeting to order. The Chairman welcomed all the members to the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee organized at the permanent campus of the University at Yangang. In his welcome note, the Chairman briefed the committee that Lepcha, Limbu & Bhutia Departments have already been shifted to the permanent campus w e f 28.11.2022 with all necessary facilities. The future planning for shifting around 17 non-lab departments with 830 students and 150 faculty is also planned for the next phase of shifting. The future shifting of these non-lab departments is, however, largely dependent on the timely completion of the finishing work of the constructed faculty, library, and admin. buildings along with necessary partitions and other works. He also informed the house that the campus construction work is in full swing and being monitored at frequent intervals. Since the meeting was organized at the permanent campus, the Chairman requested all the members present to visit and inspect the progress of the construction on the site post the session.

The Committee appreciated the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor's efforts to shift the three departments to the permanent campus on 28.11.2022 with all the necessary facilities. Since the meeting was arranged in the Permanent Campus itself, the Committee acclaimed the effort of the Hon'ble VC in shifting the three departments with all necessary facilities irrespective of the adversities like rugged hilly terrain, prolonged monsoon, remote area, lack of suitable transport facilities, poor road conditions, poor internet connectivity, no nearby good township, etc.

The Chairman requested the Finance Officer & Secretary to present the Agenda of the Finance Committee. Then the agendas were taken up by the Secretary, one by one, along with the comments received from IFD, MoE & UGC regarding each agenda item.

**SECTION – 1**  
**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES &**  
**ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

**35.1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2022:**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, along with the amendment of resolution no. 33.4.3 as circulated on 24.11.2022, subject to strict compliance of relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines, including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission,

**35.1.2 Confirmation of the minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held through The circulation of the agenda on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022:**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held through the circulation of the agenda on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022, subject to strict compliance of relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission,

**35.1.3 Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> & 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 31.10.2022 & 11.11.2022 respectively:**

The Secretary presented the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> & 34<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Finance Committee held on 31.10.2022 & 11.11.2022, respectively. The Committee noted the Action Taken Report, subject to strict compliance of relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines, including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission with the following observations:

- i. Item No: 33.4.3: Considering opening a new Department in Library and Information Science, creating Teaching Posts in the Department is paramount. Similarly, the Committee also noted the problems faced by the University in discharging its day-to-day activities because of inadequate manpower under non-teaching positions. The teaching-nonteaching ratio, as presented by the university, is not ideal for the smooth functioning of the University. The Finance Committee advised to follow up with the proposal already submitted and furnish all the requisite information for early sanction of additional teaching and non-teaching posts.
- ii. Item No. 33.5.1: The Finance Committee commended the Hon'ble VC's effort to shift departments to a permanent campus with all necessary facilities.



**SECTION – 2**  
**REPORTING ITEMS**

**35.2.1 Shifting of Lepcha, Limbu & Bhutia Departments to the Permanent Campus of the University at Yangang:**

The Committee noted the shifting of the Lepcha, Limbu & Bhutia Departments to the Permanent Campus of the University at Yangang on 29.11.2022 by using two floors of the faculty building with all the necessary facilities. The Committee appreciated the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor's effort to begin the shifting process irrespective of all the adversities like rugged hilly terrain, prolonged monsoon, remote area, lack of suitable transport facilities, poor road conditions, poor internet connectivity, unavailability of nearby township, etc.

The Committee was also apprised about the future shifting plan of the following Departments soon after the completion of finishing work of the Faculty, Library & Administration Building. To use these three buildings as classrooms and hostels for another 17 non-lab departments, some temporary partition work & readymade/ bio-toilets would be required.

The tentative plan for shifting other non-lab departments is furnished below:

<b>Name of School</b>	<b>Name of Department</b>	<b>Students Strength</b>	<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Tentative plan for shifting</b>
Languages and Literature	7- Depts.-Lepcha, Limbu, Bhutia (Already shifted), Chinese, Nepali, Hindi & English	326	Boys- 122, Girls-204	September 2023 onwards, subject to completion of finishing, partition, and other works of Faculty, Library, and Admin. Building and climatic conditions, then.
Social Sciences	7 Depts. -Economics, History, Pol.Sc, IR, Law, PCSM & Sociology	286	Boys-87, Girls-199	
Human Science	3 Depts- Anthropology, Geography & Psychology	214	Boys-49 Girls-165	
<b>TOTAL- 3 Schools</b>	<b>17 Departments</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>Boys - 258 Girls - 568</b>	

The Finance Committee noted the progress of shifting of departments and advised for early shifting of other non-lab departments for better use of resources already available in the permanent campus.

### 35.2.2 Physical & Financial Progress of the Package-I & II, Phase -I construction:

After detailed discussion, the Committee noted the Physical & Financial Progress of the Package-I & II of Phase-I construction as given below:

A: Physical Progress till 15.02.2023:

Sl. No.	Brief write-up on the Project/Initiative	Total Project Cost (INR)	Implementing Agency	Status - (Completed/Ongoing/ Proposed) & percentage of work completed	Date of Start/ Completion
1	<b>Construction of Sikkim University Campus, Phase-I Package-I</b> Structural work awarded for Administrative Building (1), Faculty Building (1) and Library building (1), Main Gate & Peripheral Road.	93.64 Crs	M/s NCC Ltd.	Status: Completed (Structural Work) Percentage of completion - 100% (Note: Finishing works included in ongoing Package II Construction Work)	10-11-2016/ 30.06.2021
2	<b>Construction of Sikkim University Campus, Phase-I Package-II</b> Finishing works for three structures under Package-I, new Classroom building, hostels and residential quarters, Road Works and Allied Structures	PIB approval for Rs. 303.55 Crs for New Construction	Mentioned below:	Work Orders issued under EPC Mode of Contract as per details (a) & (b) below:	Work in Progress
a	EPC Contractor for Phase I, Package-II	292.36 Crs	M/s ITD Cementation India Ltd.	Status: Ongoing Percentage of completion - 9%	05-01-2022/ (36 months)
B	Authority Engineer for Phase I, Package-II	9 Crs	M/s HSCL Ltd	Status: Ongoing Percentage of completion - 9%	18.01.2022/ (36 months)
C	Furniture & fixtures etc.	2.19 Crs	Sikkim University	Status: Yet to start Percentage of completion – 5.30%	August 2023

B. Financial Progress of Package-II Construction till 15.02.2023:

Fund Already Released for New Construction	Fund Utilized	Unspent Balance as at 31.3.22	Fund Requirement 2022-23	Fund Requirement 2023-24	Fund Requirement 2024-25
38.09 Cr	38.88 Cr	(0.79) Cr.	51.00 Cr	120.76 Cr	93.70 Cr



**35.2.3 Submission of Audited Annual Accounts, Separate Audit Report, and Annual Report to the Ministry for lying before both Houses of the Parliament:**

The Committee noted the submission of Audited Annual Accounts 2021-22, Separate Audit Report, and Annual Report 2021-22 to the Ministry on 20.01.2023 for lying before both Houses of the Parliament as follows:

**A. ANNUAL REPORT (2021-22)**

1	Date of Approval by Competent Authority	19.12.2022
2	Date of receipt by the Ministry (English & Hindi)	20.01.2023

**B. AUDIT REPORT (2021-22)**

1	Date of finalization of Accounts by the University/Institute	07.06.2022
2	Date of approval of the Accounts by the Competent Authority	29.06.2022
3	Date of submission of Accounts to AG (Audit)	30.06.2022
4	Commencement of Inspection of Accounts by AG (Audit)	04.07.2022
5	Completion of Inspection of Accounts by AG (Audit)	15.07.2022
6	Date of dispatch of Audited Accounts by the AG (Audit) to the University/Institute	03.11.2022
7	Date of Approval for the adoption of Audited Annual Accounts & SAR by FC & EC	FC on 11.11.2022 & EC on 19.12.2022
7	Date of receipt by the Ministry	20.01.2023

**35.2.4 Submission of Quarterly Utilization Certificate as per audited accounts for the FY 2021-22 and cumulative quarterly unaudited UC as of 01.01.2023 under Salary Head (36), Recurring Head (31) & Capital Assets (35) for the Financial Year 2022-23:**

The Committee noted the submission of Quarterly Utilization Certificate as per audited accounts for the FY 2021-22 and cumulative quarterly unaudited UC as of 01.01.2023 under Salary Head (36), Recurring Head (31) & Capital Assets (35) for the Financial Year 2022-23 to the UGC vide letter no. SU/FIN/F-3/2022/05/UC 2022-23/1225 dated 01.03.2023, subject to strict compliance of relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines, including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission as under:

- A. The audited utilization of grants during 2021-22 under Salary, Recurring, and Capital heads has been summarized as under.

(Rupees in Crores)

Heads	Op. Bal. (Prov.)	Grants Recd.	Int. & Receipts	Total Fund Available	Exp.	Refund	Unspent Balance
Salary	-15.82	52.44	0.00	36.62	43.89	0.02	-7.30
Recurring	5.03	17.67	3.63	26.33	24.96	1.20	0.17
Capital	27.34	17.50	0.00	44.84	14.51	0.80	30.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.55</b>	<b>87.61</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>107.79</b>	<b>83.36</b>	<b>2.02</b>	<b>23.19</b>

- B. The provisional utilization of grants till the **third quarter** of the FY 2022-23 under Salary, Recurring, and Capital heads have been summarized as under.

(Rupees in Crores)

Heads	Op. Bal. (Prov.)	Grants Recd.	Int. Receipts	Total Fund Available	Exp.	Refund	Unspent Balance
Salary	-7.30	33.97	0	26.67	32.29	0.00	-5.62
Recurring	0.17	20.00	1.07	21.24	18.21	0.00	3.03
Capital	30.32	4.86	0	35.18	14.58	0.00	20.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.19</b>	<b>58.83</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>83.09</b>	<b>65.08</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>18.01</b>

### 35.2.5 Appointment of Sole Arbitrator for Package-I, Phase-I construction by the Contractor M/s NCC Ltd:

The Committee noted the appointment of CPWD impanelled arbitrator, Shri Bharat Bhushan Makkar, as Sole Arbitrator on 17.01.2023 for Package-I, Phase-I construction by the Contractor M/s NCC Ltd. after approval of the Executive Council as per fee and other terms and conditions prescribed by CPWD. The Committee also noted that as per Clause 25(ii) of the GCC, any fees payable to the Arbitrator shall be paid equally by both parties.



**SECTION – 3**  
**RATIFICATION ITEMS**

Nil

**SECTION – 4**  
**MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**

**35.4.1 Implementation of Payment of Gratuity Act for employees under NPS:**

The Committee approved adopting the Payment of Gratuity Act 1972 in the Sikkim University as conveyed by UGC vide its letter no. F.No.67-3/2021(CU) dated 13.01.2023 with advice to make the payment as and when due.

**35.4.2 Revised Estimate 2022-23 and Budget Estimate 2023-24:**

The Finance Committee approved the Revised Budget Estimate 2022-23 and Budget Estimate 2023-24 subject to the condition that the estimates are based on a realistic assessment of the requirement of funds for the University and also subject to the availability of funds with UGC/MoE as under:

(Rs. In crore)

Sl. No	Expenditure Head	Actual Exp. for 2021-22	FC approved the budget of the University	RBE 22-23 conveyed by UGC	Actual Exp. for 2022-23 (up to 31.01.23)	R.B.E. for 2022-23	B.E. for 2023-24
1	Salary	43.89	48.73	46.43	32.45	46.43	51.34
2	Recurring	24.96	36.33	29.32	20.60	29.32	30.28
3	Capital	6.46	11.50	5.75	4.64	5.75	9.20
4	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>75.31</b>	<b>96.56</b>	<b>81.50</b>	<b>57.69</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>90.82</b>
5	<b>Internal Receipt of the University</b>	<b>362.63</b>	<b>296.03</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>278.74</b>	<b>360.00</b>	<b>375.00</b>

**35.4.3 Proposal for Utilization of cumulative unspent balances under “Campus Development Grant”:**

The Committee noted the following matters:

- i. The University has already shifted Lepcha, Limbu & Bhutia Departments to its permanent Campus w e f 28.11.2022
- ii. Yangang is a remote locality in Sikkim where there are not many buildings available for hostels and accommodations for faculty.
- iii. Till the completion of the package-II constructions (extended date is December 24), the constructed Faculty, Library & Admin Buildings shall be used for classrooms, hostels, and other facilities for the 17 departments to be shifted.
- iv. As recorded in Agenda Item No 35.2.1, around 17 non-lab Departments under the School of Languages and Literature, Social Sciences and Human Sciences comprising 830 students, 150 faculty, and 20 admin staff are being planned to be shifted in the next phase
- v. At present, all the departments are running in a scattered manner around Gangtok by hiring buildings for classrooms and hostels

- vi. Gradual Shifting to a permanent campus will save not only recurring costs but also help smooth academic activities
- vii. The University now wants to make use of the three buildings for the next phase of shifting by **temporary partition works, development of some of the facilities that are not covered under Package II construction**
- viii. The University has the plan to utilize the cumulative unspent balances under Campus Development Grant for the below-mentioned works:

SI	Particulars of works	Estimated cost	Remarks
1	Temporary Partition works etc. of Admin Building, Library Building	Rs.2 crore	For preparing hostels and classrooms
2	Around 120 readymade toilets & bathrooms	Rs.2 Crore	For providing facilities not sufficiently available in the buildings
3	Solar Lights, power backups, fencing, and other necessary works	Rs. 1 Crore	Will be met out of Campus Dev Grant for 2023-24

After due deliberations, the Committee suggested that utilizing funds for any purpose other than that for which grants were received is unacceptable. Also, interest on grants received should be remitted back to CFI.

In this regard, it was clarified in the meeting that interest in GIA has been refunded to the UGC. The Committee further directed to refund the unspent balances under the "Campus Development Grant" to UGC first and send a detailed proposal for utilization of cumulative unspent balance under Campus Development Grant to the UGC for consideration.

Since the next phase of shifting ultimately depends on the above works, the Hon'ble Chairman of the FC requested the members from UGC, MoE & IFD to consider speedy approval of the proposal once submitted after the refund of the unspent balances.

#### **35.4.4 Submission of Audited Utilization Certificate under Salary, Recurring & Capital Assets for the F.Y. 2021-22:**

The Committee noted the submission of the Audited Utilization Certificate under Salary, Recurring & Capital Assets for the F.Y. 2021-22 to the UGC vide letter no. SU/FIN/F-3/ New UC-2021-22/921 dated 30.11.2022, subject to strict compliance of relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines, including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission as under:



**DETAILS OF UNSPENT BALANCE AS OF 31.3.2022 AS PER AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

S L	PLAN PERI OD	PARTICUL ARS	(Rs. in Lakh)						
			OPENI NG BALAN CE	GIA RECEIV ED	OTHE R INCO ME	TOT AL FUN D	EXPENDIT URE	TSA REFU ND	UNSPEN T BALAN CE
A	XI PLAN	SALARY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		RECURRIN G	0.00	3861.43	341.18	4202.6 1	3683.28	0.00	519.33
		CAPITAL	0.00	3913.57	0.00	3913.5 7	3462.18	0.00	451.39
		MERGED SCHEME	0.00	183.00	0.00	183.00	24.58	0.00	158.42
		SPECIAL GRANT	0.00	1500.00	0.00	1500.0 0	1500.00	0.00	0.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9458.00</b>	<b>341.18</b>	<b>9799.1 8</b>	<b>8670.04</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1129.14</b>
B	XII PLAN	SALARY	0.00	8521.42	0.00	8521.4 2	7224.33	0.00	1297.09
		RECURRIN G	0.00	7601.64	3256.9 3	10858. 57	7639.17	0.00	3219.40
		CAPITAL	0.00	11973.12	0.00	11973. 12	10696.03	0.00	1277.09
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>28096.18</b>	<b>3256.9 3</b>	<b>31353. 11</b>	<b>25559.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5793.58</b>
C	2017- 18 to 2020- 21	SALARY	0.00	14256.12	0.00	14256. 12	14369.56	1468.9 6	-1582.40
		RECURRIN G	0.00	7831.97	1128.0 2	8959.9 9	8094.34	362.22	503.43
		CAPITAL	0.00	9209.00		9209.0 0	6335.29	139.76	2733.95
		EWS	0.00	122.00		122.00	0.00	0.00	122.00
		<b>TOTAL (C)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>31419.09</b>	<b>1128.0 2</b>	<b>32547. 11</b>	<b>28799.19</b>	<b>1970.9 4</b>	<b>1776.98</b>
		<b>TOTAL (A+B+C)</b>		<b>68973.27</b>	<b>4726.1 3</b>	<b>73699. 40</b>	<b>63028.76</b>	<b>1970.9 4</b>	<b>8699.70</b>
D	2021- 22	SALARY	-1582.40	5244.26	0.00	3661.8 6	4389.28	2.49	-729.91
		RECURRIN G	503.43	1767.31	362.63	2633.3 7	2496.42	119.61	17.34
		CAPITAL	2733.95	1750.00	0.00	4483.9 5	1450.88	0.80	3032.27
		MERGED SCHEME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		EWS	122.00	0.00	0.00	122.00	0.00	0.00	122.00
		<b>TOTAL (D)</b>	<b>1776.98</b>	<b>8761.57</b>	<b>362.63</b>	<b>10901. 18</b>	<b>8336.58</b>	<b>122.90</b>	<b>2441.70</b>
<b>Grand Total (C+D)</b>			<b>1776.98</b>	<b>46315.75</b>	<b>3960.7 4</b>	<b>52053. 47</b>	<b>42566.15</b>	<b>122.90</b>	<b>9364.42</b>

**Note-1:** The unspent balance of XI Plan period & Merged Scheme has been settled vide letter no. SU/NEW-UC 2021-22F/378 dated 15.07.2022 and reported to 33<sup>rd</sup> FC held on 31.10.2022 vide Agenda Item No. 33.2.

**Note-2:** As instructed in 33<sup>rd</sup> FC held on 15.07.2022, to refund the unspent balance of XII Plan fund amounting to Rs. 57.94 Crore to the UGC, the University vide letter no. SU/NEW-UC 2021-22F/1017 dated 30.12.2022 has requested approval from the UGC to refund the unspent balance. Once UGC approves, the unspent balance under the XII plan period will be refunded.


**35.4.5 Refund of Interest on GIA for the year 2021-22 as per audited Accounts 2021-22:**

The Finance Committee approved the refund of interest for Rs.1,38,31,822 (Rupees Once Crore Thirty-Eight Lakhs Thirty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Two Only) remitted vide SU letter no. SU/FIN/F-3/2022-23/AA-2021-22/917 dated 29.11.2022 soon after receipt of SAR for 2021-22.

**SECTION – 5**  
**ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**  
**Nil**

The meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.

  
**(Pratap Keshari Dash)**  
**Finance Officer & Secretary**  
**Finance Committee**

  
**(Prof. Avinash Khare)**  
**Vice-Chancellor & Chairman**  
**Finance Committee**