

1.1 The Fifth meeting of the First Finance Committee of Sikkim University was held on 25.11.2010 at 1530 hours at Marina Motel, Bagdogra (Siliguri).

1.2. The following members were present.

S.No	Name & Designation	
1.	Prof. Mahendra P. Lama, Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University, Gangtok	Chairperson
2.	Shri A.P. Thomas Assistant Director Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education (Represented Shri Naveen Soi, Director (Finance), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education, New Delhi)	Member
3.	Shri M.P.Bezbaruah, Honorary Director, Administrative Staff College of India, New Delhi	Member
4.	Shri Arjun Syangden Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,	Member
5.	Shri T.P. Koirala, Controller of Accounts, Finance, Revenue & Expenditure Department, Government of Sikkim (Represented Principal Secretary, Finance, Revenue & Expenditure Department, Government of Sikkim)	Member
6.	Shri P V Ravi, Finance Officer Sikkim University, Gangtok	Secretary

1.3 The following members could not attend the meeting due to official exigencies.

1	Dr. (Mrs.) Renu Batra, Joint Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi	Member
2	Shri Amit Khare, Joint Secretary (ICC), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi – 110 001	Member

GROUP I –ITEMS WHICH NEEDED ACCEPTANCE

FC:05:01	The Chairperson calls the house to order
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.01.1 The Chairperson called the House to order.

FC:05:02	Obituary Reference
-----------------	---------------------------

[Agenda Note:

5.02.1 *The death of the following eminent personalities is brought before the house with deep sense of grief.*

- 1. Shri Stephen Namchu, Leading Musician of Sikkim who has performed with National Musical bands like Parikrama*
- 2. Shri P G Tenzing, former IAS and a Noted Author.*
- 3. Prof Arjun Sengupta, noted Economist and Rajya Sabha Member*
- 4. Shri Santosh Gurung, Noted Political leader, Darjeeling*
- 5. Ms. Rosabel Namchu, Former Director, Govt. of Sikkim*

Minutes:

5.02.1 The House noted with deep sense of grief the passing away of the eminent personalities reported. As a mark of respect to the departed souls, the House observed two minutes silence.

FC:05:03	Observations of the Vice-Chancellor
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.03.1 The Vice-Chancellor made a power point presentation [**Annexure FC V – 01**] highlighting the various activities of the University since its last meeting held on 29.05.2010.

5.03.2 The House appreciated the achievements of the University reported by the Vice-Chancellor. Shri T.P.Koirala desired to know whether the University is employing adequate number of local people. He stated that it is the policy of the Government of Sikkim in all the Units in the State that preference should be given to local people in employment, preferably in Group C & D Cadres. The Chairperson replied that University is giving much preference to the employment of local people without compromising the quality. He also explained that within the frame work of Rules and Procedures the University is employing maximum number of local people in the University especially in Group C & D Cadres. Shri Bezbaruah suggested that the University may try to ensure to give preference to local people without compromising its standards. The distinguished members mentioned that the progress made by the University in such a short period of time has not only been tremendous but also worth emulating in other newly founded institutions of similar nature.

5.03.3 With the above observations the House noted and highly appreciated the Performance Highlights presented by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.

FC:05:04	Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29.05.2010
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.04.1 The House considered the Minutes of the Meeting held on 29.05.2010 for confirmation. Shri Arjun Syangden mentioned that the Minutes of the earlier meeting should be made available to the Members much in advance so that the Members would get adequate time to go through the same. The Chairperson explained due to the busy schedule of the management personnel for the last 4 months the Minutes could not be circulated in advance. He assured that in future the observation of the distinguished Members would be complied with.

5.04.2 With the above observation, the House confirmed the Minutes of the last meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29.05.2010.

FC:05:05	Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting of Finance Committee held on 29.05.2010
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.05.1 The House considered the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting of the Finance Committee held on 29.05.2010 for confirmation. It was noticed that due to printing error the Action Taken details are not mentioned in some of the pages of the report. The Secretary explained orally the action taken by the University on each of item of the Minutes to the House. The Copy of the Action Taken Report containing the replies/explanations furnished by the Secretary is enclosed as **Annexure FC V – 02** for record.

5.05.2 The House considered the replies. Shri Bezbaruah mentioned that wherever some action is needed the same may be mentioned in brief.

5.05.3 With the above observations, the House confirmed the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting held on 29.05.2010.

FC:05:06	Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting of Finance Committee held on 09.11.2009
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.06.1 The House considered the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the meeting held on 9.11.2009 placed before the Committee and confirmed the same.

FC:05:07	Compliance Report on the Internal Audit Report -2009-10
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.07.1 For the year 2009-10, the Internal Audit of the University was conducted by Banerjee and Bhattacharya, Chartered Accountants, Kolkata. The House considered the Compliance Report on the various points made in the Internal Audit Report submitted before it. Shri Bezbaruah observed that action may be taken to clear the deficiencies pointed out by the Internal Auditors especially those relating to Other Advances and minus balances in the liabilities side.

5.07.2 The Secretary assured that as the Finance Wing is now equipped with regular supervisory staff at the level of Manager (Deputy Registrar) & Deputy Manager (Assistant Registrar), all efforts will be made to clear the deficiencies including those mentioned by the distinguished Member at the earliest.

5.07.3 With the above observations the House noted the Compliance Report presented before it.

FC:05:08	Consideration of Final Audit Certificate of C&AG on the Annual Accounts of 2009-10
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.08.1 The House considered the Final Audit Certificate and Separate Audit Report issued by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the Accounts of the University for the Year ended 31.03.2010 and approved the same for incorporation in the Annual Report for the Year 2009-10.

5.08.2 While doing so, the Shri T.P.Koirala observed that as regards the disputed rent for the Youth Hostel Building [Administrative Office of the University] the University may request the CPWD to carry out the measurement of the plinth area and based on which it can finalise the amount of rent with the Government of Sikkim.

FC:05:09	Revised Estimates 2009-10 & Budget Estimates 2010-11
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.09.1 The House considered the Statement showing the Actuals for the year 2009-10, Revised Estimates for 2010-11 and Budget Estimates for 2010-11 for approval and recommendation to the Executive Council in terms Primary Statute 17 (7) and (8) of Sikkim University Act 2006.

5.09.2 It was observed by the Shri A.P.Thomas that there may not be any purpose in examining the Revised Estimates in the month of November. The Chairperson explained due to various reasons the Finance Committee meeting scheduled in September 2010 had to be

postponed to November 2010. In fact, the University proposed the Revised Estimates for consideration of the Committee in its meeting which was to be held in September 2010.

5.09.3 The House observed that while it can recommend the budget in overall, the University should consider making re-appropriations whenever deemed necessary as per provisions of the Rules. Shri A.P.Thomas also pointed out from the 2010-11 onwards no re-appropriation of funds between Capital and Revenue would be allowed.

5.09.4 With the above observations, the House recommended the Budget proposals for the consideration of the Executive Council.

FC:05:10	Position of Unspent Balances as on 01.11.2010
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.10.1 The House considered and noted the Statement showing the position of Unspent Balances as on 01.11.2010.

GROUP II - ITEMS REPORTED FOR INFORMATION

FC:05:11	Adoption of University Invocation by the Executive Council
-----------------	---

Minutes:

5.11.1 The House noted with deep appreciation the lyrics written by the Founding Vice Chancellor Prof Mahendra P Lama, its contents and the music of the Invocation Song of the University which has been adopted by the Executive Council in its recent meeting held on 3.11.2010.

FC:05:12	Appointment of Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff and Revision of Salaries
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.12.1 The House noted the agenda item which covered the fresh appointments made after last meeting on 29.05.2010 [both teaching and non-teaching], Regular appointments of non-teaching staff and revision of salaries reported.

FC:05:13	Charging of affiliation fee
-----------------	------------------------------------

Minutes:

5.13.1 The House noted the decision of the University to charge affiliation fees from the Academic Year 2011-12 from the affiliated colleges as decided by the Executive Council. Shri T.P.Koirala stated that charging of affiliation fee on Government Colleges would add burden to the exchequer of the State Government. To this, the Chairperson replied that the University is adopting the practice which is already in vogue in other Universities and charging of affiliation fee is necessary to augment the resources of the University over a period of time.

FC:05:14	STATUS REPORT ON ACQUISITION OF LAND AT YANGANG
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.14.1 The House considered the agenda item in great detail and exhaustively debated on it. It has expressed its concern that the delay in getting the land handed over to the University is causing many adversities both directly and indirectly which include operational, financial, infrastructure related and academic. The House noted that as decided by the Executive Council the University should take up the issue with the Government of India for an early solution to clear the impasse.

5.14.2 Shri A.P.Thomas stated that the decision of the Executive Council suggesting re-location of the University to some other place is not in conformity with the policy of Government of India.

5.14.3 Shri T.P.Koirala stated that Government of Sikkim is fully aware of the situation and is trying to do its best to get the land allotted to Sikkim University at the earliest.

5.14.4 With the above observations the House noted the agenda item placed before it.

FC:05:15	Procurement of Land at Gangtok
-----------------	---------------------------------------

Minutes:

5.15.1 The House considered the agenda item and noted the efforts made by the University in getting a piece of land acquired in Gangtok for construction of its Administrative Office, Guest House etc.

FC:05:16	Half Yearly Accounts of the University for the half-year ended 30.09.2010
-----------------	--

Minutes:

5.16.1 The House considered the Half-Yearly Accounts for the period ended 30.09.2010. Shri Bezbaruah stated that necessary efforts may be taken to clear the adverse balances under other liabilities. It was also suggested that efforts may be made to clear the old outstanding advances at the earliest.

5.16.2 With the above observations the House noted the agenda item

FC:05:17	Any other item with the permission of the Chair
----------	---

Minutes:

5.17.1 As there being no other item the meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

(P.V.Ravi)
Finance Officer
Ex-Officio Secretary, Finance Committee