

PUNJAB TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

JALANDHAR



AGENDA

21st MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**COMMITTEE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR,
PUNJAB CIVIL SECRETARIAT, CHANDIGARH
ON
20 January 2006 AT 1130 HRS.**

**Agenda points for the 21st Meeting of the Board of
Governors to be held on 20 January 2006 on 6th Floor,
Civil Secretariat, Punjab, Chandigarh**

Item No.	Particulars	Page No.	Annexure
21.0	Briefing by the Vice Chancellor.	-	
21.1	To confirm the proceedings of 20 th Meeting of the BOG.		A
21.2	Summary on Action Taken Report.		
21.3	Brief on construction PTU campus & approval for award of contract.		B
21.4	To report about tele-education project including Dr. Khandpur Committee report.		C,D
21.5	Regulation for B.Tech & other courses		E
21.6	Brief about PTU employees and High Power committee appointed by the Government		1,2,3,4& A,P
21.7	a) Ratification of the decision taken by the Chairman Board of Governors b) To approve of Ph.D for the academic session 2004-05.		
21.8	Approval of the BOG on Academic council recommendations (Maximum nos of courses that can be taken in any particular semester)		
21.9	Supernumerary admissions of foreign National / PIOs in AICTE / Non AICTE courses.		
21.10	Approval of the selection committee		
21.11	To deliberate on conduct of admission test for 2006		
21.12	TO approve Fee Structure for Non-AICTE Courses.		F,G
21.13	To approve disposal of machinery lying at Mohali Site		H
21.14	To approve policy on preservation and destruction of the record.		
21.15	Any other points with the permission of the Chair.		

Item No 21.1 To confirm the proceedings of 20th Meeting of the BOC.

The proceedings of 20th BOC meetings were circulated to all the members. A copy is placed at **(Annexure-A)**

There was no written comment received from any of the members. The proceedings may be taken as confirmed.

Item No. 21.2

Action taken report on 20th meeting of the BOC Held on 19 August 2005 in the Committee Room, 6th Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh

Item No.	Description	Action Taken
20.1	To confirm the proceedings of the 20 th meeting of the BOC meeting.	No comments had been received. Proceeding was taken as confirmed.
20.2	Summary on Action Taken Report.	Noted
20.3	To discuss the present status and the future plan on e-governance and Tele Education	Brief presented as Agenda Item No 21.4. The contract has been terminated vide PTU/REG/ 6346 dated 11-10-05.
20.4	To approve the transfer of land of PUNTEX at Amritsar and at Ludhiana to PTU.	Feasible report under preparation
20.5	To approve the opening of PTU off shore campus regional centres Abroad.	Noted
20.6	To discuss the award of dual degree programme.	Actioned, Degree of BBA (Automotive Marketing) has been awarded to 7 candidates.
20.7	To report on: a) CET-2005/ MET Admissions b) Inter University weight lifting c) Examination 2005 and result thereof. (Extension of maximum time limit) d) PTU's CAPARO School of manufacturing and material technology e) Status of online education	Noted AIU had subsequently changed the dates. Revised schedule was not acceptable to PTU since it clashed with the dates of end semester examinations. The venue is changed. Report of the committee is placed as agenda item No 21.5. Action in hand to incorporate (i), (ii), (iii), of the item. The progress is being monitored. Online education has recommenced and the university has formed a cell to monitor performance of the system of education.

20.8	<p>Any other points with the permission of the Chair.</p> <p>20.8.1</p> <p>20.8.2 to approve continuation of service contract of Sh Ekonkar Singh for another period of 3 years.</p> <p>20.8.3 The Board also approve the following</p> <p>a) Establish office at the residence of the VC & Registrar.</p> <p>b) To provide security at the residence of VC & registrar.</p>	<p>Approved by BOC for a period of one year. Notified.</p> <p>Established</p> <p>Provided</p>
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Item No 21.3 Brief on construction PTU campus & approval for award of Contract.

1. In the 19th Meeting the BOC has authorized the BOC Committee for Construction of PTU Campus to finalize hiring of construction Management group for full time supervision of the construction work. M/S Archi Group Architect was selected by the committee constituted by BOC PTU under the chairmanship of Sh K. K Bhatnagar, IAS, PSTE, Punjab held on 22-04-05. In a meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary to Govt. Punjab in his office on 29th August to review the constructions work of the University the following decisions were taken.

- a) To construct multistory building leaving as much space as possible for expansion.
- b) To engage services of Sh. A.N. Chowdhry , Chief Engineer (Retired) Mandi Board, Govt of Punjab.
- c) To appoint technical team comprising of Advisors for Electrical Engineering, PH, Fire Detection and Fire Fighting , HVAC, Landscaping etc.
- d) To lay down detailed procedure for execution for the project.
- e) To undertake soil testing reports.

Subsequently the following actions were taken

- (a) A composite building, comprising of (i) Front Block consisting of G + 3 Floors (ii) Rear Block consisting of Basement + G + 7 Floors has been planed.
- (b) Appointment of Sh AN Chowdhry
- (c) (i) Correspondence with Govt of Punjab for deputation of Sh TL Dhall Executive Engg PWD.
- (ii) Technical team comprising of Advisors for electrical, PH, Fire Detection and Fire Fighting, HVAC , Landscaping have been appointed.
- (iii) Contractual appointments of the following have done.
 - a. Assistant Executive Engineer
 - b. Asst Engineer
 - c. Quantity Surveyor

(d) Details procedure for execution of project laid down by delegation of the powers to the appointed engineers and assigning area of responsibility to each.

(e) Testing of soil and water

2. The Board in 20th meeting decided not to approve an agency for checking of structural stability and it was deliberated that Architects must certify structural stability.

The BOG committee for construction deliberated on the issue and was of the opinion that an independent check of the structure design was mandatory and desirable

In case of Pushpa Gujral Science City a retired professor of Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh has been appointed on nominal terms of Rs. 5.50p per sq/meter and vital errors in the initial design have been observed. For PTU it was therefore decided to appoint an agency located at Delhi for better Co-ordination as Structural Designer of architects is located there. Professors of IIT, Delhi and Delhi College of Engineering were contacted. Sh AK Jain of IIT, Delhi has intimated his rates as Rs. 5 lacs lum sum. Delhi College of Engineering has offered Rs. 25 per sqm service tax extra. At the lowest rates of Rs. 5.50p sq/meter job will cost about Rs. 1.0 lacs approximately and it is proposed to allot the work at the lowest offered rate IIT to Dr S.N.Sinha, civil Engg, Deptt, IIT, Delhi under intimation to Director.

- 3 Tenders for the building have been received on 10-01-06 from the following two of the five pre-qualified Agencies after completing all the required formalities of approval of preliminary drawings and estimates, approval of tender documents and holding of pre-bid conference etc.

i) JMC Projects (India) Ltd.

ii) IVRCL Infrastructure and Project Ltd.

M/s Unity Infraprojects Ltd, M/s Nagarjuna Construction Company Ltd and Larsen and Tubro, Ltd have however not submitted their tenders though they purchased the tender documents. Photocopies of the tenders have been forwarded to the Architects for processing, checking and submitting their recommendations for the considering by the Tender Evaluation Committee chaired by Dr. R.S. Khandpur, the meeting of which has been fixed on 17th January , 2006. Report of the Committee shall be put up to the BOG Committee, the meeting of which has also been convened on the same day in the afternoon. Final recommendations shall tabled in the meeting itself on 20-01-06.

The BOG had approved the expenditure of Rs 40 crores for the above mentioned building and for , the rough cost estimate Rs. 34.71 crores stand approved by the BOG committee. Now the Architect have informed that the rough cost estimate excludes the cost of basement and accordingly the amount will increase by 2.3 crores and thus the amount of rough cost will be $34.71 + 2.3 = 37.01$ crores. Detailed estimate for civil construction, internal services of electrical, Public Health Engineer has been received form the Architect for an amount of Rs. 29.37 crores.

- 4 Proposal of AC system submitted by the Architects was discussed amongst the Chief Architect, D.G. Pushpa Gujral Sceince City, Registrar, Chief Engineer and Advisors in the meetings held on 8th December 2005 and 4th January 2006. AC system of operation capacity of 630 TR consisting of four nos units of 225 TR capacity each (3 in operation + 1 stand by) have been proposed. A comparison of Air Cooled and water-cooled units is appended as **(Annexure B)**. The air-cooled units require less space and no water but are initially costly by Rs. 6/- lacs approximately and consume more electricity. Water-cooled units require about 50,000 liters of water on the average, which gets evaporated. Cost of *electricity* and water per annum is more by Rs. 9/- lacs in case of Air Cooled units. A summary of cost is as under:

Type	Capital Cost	Electrical / Water Cost Per annum
Air Cooled	Rs. 214.8 lacs	Rs. 75.00 lacs
Water Cooled	Rs. 213.0 lacs	Rs. 66.00 lacs

The committee mentioned above recommended Air Cooled units mainly in order to conserve the precious under ground water as the water table in Punjab is receding and has become a social issue.

The BOG committee is meeting on 17-01-06 to deliberate and make final decision on the issue. The proceedings of the meeting shall be tabled during the meeting of the BOG

BOG may approve the following

- (a) Award of contract to the contractor recommended by the evaluation and BOG.
- (b) Approve issue of tender for the following works
 - (i) Deposit of funds with PSEB for laying of underground cable of 33 KV from the common grid to PTU site (approximately 1 KM).
 - (ii) Construction of boundary wall around the periphery of the campus.

Item No 21.4 To report about tele-education project including Dr. Khandpur Committee report.

As per decision of the 20th meeting of the Board held on August 19 2005, the Khandpur committee had submitted its report, which is enclosed at **(Annexure C)**

In the mean while, It is to report that the company preferred a arbitration notice in the Hon' ble Court at Jalandhar. The Hon'ble Court heard the university and the petitioner company and after detailed argument pronounced an order in favour of the university. A copy of the order **Annexure D).**

The matter placed before the Board for further advice on the matter.

Report on Tele-education and E-governance Project

The Tele-Education and E governance project was discussed and deliberated at length consecutively in three meetings of the BOG in light of the observations of the Kalsi Committee Report and the report of the Independent Committee appointed by the Board. The 20th Meeting of the BOG held on August 19, 2005 decided the following:

- a. The Tele-Education and E governance project of PTU with Mindlogicx must be terminated immediately. The letter was to be drafted in consultations with a legal expert and ratified by the Chairman, BOG.
- b. A Committee was appointed with the following members:
 - Dr. R. S. Khandpur, DG, Pushpa Gujral Science City
 - Shri J. B. Goel, Secretary, Technical Education and Industrial Training, Govt. of Punjab
 - Shri N.S. Kalsi, Secretary, Ministry of IT, Govt. of Punjab
 - Dr. R. P. Singh, Dean (DEP), PTU

The terms of reference of the Committee were as under:

- a. Draw prospective plans for utilizing the facilities created.
- b. To determine the lapses and fix responsibility in drafting and implementing the project.
- c. Report on justification of payments made and consequent loss to the University, if any.
- d. Recommend precautions for future contracts of the University.

The Committee discussed the above and perused through all pertinent records. It also went through the Kalsi Committee Report and the report of the Independent Committee (*hereinafter referred as Gupta Committee*). After detailed deliberations, the Committee presents here the consolidated recommendations, which are segregated as per the Terms of Reference given to it.

PROSPECTIVE PLAN

After issue of termination orders to the company involved in Tele-education and E-governance project of PTU, the immediate challenge would be to take in its possession the equipments, infrastructure, servers, and the software supplied/developed by the company, for which the University has so far paid 2.58 crores to the company. Once the handing over is smoothly accomplished, the University should start implementing the plan to utilize the infrastructure for the benefit of the students. It is also clear, that the progress made so far, and the cost of capital infrastructure, equipments, software and hardware, which the University would be taking possession of, after termination of the project, needs to be fully justified vis-à-vis the payments made to the company.

The Committee strongly feels that if the transition is planned in a proper way, the idea suggested by the "Gupta Committee" could be suitably explored in transforming the infrastructure by creating "*Center for Innovative Learning*" within the University. The University already has got the satellite link through EDUSAT, and is able to receive programs from AICTE, ISRO, UGC, IGNOU etc. The infrastructure may now be used to create a multi streaming facility for the institutions under umbrella of PTU to connect to the University and simultaneously receive the programs through individual broadband connection at receiving ends.

The following are the suggested activities for the Center for Innovative Learning:

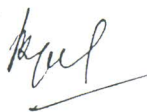
- Lectures on special topics of relevance by national and international experts.
- Lectures on advanced topics for senior students of B.Tech and M.Tech, MBA and MCA.
- Informative lectures for distance education students demonstrating special skill up-gradation.
- Communication skills to all students under PTU system.
- Content and Self-Instruction Material preparation in print, multi-media and CD for distance education students.

The University may like to develop the Center for Innovative Learning (CIL) in consultative collaboration with an organization of repute, viz. NITTTR, Chandigarh; IIT Mumbai etc.

The proposed CIL project may be implemented in a proper fashion by taking the services of a reputed consultant to help the university in preparing the project proposal, the tendering documents, the financial structuring, the evaluation of bids, the preparation of contract terms and conditions, deliverables and service level agreements. This will enable PTU to choose a world-class implementation partner/ consortium to deliver quality technical education programmes and also earn sizable revenue for DEP of PTU for further improvements.

LAPSES IN DRAFTING AND AWARD OF PROJECT

- a. The Board of Governors in its meeting held on November 20, 2002 emphasized the need to improve the quality, relevance and excellence of courses offered by PTU. In order to steer these recommendations, seven Task Forces were set up by the then Vice Chancellor, one of them being on Distance Education. The task Force on distance education was constituted with the following members:



1. Prof. A. Kalanidhi, Adviser, Ministry of Labor, Govt. of India and Former Vice Chancellor, Anna University, Chennai, formerly Director of AICTE-CEP.
2. Shri. S.K. Bijlani, President, Magnus Engineers India Ltd, Chandigarh.
3. Shri S.B. Krishnan, Former Secretary, Technology Development Board, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.

The Task Force after studying the activities and detailed discussions with concerned persons submitted a report for revitalizing the Distance Education program of the University. It contained 38 specific recommendations, few of them concerning issuance of Smart Cards to students, e-governance of the University management system etc.

- b. The initiation of Tele-education and E-governance project was an outcome of these recommendations of the task force on Distance Education headed by Dr. A. Kalanidhi, which was approved by the Board of Governors in its 10th Meeting held on May 20, 2003.
- c. In order to implement the recommendations of the Board, an Interim Council was constituted with members of the Task Force as well as the following members:
 - Dr. Kuldeep Singh, IIT, Roorkee
 - Prof. T.S. Krishnakumar, NITIE, Mumbai
 - Dr. M.S. Sukhija, Principal, GTBKIET, Chappianwali
 - Dr. K.N.S. Kang, Principal, PCET, Badowal

The University reconstituted another Committee for opening of Tenders and for the presentations on 18.07.2003 which recommended M/s Mindlogicx Infotech Limited for providing the Tele-education and e-governance solutions to the DEP of the University on the revenue sharing basis. Accordingly, the work order was issued to M/s Mindlogicx and General Service Agreement (GSA) signed on 19.08.2003.

- d. On critical examination of the GSA (MoU) signed by the University with M/s Mindlogicx, it appears that the GSA drafting was deficient in the following respects:
 - The Agreement was not got legally vetted by the University administration
 - Time schedule for the deliverables and the phases of implementation of the programme were not defined with various milestones
 - No performance guarantee was obtained from the company
 - Even though the work was to be done by M/s Mindlogicx with the investments from the University, the company kept the intellectual property rights for the software, which at least could have been in the joint name.

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- The first installment of payment was made to the company from the very first day without their having any investment in the project.
- Lack of provision of exit clause in case of default on the part of M/s Mindlogicx. This clause was later on incorporated.

It is worth mentioning that the University at that time did not have any regular officer. Superannuated Officers were running the University and hence the required commitment to the project was missing. In general, proper systems were not in place for handling such type of projects. It was for the Registrar of the University to ensure that all technical, financial and legal requirements are taken care while awarding the work order. Moreover, the committee constituted for opening of tenders and for the presentation constituted on 18th July, 2003 consisting of Dr. A. Kalanidhi, Dr. M.S. Sukhija, Dr. V.P. Singh, Sh. K.S. Klair were also responsible for not assessing the capabilities of selected Company and recommending the selection of M/S. Mindlogicx Infotech Ltd. Thereafter, the concerned University authorities did not monitor the progress of the implementation of the project and did not escalate the implementation failures and delays to concerned authorities in timely fashion.

The lapses in providing safeguards of the investments made by the University on the project perhaps occurred due to the enthusiasm of the University staff to start a forward looking project as soon as possible. However, it is apparent that the University system was not able to translate the vision of the Vice Chancellor nor could monitor the activities of a project of such magnitude and relevance.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE PAYMENTS MADE AND LOSS IF ANY

The University has so far spent 2.58 crores on the project for the session starting September 2003 and March 2004. The payment was made in advance for services to be delivered to the students during the entire semester. Since September 2004, no payment was made to the company. Against the release of Rs.2.58 crores, the University got the following from M/s Mindlogicx as per their financial details:

S.No.	Description	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Printed Material in form of Books	76,34,520/-
2.	Equipments in Data Centre	10,76,000/-
3.	Studio Equipments	42,65,000/-
4.	Saving on Internet Facility	20,00,000/-
5.	Smart Card Facility	3,00,000/-
6.	Cost of Bandwidth	90,00,000/-
7.	Project Equipments	25,00,000/-
	Grand Total	2,67,75,520/-

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The cost shown above is on the basis of financial details provided by M/s Mindlogicx. The authenticity of these can be verified only by examining the original audited invoices of the equipments and other investments as well as the audited balance sheet of the company for that period. The University may like to procure above financial records of investments made by the company for records. However, the company may or may not like to part with such details under the present circumstances. As such, the cost of equipments taken over by the university and other charges like bandwidth charges etc. have gone through lot of variations during the past couple of years.

PRECAUTIONS


In order to avoid repeat of such cases and to efficiently and effectively handle projects of such magnitude, it is essential that proper care should be taken at all stages, right from the conceptual stage of the project till the completion of the deliverables. The Committee hereby suggests the following guidelines for awarding contracts

1. The IT Acquisition and Disposal policy of Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Punjab
2. Punjab Financial Rules
3. Central Vigilance Commission Guidelines


(R.S. Khandpur)


(J.B. Goel)


(N.S. Kalsi)


(R.P. Singh)