

MINUTES OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF INFLIBNET CENTRE  
HELD ON FRIDAY, THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OF SEPTEMBER AT  
NATIONAL AEROSPACE LABORATORIES,  
BANGALORE 560 017

The 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Finance Committee of the INFLIBNET Centre was held at National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore. The meeting commenced at 1045Hours. The following were present:

Dr. S Ramani

Chairman

Members:

01	Dr. Ved Prakash	Secretary, UGC, New Delhi
02	Dr. T A V Murthy	Director, INFLIBNET Centre
03	Prof. N Bijoy Singh	Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University/ Co-opted Member
04	Dr. P Prakash	Jt. Secretary, (IUC)/Bureau-Head, UGC, New Delhi
05	Shri S M Salgar,	Scientist-G, INFLIBNET Centre
06	Shri D P Negi,	Admn. Officer (PA & F)/ Non-Member Secretary

Shri Pawan Agarwal, IAS, Financial Advisor could not attend the meeting.

INTORUDCTION:

Dr. T A V Murthy, Director, INFLIBNET Centre, extended a warm welcome to Dr. S Ramani, Chairman, FC and the distinguished Members and introduced each of them for the benefits of the Committee. Thereafter, he requested Shri D P Negi, Admn. Officer (PA&F) and Non-Member Secretary, FC, to take up the agenda items who in turn requested Dr. Ramani, for offering the opening remarks.

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01 Opening Remarks:

Dr. Ramani in the opening remarks also extended greetings to all the Members and briefed them on the important activities carried out, remarkable achievements made and the dynamic role played by INFLIBNET under the leadership of Dr. Murthy. He mentioned that the great efforts put in by the INFLIBNET have made positive impact in the academic circle and the INFLIBNET services and its presence are clearly visible in the universities across the country. He also made particular reference to UGC-infonet and E-journal Consortia programmes besides SOUL Library Software and remarked that in spite of all the constraints like; shortage of manpower, intense pressure upon the existing staff etc. He complemented Dr. T A V Murthy and his team in accomplishing the tasks assigned by the Commission for taking up Strengthening of Library automation facilities in the North-Eastern states and Jammu & Kashmir under the special drive of PMO.

Later, Dr. Ramani requested the distinguished members to offer their observations/remarks with regard to the performance and services of INFLIBNET to the academics. Prof. Bijoy Singh, took the first opportunity and greatly admired and appreciated the achievements and support provided by INFLIBNET. While appreciating the presence of INFLIBNET across the country, he specifically mentioned the tireless efforts made by Dr. Murthy along with his team in making a dent in the nook and corner of North-Eastern states,

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particularly, the awareness created by organizing the PALNNER and series of other awareness programmes in the area and expressed his gratefulness for bringing this part of the country with the mainstream in such a short time through special drive. Thereafter, Dr. Ved Prakash, Secretary, UGC also expressed the feeling of the commendable work done by the Director, INFLIBNET with limited manpower and remarked that the feed back received from different corners of the country about INFLIBNET are encouraging and praise-worthy.

Dr. Ved Prakash expressed concern about inadequate manpower position which has been a big handicap for INFLIBNET and informed the members that a Committee has been constituted by MHRD of Government of India for review of the IUCs and its work is under way and therefore the Commission could not release the sanctioned vacant positions of the Centre for filling-up the same. At this stage, Dr. P Prakash, Joint Secretary (IUC/MC) UGC, while appreciating the role of INFLIBNET in discharging its responsibilities towards mandate and reaching out to the people including the additional tasks given by the Commission, mentioned that a "one man committee" has been constituted by the Commission to go into the details of the manpower requirements etc. of the IUCs and will be visiting the INFLIBNET Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> of September, 2005 after visiting CEC, New Delhi on 14<sup>th</sup> of September, 2005. He further appraised the members that the Committee will assess the actual manpower requirement and

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make suitable recommendations. On receipt of the recommendations, the Commission will take up the matter for issuing necessary orders.

02 Confirmation of the Minutes  
of the Last Meeting:

The Centre circulated the Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Meeting to all the Members vide its letter No.DIR/13.FC.10/2004 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2004. Since no comments were received, the the Minutes were treated confirmed.

03 Action items generated in the last Meeting of FC  
and reporting on action taken:

There were about 6 items which were taken up by Shri Negi, Admn.Officer (PA&F) and Non-Member Secretary and the members were satisfied with the action taken.

04 Presentation of Audited Accounts  
For the F.Y 2004-2005:

Shri D P Negi, presented the audited accounts of the Centre for the year FY 2004-2005. The Committee noted the contents with a sense of satisfaction and proceeded further.

05 Briefing on the replies furnished to Internal Audit Wing of UGC against the Audit queries relating to FY 2003-2004:

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The Committee was appraised about the audit queries/paras and the replies thereto furnished by the Centre. Shri Negi, Non-Member Secretary, informed the members that the Centre has invariably replied all the queries/paras and received a communication from the Internal Audit Wing of the Commission wherein the Centre has been informed that all the queries/paras have been dropped except one pertaining to grant of DA/per-diem amounting to Rs.10,249/- drawn by Dr. t A V Murthy, Director, INFLIBNET for attending an International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICADL) at Kaula Lumpur, in the interest of the organization for which ex-post-facto approval from the President of the Council/Chairman, UGC has already been requested and reply is awaited.

At this juncture, Prof. N Bijoy Singh and Dr. S Ramani, were of the strong opinion that since Dr. Murthy participated in the said event which was very relevant to the activities of the Centre, the Finance Committee and the Governing Board may resolve to make strong recommendations, as a special case, to the Commission to accord ex-post-facto approval for the same.

06 To scrutinize and approve Revised Estimates for FY.2005-2006 and Budget Estimates for FY. 2006-2007:

The Member Secretary presented the Revised Estimates for FY 2005-2006 and Budget Estimates for FY 2006-2007 to the Committee. The Committee considered the Estimates as shown in the budget document under Non-Plan and Plan heads.

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The Non-Member Secretary, while presenting the estimates, clarified that as suggested by the Financial Advisor, UGC in the last meeting, the various heads of Accounts which were earlier used to be shown in the budget documents, have now been reduced to the minimum after consolidating various sub-heads.

The Committee while appreciating the initiative and compliance suggested that in order to bring clarity, the Centre may put foot-notes with regard to expenditure and budgetary provisions for different items covered under the revised heads. The suggestions made were noted for future.

While perusing the provisions reflected under different budget heads, under Non-Plan, the Committee observed that the projections are on higher side comparing to the expenditure incurred during the first quarter. It was clarified to the Committee that most of the major activities of the Centre like; IRTPLA, PLANNER, CALIBER, series of SOUL training programmes across the country, E-journal Awareness programmes etc. pick up rapidly from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter onwards and therefore adequate projections have been made to meet the expenditure proposed to be incurred.

With regard to the observation made by the members for the Projections shown under RE 2005-06 and BE 2006-07 under Travel head (both: domestic and foreign), it was clarified that this is the consolidated picture of the travel expenses incurred by the Centre's staff as well as Experts and Members of

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various Committee constituted by UGC as well as the Centre, which used to be shown earlier under different major activities, has now been consolidated and brought under a single head and the same is reasonable considering the growth of activities.

At this stage, It was further clarified by the Director that during the current financial year, INFLIBNET is planning to invite International experts in identifying collaborative ventures with International bodies in Database, Standards etc. and as such the travel under "foreign travel" is also projected which was also found to be reasonable.

With regard to observation made by the members on the higher projection under Budget Estimate 2006-2007 for maintenance of equipments, it was clarified that most of the Computer systems, High Speed HP RISC Server (rp 5470), Storage Array/Web Server etc. of the Centre which are presently under warranty will be brought under Annual Maintenance Contract on expiry of the warranty period during the FY 2006-07 and as such adequate budgetary provisions have been made for the same. The members expressed a sense of satisfaction.

As regards the provisions made under RE-2005-06 and BE-2006-07 for Organization development head, the members requested the Director to spell out the activities proposed to be undertaken. The Director apprised the

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members that besides the items mentioned in the budget document and justifications provided, the Centre is also planning to collaborate with OCLC (Online Computer Library Centre) Ohio, Columbus, USA by deputing two Scientists from the Centre one each from the Library Science and Computer Science during the next 2 years to get acquainted with the latest technological advancements like; Data mining, compilation and Standards and merging of records into the world cataloging system. He also mentioned that the experts would be invited from OCLC to see our Database and also help us in guiding the young scientists of the Centre on organizational need and technological aspects. This was unanimously agreed by the Members and they advised the Director to try for one year and report. The Director further brought to the notice of the members that data about one crore records/data already accumulated in INFLIBNET will be useful at international level.

While considering the budgetary provisions for capital items i.e. Computers and other scientific equipments, the members observed that since the Centre is presently concentrating on the already pressed programmes like; UGC-infonet, E-Journal consortia, SOUL and their effective utilization and may not be able to complete the procurement action due to heavy burden of the above activities, they advised to reduce the projection made under the said head. The Members also advised that the expenditure towards CD-Rom-databases be met from the allocation of Budget made under E-journal consortia, which was noted for compliance.



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With regard to the projection made by the Centre for setting up of E-Learning Studio, it was advised by the Secretary and Joint Secretary, UGC that since CEC has taken up this activity on a full fledged basis, hence the Centre may not take up this activity for the present due to inadequate manpower.

Regarding construction of permanent institutional building of the Centre, Director was asked to apprise the members on the progress made for acquisition of the land. The Director informed the Members about his efforts in following up the matter with Gujarat University and stated that the efforts have not yielded any fruitful results so far. At this stage, all the members unanimously advised the Centre to pursue the matter with Government of Gujarat and take possession of the land already allotted in INFOCITY at Gandhinagar and approach the Commission for suitable budget allocation for construction of building.

While deliberating on the budgetary projections, Dr. Prakash, JS, UGC informed the Committee that the Commission has taken a decision that the grants/funds which was earlier provided to the Universities for making payment to ERNET India towards the bandwidth connectivity will henceforth be given to INFLIBNET for disbursement to ERNET etc. He further informed the Committee that funds to the extent of Rs.15.00 crores have been allotted to INFLIBNET under Plan head for this activity. With regard to provisions for E-Journal consortia, he



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mentioned that a sum of Rs.33.00 crores has been allocated for the same for the current year.

Taking into account all the aspects, the Finance Committee recommended the following budgetary provisions for the Centre for approval of the Governing Board:

Revised Estimates for FY 2005-06	(Rupees in lakhs)	Budget Estimates for FY 2006-07	(Rupees in lakhs)
Non-Plan	210.00	Non-Plan	240.00
Plan	4810.00	Plan	4980.00
This includes the provision of Rs.3300 lakhs for E-Journal Consortium including extension of College model of E-Journal to about 200 Colleges, Rs.1500 lakhs for UGC-Infonet and Rs.10.00 lakhs for Plan Budget of the Centre.		This includes the provision of Rs.3465 lakhs for E-Journal Consortium (with 5% price-cap) including continuation of the College model, Rs.1500 lakhs for UGC-infonet and Rs.15.00 lakhs for Plan Budget of the Centre.	
Total	5020.00	Total	5220.00

However, the Secretary & Joint Secretary, UGC advised the Centre to approach the Commission for additional funds, if needed.

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

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- 07 Grant of financial upgradation under the Assured Career Progression Scheme (ACP) to all eligible employees (Technical as well as Administrative) of the Centre from due date as per the orders of Govt. of India on the subject.

The Finance Committee considered the matter and recommended strongly to the Governing Board to accord approval for the same, as per Government of India's Orders on the subject.

- 08 Payment of leave salary and pension contributions to Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL – a Deemed University), Hyderabad for the period of lien granted by them to Dr. T A V Murthy, to take up the appointment of Director of the Centre.

The Finance Committee considered the matter and recommended strongly to the Governing Board for clearance.

- 09 Appointment of the Auditors for the FY 2005-06

The Finance Committee considered the matter of appointment of M/s Navin & Deepak as the Statutory Auditors for auditing the accounts of the Centre for the FY 2005-2006 and recommended extension of their term by one more year. Further, the Committee also recommended enhancement of payment of remuneration to them from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000/- per annum, as proposed by the Centre.

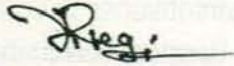


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10 Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Since there was no other item, the Non-Member Secretary and the Director thanked the Chair and Members profusely for their active participation, valuable contribution and guidance.

Minutes prepared by



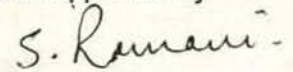
( D P Negi )

Admn. Officer (PA & F) and  
Non-Member Secretary, FC  
INFLIBNET Centre



( Dr. T.A.V. Murthy )  
Director  
INFLIBNET Centre

Minutes approved by



( Dr. S. Ramani )  
Chairman, FC  
INFLIBNET Centre