

Agenda for the 62nd meeting of the Finance Committee scheduled to be held on 26th March, 2012 in the Committee Room, Administrative Building, NEHU, Shillong.

Item No. 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 61st meeting held on 14th November, 2011.

The Minutes of the 61st Finance Committee meeting was circulated to the members vide letter No. F.2-2/FC-Minutes 2005/825 dated 22/11/2011. The said Minutes is enclosed as Annexure-I. No comments were received. The Minutes as circulated may kindly be considered for confirmation.

Item No.2: Report of action taken on Minutes of the 61st Meeting.

No.	Item	Action taken
2.3	Utilisation of Plan Grants.	Progress of expenditure under Plan Grants is enclosed as Annexure-II
2.4	Requirement of additional allocation for the various projects under the XI Plan.	There has been no response from UGC to our projection of additional requirement of Rs. 4528.68 lakh for the various Projects under XI Plan, over and above existing allocation.
3.	Item wise re-appropriation of allocation under XI Plan General Development Grant.	Proposal for item wise re-appropriation of allocation under XI Plan General Development Grant has been approved by UGC vide No. 7-2/2007 (CU) dated 23/12/2011. Annexure-III.
6.	Audited Accounts for the year 2010-11.	The Audited Annual Accounts for the year 2010-11 has been forwarded to MHRD within stipulated time vide No. Fin.V/Compilation/Annual Account/2010-11/843 dated 29/11/2011. Annexure-IV.
7(i)	96 th Indian Science Congress.	UGC has released final grant of Rs. 1300.00 lakh against expenditure of Rs. 1350.01 lakh. As decided in the 61 st meeting of Finance Committee, we have sought approval from UGC to meet the excess expenditure of Rs. 50.01 lakh out of interest generated from XI Plan Grants vide No. FA.2/IS Congress/2008 (PT)/942 dated 19/12/2011. Annexure-V.

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No.	Item	Action taken
7(ii)	Cluster of Classrooms.	The 149 th Meeting of the Executive Council held on 25/11/2011 approved the proposal for resuming the works of construction of Cluster of Classrooms by utilizing the interest generated out of the XI Plan Grants to be eventually recouped on receipt of the additional fund from UGC. Against allocation of Rs. 1473.00 lakh, upto date expenditure is Rs. 1344.75 lakh.

Item No. 3: XII Five Year Plan Proposal.

The UGC, New Delhi vide their No.F.1-1/2012(cm) dated 05/01/2012 (Annexure-A) and No. F.1-40/2011(XII Plan) dated 07/02/2012 (Annexure-B) has directed NEHU to submit the XII Five Year Plan proposal in the prescribed format latest by 10th April, 2012 duly approved by the statutory bodies of the University.

Accordingly, University has prepared the XII Five Year Plan document (Annexure-C).

The matter is placed before the Committee for consideration.

Beh.



NORTH EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS: SHILLONG 793 022 (Meghalaya)

0364-272-1021(O)

2550050(O)

Fax No. 0364-2551153

No.F.2-2/FC-Minutes-2005/

Dated : 27/03/2012.

1284

To

1. Shri A.N.Jha,
Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser,
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.
2. Shri R.D.Sahay, Joint Secretary (CU),
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Department of Higher Education,
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110 001.
3. Dr (Mrs) Renu Batra, Joint Secretary,
University Grants Commission,
Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002.
4. Prof. D.K.Singh,
Department of French,
Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi – 221 005.
5. The Financial Adviser,
North Eastern Council, Shillong.
6. Shri D.L.Wankhar, Director (E&M),
North Eastern Council, Shillong.
(Representative of Financial Adviser, NEC, Shillong).
7. Prof. E. D. Thomas, Pro Vice-Chancellor,
NEHU, Tura Campus, Tura-794002.
8. Prof. J. War, Dean,
School of Humanities, NEHU, Shillong.
9. Shri Lambha Roy, Registrar,
NEHU, Shillong.

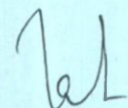
Sub: Minutes of the 62nd Meeting of the Finance Committee.

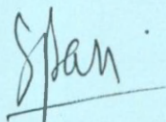
Sir/Madam,

I am forwarding herewith the Minutes of the 62nd meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 26th March 2012 for favour of your kind perusal and comments, if any.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As stated above.


(Taliremba)
Finance Officer



Minutes of the 62nd Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 26th March, 2012 at 10.00 AM in the Committee Room of Administrative Building, NEHU, Shillong.

Following members were present:

1. Prof. A.N.Rai,
Vice-Chancellor, NEHU, Shillong : Chairman
2. Shri D.L.Wankhar, Director,
North Eastern Council, Shillong : Member
(Representative of Financial Adviser, NEC, Shillong)
3. Prof. D.K.Singh,
Department of French,
Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi. : Member
4. Prof. E.D.Thomas,
Pro Vice-Chancellor, NEHU,
Tura Campus, Tura : Member
5. Prof. J. War, Dean,
School of Humanities,
NEHU, Shillong : Member
6. Shri Lambha Roy, Registrar
NEHU, Shillong : Invitee
7. Shri Taliremba,
Finance Officer,
NEHU, Shillong : Ex-Officio Secretary

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members and expressed his gratitude especially to the external members for attending the meeting.

Before proceeding with the Agenda, the Chairman explained that the main purpose of the meeting was to consider and approve the XII Five Year Plan proposal of the University which has to be considered and approved by the statutory bodies of the University before submission to the University Grants Commission. The Chairman apprised that the budget projection of the University for the XII Five Year Plan has been hiked roughly three times vis-a-vis the General Development Grant of the XI Five Year Plan in accordance with UGC directives.

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The Chairman thereafter presented the Agenda.

Item No. 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 61st meeting held on 14th November, 2011.

The Committee confirmed the Minutes of the 61st Meeting of the Finance Committee as circulated.

Item No. 2.3 : Utilisation of Plan Grants.

The Committee noted the Utilisation of Plan Grants as released by UGC.

Item No. 2.4 : Requirement of additional allocation for the various projects under the XI Plan.

The Committee was apprised that additional allocation of Rs. 10.00 crore has been received for NEICOD and further allocation of Rs. 15.00 crore for School of Technology is expected shortly.

Item No. 3 : Item wise re-appropriation of allocation under XI Plan General Development Grant.

The Committee noted the approval of the UGC for item wise re-appropriation of allocation under XI Plan General Development Grant.

Item No. 6 : Audited Accounts for the year 2010-11.

The Committee noted the submission of the Audited Annual Accounts for 2010-11 to MHRD within stipulated time.

Item No. 7 (i) : 96th Indian Science Congress.

The Committee noted that UGC has released final grant of Rs. 1300.00 lakh against expenditure of Rs. 1350.01 lakh. After deliberation, the Committee decided that the deficit of Rs. 50.01 lakh be met from internal receipts of the University.

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Item No. 7(ii) : Cluster of Classrooms.

The Committee noted the progress of expenditure on construction of Cluster of Classrooms.

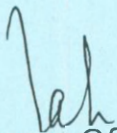
Item No. 3 : XII Five Year Plan Proposal.

The Committee considered the Budget Proposal of the University for the XII Five Year Plan and approved the consolidated requirement of Rs. 38422.00 lakh. However, the Committee recommended the following within the overall figure of Rs. 38422.00 lakh:

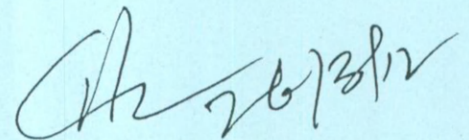
- (i) Minor Equipments should be removed from General Head. Provisions should also be made for consumables for the New Departments.
- (ii) ICT requirement should be shown separately.
- (iii) Non-NET Fellowship should be shown separately.
- (iv) ASC requirement should be shown separately.
- (v) Effort should be made to enhance fund projection under Library.
- (vi) Provision should be made for Renewable Energy.

The Committee authorized the Chairman to rework the item wise fund requirement within the total figure of Rs. 38422.00 lakh.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks from the Chair.



Finance Officer
Ex-Officio Secretary



Vice-Chancellor
Chairman



NORTH EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS: SHILLONG 793 022 (Meghalaya)

0364-272-1021(O)

2550050(O)

Fax No. 0364-2551153

No.F.70/INTL-AUDIT/SOF/2011-12-

Dated: 03/07/2012

To

Shri Ramji Pandey,
Under Secretary,
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Department of Higher Education,
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi- 110 001.

Sub: Audit Paras for the year ended on 31.03.2011 – regarding.

Ref: Your No. F.8-8/2011-Desk(U) dated 05/06/2012.

Sir,

In this connection, it is stated that the University has submitted comprehensive report on the subject to the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development vide D.O. No. FO/INTL.AUDIT/SOF/2011-12-674 dated 21.12.2011 (copy enclosed).

We would like to add the following:

- (i) Inadmissible payment of allowance amounting to Rs. 11.13 crores.

In addition to the fact that NEHU is paying HASA on the strength of valid Ordinance approved by the President of India as Visitor, HASA has been responsible for attracting and retaining quality faculty in the University. It had direct positive impact in making the University one of the fastest climbers, currently ranked 16th amongst Central Universities. It is the only University in the North East under DST-PURSE Programme and graded "A" by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

- (ii) Extra expenditure on electricity charges.

The University has taken concrete steps to reduce the contract demand for electricity. Revised Agreement has been concluded with Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited and the contract demand has been reduced to 2200 KVA with effect from 01.03.2012. It may also be stated that the maximum load consumption recorded during 2011-12 was 2137 KVA.

This is for your information and necessary action please.

Yours faithfully,

(Taliremba)
Finance Officer

*SO (Bud)
May report
in next
meeting
F.C.
06/7/12*

*copy forwarded to
The Dy. Registrar (Budget),
NEHU, Shillong. This has
a reference to her letter
No. FA-2-2/FC Minutes/2005
dated 26.6.12.*

04/7/12
Audit Officer.

EXUAE-I

NORTH EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS: SHILLONG 793 022 (Meghalaya)



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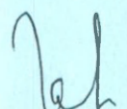
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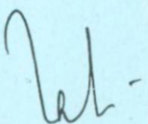
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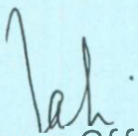
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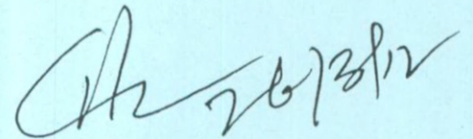
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The Committee authorized the Chairman to rework the item wise fund requirement within the total figure of Rs. 38422.00 lakh.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks from the Chair.



Finance Officer
Ex-Officio Secretary



Vice-Chancellor
Chairman

ANNEXURE-II

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	UNSPENT BALANCE AS ON 01.04.2012								
	Scheme	XI Plan Allocation	Opening balance as on 01.04.2007	Grant Received during 2007 to 2012 (XI Plan)	Interest earned on the grant received	Total funds available with the University (5+6)	Expenditure incurred upto 30.3.2012	(% of Utilisation) (8/7)	Unspent Balances as on 01.04.2012 (7-8)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
01.	XI Plan GDG	12380.00	-	11902.00	-	11902.00	9504.84	79.86	2397.16
02.	Merged Scheme (Item wise as per enclosed Annexure)	517.50	-	517.50	-	517.50	323.75	62.56	193.75
03.	Fellowship to Non-NET Ph.D. & M.Phil	800.00	-	474.36	-	474.36	428.33	90.30	46.03
04.	Addl. Grant (if any and please specify)		-	-					
(i)	NEICOD	3000.00	-	3000.00	-	3000.00	2084.37	69.48	915.63
(ii)	100 seated Guest House	389.84	-	345.00	-	345.00	391.68	113.53	(-) 46.68
(iii)	Addl grant for Tura Campus	4000.00	-	1983.00	-	1983.00	1309.52	66.94	673.48
(iv)	Setting up of Faculty of Engineering	2500.00	-	1000.00	-	1000.00	1498.75	149.88	(-)498.75
(v)	Setting up of Faculty of Management	800.00	-	800.00	-	800.00	75.00	9.38	725.00
(vi)	Indian Sc. Congress	1300.00	-	1300.00	-	1300.00	1350.01	103.85	(-)50.01
(vii)	Ghy Guest House	1000.00	-	900.00	-	900.00	12.76	1.42	887.24
5.	OBC Grant (if any)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	26687.34	-	22221.86	-	22221.86	16979.01	-	5242.85

ANNEXURE - III

Sub: Pensioners of NEHU : Medical Hospitalisation reimbursement claims.

Employees of NEHU are covered under the CS (MA) Rules 1944 for medical facilities. For serving employees, there is no problem whatsoever in respect of both OPD treatment and indoor treatment as they are comprehensively covered under the CS (MA) Rules. However, the only medical facility presently available to retired employees of NEHU is the fixed Medical Allowance of Rs. 300/- monthly in accordance with Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (Department of Pension & Pensioner's Welfare) O.M. No.4/25/2008-P&W(D) dated 26/05/2010. Indoor treatment reimbursement facility has not been extended to Pensioners.

Feasibility of extending Indoor treatment reimbursement facility to NEHU Pensioner's has been under consideration of the University. Matter has been examined with reference to Government of India Orders, CS(MA) Rules and UGC Circulars.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare O.M. No. S-14025/4/96-MS dated 05/06/1998 clarified that the Pensioners should not be deprived of medical facilities from the Government in their old age and they have no objection to extension of the CS(MA) Rules to the Central Government Pensioner's residing in

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non CGHS areas. This has been reiterated by UGC vide No. F.No.25-8/2007(CU) dated 23/06/2008.

The *ibid* O.M. stipulates the following:

- (i) Pensioners could be given a one-time option at the time of their retirement for medical coverage under CGHS or under the CS(MA) Rules.
- (ii) Pensioners opting for CGHS facilities would have to get themselves registered in the nearest CGHS city for availing of hospitalization facilities. In such cases, reimbursement claims would be processed by CGHS authorities of the concerned city.
- (iii) In case of Pensioners opting for facilities under CS(MA) Rules, the responsibility of administering CS(MA) Rules should be done by respective Ministries /Departments as in the case of serving employees. List of AMAs would be decided by Departments and Pensioners would be entitled to avail of hospitalisation facilities as provided in CS(MA) Rules. Reimbursement claims of hospitalisation cases would be processed and paid by parent organization as in the case of serving employees.

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Accordingly, the following medical facilities for Pensioners of NEHU, both teaching and non-teaching, are suggested:

1. A one time option may be given to Pensioners for medical coverage either under CGHS or the CS(MA) Rules.
2. Same option may be given to employees going on retirement in future.

In case of Pensioners opting for CGHS facilities:

- i) Must get themselves registered with the CGHS.
- ii) Must pay admission fee as stipulated in CGHS Rules.
- iii) Must pay subscription fee as stipulated in CGHS Rules.
- iv) Will get Fixed Medical Allowance of Rs. 300/- monthly if residing in areas not covered by CGHS in lieu of outdoor facilities from nearest CGHS dispensary. However, Pensioners residing in places where CGHS facilities are available cannot opt for Fixed Medical Allowance in lieu of out door facilities.
- v) Can avail Indoor hospitalisation facilities from hospitals recognized under CGHS in the area or from nearest CGHS covered city. Reimbursement claims would be processed by concerned CGHS authorities.

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In case of Pensioners opting for CS(MA) Rules 1944:

- (i) CS(MA) Rules have no provisions for contribution/subscription by beneficiaries. Hence, either of the options below may be considered:
 - (a) Need not pay subscription.
 - (b) May pay subscription at par with CGHS rates for Pensioners.
- (ii) Since outdoor treatment facilities are not available under CS(MA) Rules, they will get monthly Fixed Medical Allowances of Rs. 300/- in lieu of outdoor facilities for meeting day to day medical expenses that do not require hospitalisation.
- (iii) In addition, Pensioners will be entitled to hospitalisation facilities as provided in CS(MA) Rules. Hospitalisation reimbursement claims would be processed and paid by NEHU at par with serving employees.

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Considering that NEHU Pensioners are residing throughout the country, a uniform policy in accordance with provisions of CS(MA) Rules must be followed:

1. Pensioners can avail treatment in following hospitals:

- (a) Any Central Government Hospital;
- (b) Any State Government Hospital;
- (c) Hospital recognized by State Government/CGHS Rules/CS(MA) Rules.
- (d) Hospitals fully funded by Central Government/State Government.

2. Doctors for consultation :

- (a) Medical Officers under the employment of Central Government.
- (b) Medical Officers under the employment of State Government or Union Territory.

NOTE: Private Medical Practitioners as AMAs need not be appointed in view of scattered nature of NEHU Pensioners.

3. Medical advance will not be available.

4. Travelling Allowance will not be available.

5. Facility will not be available to Pensioners residing abroad.

6. Facility will be available to Pensioner or Family Pensioner only.

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7. Reimbursement claims must be preferred within three months from the date of completion of treatment as shown in Essentiality Certificate "B" issued by the Medical Officer.
8. Reimbursement will be subject to admissibility and rates fixed by the Government under the CS(MA) Rules/CGHS Rules, or the actual expenditure incurred, whichever is less.
9. In emergent cases involving accidents, serious nature of disease etc. patient may be admitted in a private hospital in case no Government or recognized hospital is available nearer than the Private Hospital. Such reimbursement claims will be decided on the merits of each case. Reimbursement will be within ceilings prescribed in Appendix-VIII to CS(MA) Rules.
10. Following documents should be submitted in original for processing reimbursement claims:
 - (i) Application.
 - (ii) Med. 97 Form.
 - (iii) Copy of referral by competent/authorised Doctor.
 - (iv) Essentiality Certificate "B" duly filled in, signed by treating Doctor and countersigned by the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

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- (v) Hospital bills, receipts, vouchers stamped and signed/countersigned by the Medical Officer.
- (vi) Prescription.
- (vii) Medical Treatment Sheet.

11. Notwithstanding the provisions above, all reimbursement claims shall be dealt in accordance with provisions of the CS(MA) Rules 1944 and Government of India orders issued in this respect from time to time.

Wh.

ANNEXURE - IV

BY SPEED POST

No.F.8-8/2011-Desk(U)
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

New Delhi-110115 Dated 5th June, 2012

To,
The Finance Officer,
North Eastern Hill University,
Shillong-793022

Subject: Audit Paras for the year ended on 31.03.2011 – regarding

Sir,

I am to refer to the subject mentioned above and to say that Report No. 33 of 2011-12 of the C&AG of India for the year ended 31.03.2011 includes the following matters as Audit Paragraphs(copy enclosed):-

(i) Para No. 4.4: Inadmissible payment of allowance amounting to Rs. 11.13 crore.

NEHU continued payment of HASA to employees September, 2008 onwards despite instructions of UGC/MHRD to discontinue the same;

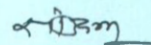
(ii) Para No. 5.5 : Extra expenditure on electricity charges

Failure to periodically review contractor demand for electricity vis-à-vis actual consumption resulted in extra expenditure of Rs. 46.73 lakhs for 31 months.

Reports were laid on the Table of House on 8.05.2012 and as per instructions on the issue, the Action Taken Note on the Audit Paras duly vetted by the Audit are to be sent to Ministry of Finance within the stipulated period of four months from the date of laying the Audit Report in the Parliament. Accordingly, ATN has to be sent to Ministry of Finance by 7.09.2012.

It is therefore requested that comments of the University on the matter may kindly be furnished immediately to enable the Ministry to submit the ATN within stipulated time.

Yours faithfully



(Ramji Pandey)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel.No. 23384412

Enclosures: As above

33.
12/06/12

For

3/12/6



A. N. Jha
Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser
Ph.No. 23382696

भारत सरकार
 मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
 उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
 शास्त्री भवन
 नई दिल्ली - 110 115
 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
 DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
 SHASTRI BHAVAN
 NEW DELHI-110 115

D.O. No.G.25012/10/2012-IF-IV

New Delhi, 28th May, 2012

Dear *Anant*,

We have received Report No. 33 (Autonomous Bodies) of 2011-12 of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2011 from the Office of the Director General of Audit, Central Expenditure, New Delhi. The Reports were laid on the Table of the House on 8th May, 2012.

A copy of the text of the audit paragraphs concerning your Bureau is enclosed. It would be appreciated if the Action Taken Notes (40 and 25 copies of English & Hindi version respectively) in respect of these audit paras duly vetted by Audit are sent to the Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Expenditure (Monitoring Cell), 2nd Floor, Room No.29, B-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhavan, Khan Market, New Delhi for onward transmission to PAC Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat within the stipulated period of four months from the date of laying of the Audit Report in Parliament.

Delay in submission of Action Taken Notes may attract adverse comments from the Public Accounts Committee. In view of the urgency involved in the case, you are requested to look into the matter personally and ensure submission of Action Taken Notes duly vetted by Audit to the Ministry of Finance within the stipulated period of four months i.e. by 7th September, 2012. I may also be kept informed of the action taken in this regard and copy of the communication addressed to the Office of DG Audit may also invariably be endorsed to me to take up the matter with that office.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

A.N. Jha
 (A.N. Jha)

the **Anant Kumar Singh, JS (CU)**

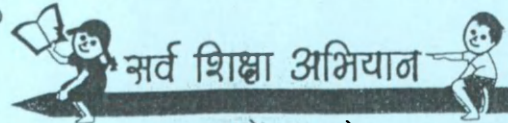
**Para No. 5.3, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.7 of Report
 No. 33 of 2011-12**

सुप्रीम सचिवकक्ष-उत्तर

निदेश (के.वि.)

आर

आर



नब पढ़े नब बढ़े

May pl. take necessary action

USP (Para 5.3, 5.4, 5.5)

20/5/12 Para 5.7

14/6/12

had started crediting interest at the rates notified by the Government from the current financial year.

The reply of University does not factor in the Ministry's/UGC's clarification of 2004, which places a restriction on all autonomous bodies on payment of interest at rates higher than those notified by the Government from time to time. The Statute 40 provides for the management of schemes by the Executive Council of University. However, it does not allow the Executive Council to override the powers of Government of India regarding fixing the rate of interest.

The matter was referred to the Ministry in October 2011; their reply was awaited as of January 2012.

North Eastern Hill University

5.4 Inadmissible payment of allowance amounting to ₹ 11.13 crore

North Eastern Hill University continued payment of Hill Area Special Allowance to employees from September 2008 onwards despite instructions of UGC/MHRD to discontinue the same.

The North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong - a Central University was paying Special Duty Allowance (SDA) from September 1986 to its employees in order to mitigate the special problems faced by them. In September 1994, in compliance to the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the payment of SDA was discontinued. However, on the basis of a resolution passed by its Executive Council in September 1997 that Hill Area Special Allowance (HASA) should be paid from January 1995 as the difficult situation persisted and continued unabated. NEHU began paying HASA from January 1995 to its teaching and non-teaching staff.

Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) issued Guidelines (October 2008) extending the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission (SCPC) to autonomous organizations, statutory bodies etc. set up by and funded/controlled by the Central Government. The Guidelines inter alia stipulated that "*it would be necessary to ensure that the final package of benefits proposed to be extended to the employees of autonomous organizations/statutory bodies is not more beneficial than that admissible to the corresponding categories of the employees of the Central Government*".

NEHU while implementing the recommendations of SCPC started paying SDA to all its employees, from 1 September 2008³ in addition to HASA.

UGC, on noticing the payment of both HASA and SDA, directed NEHU in March and September 2009 to discontinue payment of HASA. Meanwhile, MHRD directed (August 2009) UGC to instruct NEHU to recover the amounts paid from September 2008 towards HASA as the employees were entitled to SDA only. UGC while sanctioning payment of 60 *per cent* of the pay revision arrears, again directed NEHU to withdraw payment of HASA (October 2009).

However, despite the directives of the UGC/MHRD, NEHU continued with the payment of HASA along with the SDA to its employees as a result of which the UGC in March 2011, withheld ` 2.00 crore from its Non-plan grants to NEHU. This had remained withheld till January 2012.

Audit observed that two⁴ other Central Universities in the North Eastern Region, who were earlier paying HASA on the lines of NEHU had discontinued payment of HASA after implementing the SCPC recommendations and started payment of the SDA to their employees.

NEHU stated (May 2011) that unlike other Universities in the North Eastern Region where payment of HASA was made without any Ordinance, the same was being paid by NEHU based on Ordinance duly promulgated in October 1997 and as subsequently amended and assented to by the President of India as the visitor of NEHU as conveyed by MHRD in June 2000. Further, the matter had been taken up with the UGC in February 2011. The reply of UGC was awaited (January 2012).

The reply of University however does not recognize that the payment of HASA was started in lieu of SDA. As such, before making the payment of SDA as per the recommendations of SCPC, clarification should have been obtained from the MHRD/UGC. Further, the payment of either of the two allowances could have been deferred till the final orders of the MHRD/UGC had been obtained.

Hence, the continued payment of both HASA and SDA by NEHU was a violation of the directives of the UGC/MHRD. The inadmissible payment of

³ Effective date from which allowances were to be paid after the implementation of SCPC recommendation.

⁴ Mizoram and Nagaland.

HASA by NEHU from September 2008 to March 2011 amounted to ` 11.13 crore.

The matter was reported to the Ministry in December 2011; their reply was awaited as of January 2012.

5.5 Extra expenditure on electricity charges

Failure to periodically review contracted demand for electricity vis-à-vis actual consumption resulted in extra expenditure of ` 46.73 lakh for 31 months.

Under the tariff structure of the Meghalaya State Electricity Board⁵ (MeSEB), billing demand for a 'High Tension Industrial Power' (HTIP) consumer shall be the (i) maximum demand established during the month, or (ii) 80 per cent of the highest demand established during the preceding 11 months, or (iii) 75 per cent of the contracted demand or (iv) 50 KW/60 KVA, whichever is highest.

The North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU) entered into two agreements in October 1989 and May 1995 with the MeSEB for availing HTIP supply for its *Umshing* and *Bijini* campuses with a contracted demand of 3000 KVA and 350 KVA from April 1992 and May 1995 respectively.

Analysis by Audit of the power consumption data of the two campuses pertaining to the period April 2006 to March 2010, showed that the maximum demand of *Umshing* and *Bijini* campuses was much lower than the contracted demand during that period thereby resulting in NEHU incurring extra expenditure on electricity charges. This position was brought to the notice of the organisation in September 2010.

As regards *Bijini* campus, NEHU submitted (September 2010) a fresh agreement to the MeSEB to reduce the connected load to 200 KVA⁶. The latter however, in October 2010 returned the same with the advice that the agreement was required to be executed in the "new forms" prescribed for the purpose and that the declaration of load should be done through a licensed electrical contractor. As of November 2011, no action had been taken by NEHU.

⁵ the MeSEB was corporatised as the Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited (MeECL) on 1 April 2010.

⁶ assessed by NEHU engineers.

With respect to the *Umshing* campus, NEHU had taken up (September 2000) with MeSEB, the matter relating to reduction of contract demand to 2300 KVA based on internal assessment of connected load which also included the expected/future requirement. However, no action was taken thereafter, for assessment of load through a licensed electrical contractor. It was only in February 2011, that NEHU wrote a letter to the MeSEB stating that it was able to utilise only 60 to 70 *per cent* of its billing demand as major projects on the campus were still incomplete. It therefore, requested that the demand charge be waived and to treat energy supplied as for domestic purpose⁷. Though the MeSEB did not accept (July 2011) their proposal, they suggested for reduction of contract demand from 3000 KVA to 2000 KVA. However, NEHU applied (November 2011) for revised contract demand of 2200 KVA. Further development in this regard was awaited (January 2012). Audit observed that NEHU should have reassessed the connected load of the *Umshing* campus by a licensed electrical contractor and thereafter, a fresh agreement entered into with the MeSEB.

Thus, the laxity of NEHU to periodically assess the contracted demand at its two campuses vis-à-vis connected load, billing demand and actual energy consumption even after the matter was pointed out by Audit, resulted in the University incurring extra expenditure on electricity charges which for the limited period of 31 months from April 2009 to October 2011 alone, worked out to ` 46.73 lakh⁸. The calculation is based on contract demand of 2200 KVA for *Umshing* campus and 100 KVA for *Bijini* campus as the maximum actual demand during this period was 1872 KVA and 80 KVA respectively.

In reply, the Management stated (December 2011) that there was no laxity on its part as it was taking steps to reduce expenditure. The fact, however, remained that the NEHU had inordinately delayed action which resulted in extra expenditure

The matter was reported to the Ministry in December 2011; their reply was awaited as of January 2012.

⁷ for which the tariffs were lower

⁸ Calculation is based on 2200 KVA contract demand applied by NEHU in November 2011 for *Umshing* campus and 100 KVA (considering maximum demand of 80 KVA as 80 *per cent* of expected contract demand) for *Bijini* campus.

ANNEXURE - V



आचार्य अमर नाथ राय
Professor A. N. Rai
कुलपति
VICE-CHANCELLOR

पूर्वोत्तर पर्वतीय विश्वविद्यालय
NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY

शिलांग - ७२३ ०२२
SHILLONG-793 022

Work: +91 364 255 0101, 272 1003-4
Home: 272 6001, 2550074
Fax : +91 364 255 0076
Email: vcnehu@nehu.ac.in

D.O. No.FO/INTL.AUDIT/SOF/2011-12-674

Dated 21.12.2011

Dear Madam,

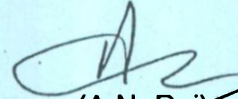
We have received copies D.O. letters No. Rep(Com)/1-19/2010-11/159 dated 14.12.2011 and No. CAW(M)/4-16/2010-11/164 dated 15.12.2011, from Shri A.P. Chophy, Accountant General (Audit), Shillong to your address forwarding two draft paras. I would like to enclose herewith the Explanations of the University on the drafts paras.

In view of the explanations furnished I would request you to move that the two draft paras are not acceptable and may therefore be dropped as the University has been (1) proactively taking steps to stop avoidable expenditure in respect of electricity charges and also generate internal revenues and (2) paying HASA on legally valid grounds.

I am also sending the explanations to Mr. A.P.Chophy, Accountant General (Audit), Shillong since he has marked a copy of his letter to you, to me also for information and necessary action.

With kind regards, I am wishing you a very happy
New Year.

Yours sincerely,


(A.N. Rai) 21/12/11

Encl:a.a.

Ms. Vibha Puri Das,
Secretary,
Department of Higher Education,
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi 110 001.

o/c

Explanation of
North-Eastern Hill University
on
Draft Para on
Prohibitive payment of Hill Area Special Allowance (HASA)

The Draft Para is primarily based on three premises viz.

(1) The NEHU is implementing the Revised Pay Scales recommended by 6th CPC with effect from 1st July 2006 along with Special Duty Allowance (SDA) @12.50% of basic pay in addition to HASA. Therefore, as directed by UGC as well as MHRD, NEHU shall discontinue payment of HASA as its employees are entitled to SDA only.

Explanation: NEHU is paying SDA as per Department of Expenditure, MoF, GOI Notification No.11(5)2008-E II(B) dated 29.8.2008 (Annexure-1) which is applicable to all Central Government employees of the NE region over and above all other allowances.

However, NEHU is paying HASA on the strength of the Ordinance OE-10 which has the assent of the President of India as Visitor of the University under NEHU Act 1973. As may be seen in Annexure-II, this allowance is over and above all other applicable allowances.

Kind attention of MHRD is drawn to the fact that SDA can be paid along with other allowances is also evident from the fact that IAS/IFS officers posted in the NE region are drawing 25% of their basic pay as Special Allowance . The only difference with HASA is that whereas the 25% Special Allowance to IAS/IFS officers is paid on the strength of a DoPT notification, HASA is paid on the strength of a valid Ordinance of the University approved by the President of India and thus is a piece of subordinate legislation.

We therefore, are of the view that payment of HASA is valid and in order.

(2) Audit observed that two other Central Universities who were earlier paying HASA on the lines of NEHU discontinued payment of HASA to their employees.

Explanation: This is not relevant to NEHU as these two Universities do not have a valid Ordinance allowing payment of HASA as NEHU has.

(3) Audit further observed that the GFR of Gol as well as MHRD guidelines for implementation of 6th CPC pay scales require that grantee

(4)

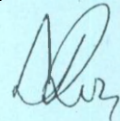
(4)

institutions should formulate terms and conditions of service for their employees, which should not be hither than those applicable to similar categories of employees in the Central Government and that any relaxation regarding this has to be made in consultation with the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Explanation: As already mentioned above, NEHU is paying HASA on the strength of a valid Ordinance approved by the President of India as Visitor. As per the NEHU Act, 1973 passed by Parliament along with original statutes, the statute 2(B) Clause 2 reads as follows:

“It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chancellor to see that this Act, these Statutes, the Ordinances and the Regulations are duly observed, and he shall have all powers necessary to ensure such observance” (Annexure III).

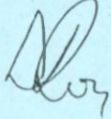
NEHU is therefore, of the view that continued payment of HASA on the strength of a valid Ordinance is in order and not in violation of any existing provision in force.



Registrar
NEHU, Shillong

①

Explanation of
North-Eastern Hill University
On
Draft Para on
Extra expenditure on electricity charges

1. NEHU has two agreements with MeSEB (now MeECL) for supply of contracted demand of 3000 KVA and 350 KVA of power to its Umshing Permanent Campus and Bijni Campus respectively.
 2. Due to the fact that a large number of departments and other facilities are still under construction, the power consumption by NEHU has been lower than the contracted demand.
 3. In the background of drastic curtailment of non-plan non salary funds, the University has had to look for ways and means to restrict expenditure to the minimum. Added to this, Audit also pointed out in September, 2010 that we are paying for power we do not need.
 4. Accordingly, we requested MeECL to reduce the connected load to 200 KVA for Bijni Campus. MeECL advised us to execute the agreement in the new form and to have the declaration of load done by a licensed electrical contractor.
 5. Meanwhile, however, quite a few departments and centres shifted from Bijni to the Permanent Campus leaving quite a few buildings empty.
 6. The University took the decision to rent out these buildings to various organizations in order to augment our finances and prolong the life of these vacant buildings which could otherwise deteriorate rapidly.
 7. For your information, we have already rented out part of our facilities to the University of Technology and Management. The Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management has also come forward to take one building for their use. The newly established National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya has also been given one of our facilities to start its operation. Other organizations like Employees Provident Fund Commissioner and National Institute of Fashion Technology have also expressed interest in occupying the other buildings.
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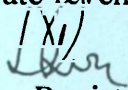
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8. In view of the above, it is neither possible nor advisable for us to go for a reduced connected load without careful consideration of our future need in both campuses in view of the continuing expansion of the University and the needs of our tenants. It may be mentioned that once our supply is reduced, it will be very difficult to get it restored as the MeECL is facing severe power crisis.

9. As regards the Permanent Campus at Umshing, it may be mentioned that MeSEB in their letter dated 11th December 2000 intimated us that the contract demand should not be less than 80% of the connected load. Since our connected load was more than 3000 KVA, our request for reduction of load to 2300 KVA was not agreed to. Accordingly, we were paying on the demand load of 2250 KVA based on 75% of the agreed connected load of 3000 KVA as per norms laid down in Clause-3 of the MeSEB Electricity Tariff. However, on constant persuasion the MeECL (previously MeSEB), after the Vice Chancellor and Registrar had a personal meeting with the CMD, MeECL, who is also Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya and in response to our letter dated 24.02.2011, MeECL agreed to consider reduction of the contract demand from 3000 KVA to 2000 KVA. Accordingly, the contract demand has been reassessed as 2200 KVA after taking into account the requirement of power for Computer Centre, Bamboo Huts, Convention Hall, North-Eastern India Centre of Diversities, Clusters of Class Rooms, additional class rooms for School of Technology etc., and future expansion and growth of the University.

10. As regards the advice of MeECL to have the declaration of load through a licensed electrical contractor, we would like to highlight the fact that the Campus Development Department of the University has 5 qualified electrical engineers of whom 2 are senior engineers with graduate qualification. It may be mentioned that these two senior engineers also have a Supervisory License issued by the Government of Meghalaya and are therefore fully qualified to issue a load assessment report. We submit that entrusting this task to a contractor may not be necessary and extra expenditure may be avoided.

In view of the above, it will be seen that far from being guilty of laxity or for making desultory attempts to rectify the situation, the University is very pro actively taking steps not only to reduce expenditure but to generate revenue with assets which have been lying unutilised so far.

(X)

Registrar
NEHU, Shillong

ANNEXURE-VI



पूर्वोत्तर पर्वतीय विश्वविद्यालय
NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY

शिलांग - ७९३ ०२२
SHILLONG-793 022

आचार्य अमर नाथ राय
Professor A. N. Rai
कुलपति
VICE-CHANCELLOR

Work: +91 364 255 0101, 272 1003-4
Home: 272 6001, 2550074
Fax : +91 364 255 0076
Email: vcnehu@nehu.ac.in

D.O. No.FO/INTL.AUDIT/SOF/2011-12- 675

Dated 21.12.2011

Ref:- Memo No. Rep(Com)/1-19/2010-11/161 dated 14.12.2011 and
No.CAW(M)/4-17/2010-11/166 dated the 15.12.2011

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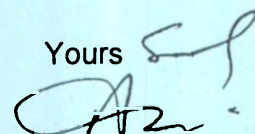
We have received the two draft paras vide the above reference for information and necessary action from your end along with the two letters addressed by you to the Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development on the same subject.

I am enclosing the University explanations and actions in this regard. In view of the explanations to the said paras which are not acceptable, I request that the same be dropped.

I have also sent these explanations to the Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, with reference to your letters.

With kind regards,

Yours


(A.N. Rai) 21/12/11

Encl:a.a.

✓ Shri A.P. Choppy,
Accountant General (Audit),
Meghalaya,
Shillong.

(3)

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Kind attention of MHRD is drawn to the fact that SDA can be paid along with other allowances is also evident from the fact that IAS/IFS officers posted in the NE region are drawing 25% of their basic pay as Special Allowance . The only difference with HASA is that whereas the 25% Special Allowance to IAS/IFS officers is paid on the strength of a DoPT notification, HASA is paid on the strength of a valid Ordinance of the University approved by the President of India and thus is a piece of subordinate legislation.

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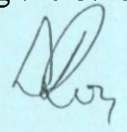
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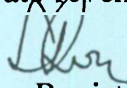
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