

**VISVA-BHARATI  
SANTINIKETAN**



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Samsad (Court)  
held on 30-03-2013 at 3.00 p.m. in the  
Community Hall, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Prof. Sushanta Dattagupta, Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati
2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Hon'ble member of Parliament
3. Dr. Ramchandra Dome, Hon'ble member of Parliament
4. Shri Amarnath Pradhan, Hon'ble member of Parliament
5. Dr Srikumar Banerjee, DAE Homi Bhabha Chair Professor
6. Shri Kiran V. Shantaram, Member of Karma-Samiti
7. Prof. Ram Gopal Bajaj, Nominee of the Paridarsaka (Visitor)
8. Prof. Barun De, Nominee of the Pradhana (Rector)
9. Prof. Sudip Basu
10. Dr. Avijit Banerjee
11. Prof. Manaranjan Pradhan
12. Prof. Sabita Pradhan
13. Dr. Lalita Chakraborty
14. Dr. Rafiqul Islam
15. Dr. Ashok Kumar Goon
16. Dr. Amitava Paul
17. Shri Tirthasalil Dey
18. Prof. Samit Ray
19. Prof. Siba Prasad Adhikary
20. Prof. Arun Kr. Roy
21. Dr. Shibani Choudhury
22. Dr. Jayanta Kumar Bhattacharya
23. Prof. Somdatta Mandal
24. Prof. Santi Prasad Sinha Babu
25. Prof. Sabuj Koli Sen
26. Prof. Onkar Prasad
27. Sri Ramkumar Mukhopadhyay
28. Dr. Sagarika Bandyopadhyay
29. Prof. Gopal Chandra Dey
30. Dr. Saroj Kumar Pyne
31. Smt. Srilekha Chatterjee
32. Dr. Kaberi Kar
33. Prof. Sisir Sahana
34. Sri Mihir Lal Dhara
35. Smt. Subhra Chatterjee

36. Sri Sukumar Bauri,
37. Sri Anath Bandhu Pal
38. Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar
39. Sri Sunil Kumar Kabiraj
40. Prof. Tapati Mukherjee
41. Prof. Debasish Bhattacharya
42. Prof. Partha Sarathi Munsu
43. Dr. Wasif Ahmad
44. Prof. Bhaskarjyoti Basu
45. Smt. Bodhirupa Sinha
46. Prof. Malay Mukhopadhyay
47. Prof. Prasanta Kr. Ghosh
48. Prof. Alpana Ray
49. Prof. Prabir Kumar Biswas
50. Prof. Balaram Bhattacharya
51. Shri Shantanu Kr. Jena
52. Dr. (Colonel) M.M. Mitra
53. Prof. Swapan Raha

Dr. D. Gunasekaran, Karma Sachiva – Secretary

### **Invitees :**

1. Sri Atul Prakash Trivedi, Finance Officer
2. Prof. S.B. Sarbadhikary, Controller of Examination
3. Sri Kalikaranjan Chatterjee, O.S.D., Internal Audit Office
4. Sri Saugata Chattopadhyay, Accounts Officer

Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India and the Chancellor of Visva-Bharati, could not attend the meeting due to his previous commitments and he requested the Vice-Chancellor to preside over the meeting in his absence. Accordingly the meeting was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor.

The house observed a minute's silence in memory of former Chancellor Inder Kumar Gujral, Pandit Ravi Sankar, "Deshikottama" and twenty four former employees of Visva-Bharati who passed away during the period from 25-03-2012 to 29-03-2013.

### **Opening remarks of the Vice-Chancellor**

At the outset Prof. Sushanta Dattagupta, the Vice-Chancellor of the University welcomed all the members and the invitees to the meeting of the Samsad (Court). He highlighted that the Central Universities are given enormous flexibility in terms of governance in comparison to IITs, IISERs and other academic Institutions funded by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. Hence the Vice-Chancellor reiterated the importance of the Samsad being an external eye looking into the functions of the University and contribute significantly in achieving excellence in the promotion of knowledge. He requested the members to critically analyze the Annual Report and the Annual Accounts of the University for offering their comments. He stressed the need for maintaining a balance between academic freedom and fiscal accountability in the University system.

**The following are some of the salient observations made by the members during the discussion.**

- The University should make all possible efforts in order to fill up the vacant posts both under teaching and non-teaching cadres at the earliest.
- Hindi Cell / Rajbhasha Vibhag in the University may be utilized optimally for the larger benefits of the community and the University may also contribute towards promoting Urdu language and literature.
- It was observed that the actual expenditure in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 were more than the actual expenditure incurred in the financial year 2011-2012 under Non-Plan Budget. Reason: the arrear payment made to the employees due to the implementation of VI Central Pay Commission recommendations resulted in more expenditure in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. The University also got substantial support under OBC scheme for creating infrastructure to accommodate more students. This was clarified by the University to the members.
- The Vice-Chancellor expressed his concern on the ban on recruitment imposed by the Government mainly under group 'C / D' and therefore the vacancies are piling up. But the recruitment of faculty is going on well except in the case of posts earmarked for STs in some disciplines. The University is implementing its schemes like Visiting Professor, Emeritus Professor and Scholar in Residence in order to make good the shortfall of faculty.
- The combination of managerial efficiency, farsightedness and imagination can make this institution as one of the best Universities not only in this region but also in the entire country.
- The University is getting very little non-salary component under non-plan budget. The non-salary support for the last five years is almost constant but the expenditure under this head has gone up very high.
- Increasing the internal resources of the University, enhancing tuition fee etc. are some of the ways to meet the shortfall.
- The University should avoid the temptation of increasing tuition fee all on a sudden as the grant received from UGC is not adequate and the internal resource generation of the University is less.
- The University has large number of vacant posts in different departments. Obviously the University should fill up all such posts but without sacrificing quality. If we fill such posts ignoring quality there will be no scope for correction, for ever. The University should initiate immediate steps to fill up all vacant posts both in teaching and administrative cadres as it is concerned with the aspirations of the people. The SC/ST Cell in the University should make proactive efforts in filling up of all vacancies earmarked for SC/STs.
- The Vice-Chancellor brought to the notice of all members that the University has recruited more than ninety faculty members during the last one year and eighty (80) faculty members have already joined the University. The remaining posts will be

filled up very soon. The MHRD and the University Grants Commission have fixed a 1:1.1 ratio for teaching and non-teaching employees. However, Visva-Bharati will try to fill all vacant posts.

The University will take up more sponsored projects for getting extramural support from DST, DBT, CSIR, etc. to overcome the financial shortfall. The University will go for Chair Professor positions from sponsors. Visva-Bharati is organizing large events like Pous Mela, Vasantotsava. More than 4 lakh people from different parts of the country attended the programmes. The University is not extending complete financial support for this. The Santiniketan Trust is spending this amount. Though the University is organizing such mega events for the community, it is hightime that it should explore possibilities to generate resources through the programmes organized by Sangit and Kala Bhavanas.

- It was observed that the school education in Santiniketan is unique and even senior people teach in schools. Universalism, consciousness about the environment, harmony between nature and other living things, are the essence of school education in this University. Today we are not able to attract large number of students from abroad whereas Tagore dreamt, thought and did it in those days. The campus had a cosmopolitan outlook. The State Universities abroad get less than 10% grant from the government and the rest comes from its tuition fee. The fee structure in IITs is Rs. one lakh per semester. While people are ready to pay huge tuition fee to schools in hill stations why shouldn't they do the same to Patha Bhavan in Visva-Bharati, for its holistic and humanistic education. Generate resource, create assets and help students – this should be the guiding principle of Visva-Bharati.
- It was observed that Santiniketan is a place of pilgrimage. What would be a better cause than creation of human mind? If we have to pay more to see melas and festivals – that is against Gurudev's ideals.
- The Departments should spell out their thrust area of work, contribution to society etc. in the Annual Report. In those days Gurudev created a corpus to nurture education for the benefit of the society at large. The contribution to the society by the University matters much. Therefore, the action plan of the University towards such contribution should be spelt out in the Annual Report.
- The University is attracting talents from all parts of the Country. Smt. Karuna Sindhu Das, a scholar in Sanskrit & Bengali literature, Shri Goutam Sengupta from Archeological Survey of India, Smt. Malavika Karlekar, Smt. Leela Samson and Smt. Usha Ganguly are some of the new talents that Visva-Bharati is planning to bring in.
- Art and Kala are unique in Visva-Bharati. Visva-Bharati is a unique centre of excellence for Rabindra Sangit. The University has Vinaya Bhavana, Vidya Bhavana, Rural Extension Centre & many more. Visva-Bharati is always promoting holistic education for which the University is known outside. This is the only place in India having academic programmes from Ananda Patha Sala to Doctoral level courses. Festivals and functions of Visva-Bharati are the symbol of its culture. The Students of Visva-Bharati are not confined to the boundaries of classrooms as education at Visva-Bharati is all encompassing in its approach.

- The objective of Patha Bhavana is not just to prepare students for Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). Patha Bhavana aims at providing integrated education which in turn paves way for creating complete and good human beings. Patha Bhavana education goes beyond learning English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry by incorporating fine arts, music, painting, drama and so on in its curriculum.
- The University has great potential to attract foreign students and the number will go up if the University creates better hostel infrastructure on the campus. The University has plans to expand its infrastructure in Mouldanga at Sriniketan Campus.

**1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Samsad (Court) held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The minutes of the meeting of the Samsad (Court) held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as at APPENDIX – I circulated to all the members earlier were considered.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Samsad (Court) held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as at APPENDIX – I be confirmed.**

**2. Action Taken Report (ATR) on the Minutes of the meeting of the Samsad (Court) held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The Samsad (Court) considered and noted the Action Taken on the minutes of the meeting of the Samsad (Court) dated 25-03-2012.

**3. Annual Report of the University for the year 2011-2012**

The Samsad (Court) considered the Annual Report of the University for the year 2011-2012 prepared under the direction of the Karma-Samiti (Executive Council) in terms of Section 35(1) of the Visva-Bharati, Act 1951.

**The Samsad (Court) noted that the Annual Report of the University for the year 2011-2012 which was duly accepted by the Karma-Samiti (Executive Council) in its meeting held on 22-12-2012 under Resolution No. 31.**

**The Samsad (Court) further noted that in terms of Section 35 (4) of the Visva-Bharati Act 1951, copies of the Annual Report for the year 2011-2012 which had already been submitted to MHRD, the Govt. of India for laying before both houses of Parliament.**

**After discussions, it was RESOLVED that the Annual Report of the University for the year 2011-2012, prepared in accordance with Section 35(1) & (2) of the Visva-Bharati Act, 1951 be approved and accepted.**

**4. The Annual Accounts of the University for the year 2011-2012**

The Samsad (Court) considered the Annual Accounts of the University for the year 2011-2012 prepared by the Vitta Adhikari (Finance Officer) in terms of Statute 18(2) and the Annual Accounts for the year 2011-2012 were duly recommended by the Artha Samiti (Finance Committee) vide its item no. 4 dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 for the approval of the Executive Council and placement for certification by the CAG Audit. The Samsad (court) further noted that accordingly the Annual Accounts for the year 2011-2012 was approved by the Karma-Samiti (Executive Council) under Resolution No. 3 dated 16th September, 2012.

**RESOLVED that the audited Annual Accounts for the year 2011-2012 be approved and accepted.**

**The Samsad (Court) also noted and approved that in terms of Section 36(4) of the Visva-Bharati Act 1951, the copies of audited Annual Accounts for the year 2010-2011 containing therewith the Audit Report & audit certificate of CAG have been sent to MHRD, Govt. of India.**

**5. The Audit Report and Audit Certificate of CAG in respect of the Annual Accounts 2010 – 2011**

The Samsad(Court) noted and accepted the Audit Report and Audit Certificate of CAG in respect of the Annual Accounts 2010 – 2011 as was recommended by the Finance Committee for approval vide its item no. 3 dated 15-09-2012 and the same was accepted by the Karma-Samiti (Executive Council) under Resolution No. 30 dated 22-12-2012.

**6. Revised Estimates (RE) for the year 2012 - 2013 and the Budget Estimates (BE) for the year 2013-2014 of the University**

The Samsad (Court) considered the Revised Estimates (RE) for the year 2012 - 2013 and the Budget Estimates (BE) for the year 2013-2014 of the University in terms of Section 2(iii) of Statute 12 of the Visva-Bharati Act 1951.

**RESOLVED that the Revised Estimates (RE) for the year 2012 - 2013 and the Budget Estimates (BE) for the year 2013-2014 of the University be approved.**

The thoughts and ideals of Visva-Bharati to be kept in mind while launching new programmes. The University can achieve laurels, generate revenue, improve infrastructure and attain international status by its collective efforts for which the whole house stand by the University with this remarks from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament the meeting of the Samsad ended.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-

[D. Gunasekaran]  
Registrar  
Visva-Bharati