



भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
 Established by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

Minutes of the 2025-1/28th Meeting of the Finance Committee of IISER Berhampur

The meeting of the Finance Committee (FC) of IISER Berhampur (2025-1/28th) was held in hybrid mode in the Boardroom, First Floor, Block-1, IISER Berhampur at 11:00 AM on Friday, Jan 17, 2025. The following members/Chairperson were present:

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| • Professor (Retd.) Arvind A Natu, Chairperson, BoG, IISER Kolkata | Chairperson |
| • Professor Ashok Kumar Ganguli, Director, IISER Berhampur | Member |
| • Shri Priyank Chaturvedi, Director (Science), DHE, MoE
{represented Ms. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Joint Secretary (TE)} | Member |
| • Shri Udaya Kiran K. V., Under Secretary (Finance), IFD, Dept. of HE, MoE
(represented Shri Sanjog Kapoor, Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoE | Member |
| • Dr. Atul Vyas, Registrar, IIT Delhi | Member |
| • Shri Pratap Keshari Dash, Finance Officer, Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh (CTUAP), Vizianagaram | Member |
| • Shri Pradeep Kumar Ray, Registrar and Secretary, FC of IISER Berhampur | Secretary |

Professor Arvind A Natu, Professor Ashok Kumar Ganguli and Shri Pradeep Kumar Ray attended the meeting in person (physically) whereas all other above members joined the meeting through Video Conferencing.

1. Opening remarks of the Chairperson

The Chairperson welcomed the members present at the 28th Meeting of the FC of IISER Berhampur. After a brief introduction of all members and his opening remarks, he requested the Secretary, FC to present the agenda items.

2. To take on record the appointment of Prof. (Retd.) Arvind A Natu as the Chairperson, Finance Committee of the Institute

The Finance Committee noted the appointment of Prof. (Retd.) Arvind A Natu as the Chairperson, Board of Governors of this Institute as additional responsibility w.e.f. Nov 13, 2024, for a period of six months or till nomination of a regular Chairperson, whichever is earlier in terms of Section 11 A (a) of the NITSER Act, 2007 as amended from time to time, read with amended Clause 10(4) of the First Statutes of IISERs as communicated vide MoE vide Letter No. 34-04/2023-TS-VII (Pt 1) dated Nov 13, 2024. As per Statute-8 of the First Statutes of IISERs, the Ex-officio Chairperson, Board of Governors will be the Chairperson of the Finance Committee of the Institute.

3. Overview report of the Director, IISER Berhampur on the activities of the Institute

An overview report was presented by the Director. The FC was updated on the academic activities, status of the construction of the permanent campus, the financial status, important activities of the Institute, and the status of the human resource (teaching and non-teaching). The overview report as presented in the meeting is enclosed at **Annexure-1**.

The Director mentioned about the difficulty and challenges being faced in the functioning of the Institute due to inadequate number of regular faculty and non-teaching staff and thanked the MoE representatives for moving the papers to the concerned Ministry. He also requested the process may kindly be expedited.

4. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2024-3/27th meeting of the FC held on Sept. 30, 2024**

The FC has confirmed the minutes of its 2024-3/27th meeting held on Sept. 30, 2024. The inadvertent typographical errors (suggested by Dr. Atul Vyas) in the minutes at para 2 (read 'FC' in place of 'BoG') have been corrected.

5. **To consider the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the 2024-3/27th meeting of the FC held on Sept. 30, 2024**

The Action Taken Report on the items requiring follow-up action on the decisions of the 2024-3/27th of the FC held on Sept. 30, 2024, was taken on record with a note of appreciation.

6. **To take on record procurement of items exceeding ₹ 1.0 Cr**

The FC noted the procurement of following goods and services exceeding ₹ 1.0 Cr. following the guidelines of GFR-2017 and Manual of Procurement of Goods and Services:

S. No	Purchase Order No.	Description of Goods/ Services	Amount
i.	P/PHY/2024-25/187 dated December 11, 2024	Spectroscopic Ellipsometer	₹ 1,20,00,600/-
ii.	P/CHM/2024-25/190 dated December 13, 2024	500 MHz NMR Spectrometer	USD 631800/-

7. **To take on record the expenditure incurred towards the construction of the permanent campus**

The FC noted the following expenditure incurred towards the construction of the permanent campus since the last FC Meeting held on Sept. 30, 2024:

Date	Particulars	Amount (₹ in crore)
30.09.2024	To CPWD for construction works (RA-39)	18.50
12.11.2024	To CPWD for construction works (RA-40)	20.00

The detailed head-wise expenditure as on Jan 17, 2025 on Project as per the Sanction of MoE:

Amount (₹ in crore)

	Equipment Cost	Furnishing Cost	ICT Infra-structure Cost	Construction Cost (including escalation and contingency)	Total (OH- 35)	Recurring Expenditure	Total Cost
Sanction	243.53	108.36	34.34	843.09	1229.32	353.46	1582.78
Expenditure incurred till 17/01/2025	206.47	7.69	9.27	* 817.41	1040.84	133.22	1174.06
Available Balance	37.06	100.67	25.07	25.68	188.48	220.24	408.72

* Includes the expenditure on ICT which is a part of the same NIT for construction of the Permanent Campus.

8. To consider and recommend to the BoG for ratification of the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction of Rs. 59.29 Cr. of the CPWD proposal for Preliminary Estimate for Supply, installation of Lab Furniture, Fume hoods including exhaust system and services and internal electrical works in Academic Block of the Institute

MoE Comments: It may be informed if this work is within the approved DPR and the Cabinet approved category under which this falls. It may be informed if the said category has balance funds available.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if the work is part of the Cabinet approved DPRs within the approved cost. The Institute is still in project mode.

The Secretary, FC informed that the subject work is within the scope of the approved DPR and the funds under furnishing head are available. The FC recommended to BoG for ratification of the same.

9. To consider and recommend to the BoG for ratification of the Administrative Approval & Expenditure of Rs. 54.46 lakh Sanction for Construction of STM Lab in Academic cum Administrative Block of the Institute

MoE Comments: It may be informed if this work is within the approved DPR and the Cabinet approved category under which this falls. It may be informed if the said category has balance funds available.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if the work is part of the Cabinet approved DPRs within the approved cost. The Institute is still in project mode.

The Secretary, FC informed that the work is pertaining to the installation and commissioning of the equipment already procured. The expenditure has been already booked under IRG as no fund was available in Project Head (Cost of Construction) for taking up the work which will be added in the construction cost of the project while seeking additional fund from the MoE of after completion of the project. The FC recommended to BoG for ratification of the same.

10. To consider and recommend to the BoG for ratification of the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction of Rs. 72.06 lakh for Construction of Chain link fabric Fencing along with the outer periphery of CRZ area of the Institute

MoE Comments: It may be informed if this work is within the approved DPR and the Cabinet approved category under which this falls. It may be informed if the said category has balance funds available.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if the work is part of the Cabinet approved DPRs within the approved cost. The Institute is still in project mode.

The Secretary, FC informed that the subject work is within the scope of the approved DPR of the boundary wall as the fencing has to be done for the allotted land of CRZ and the expenditure has been booked under the already sanctioned AA & ES for Boundary Wall works ongoing with CPWD. The FC recommended to BoG for ratification of the same.

11. To consider and recommend to the BoG for ratification of the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction Rs. 3.10 Cr. for SITC of audio and video system in the 300-seater classroom, 150-seater classroom, 90-seater class room, board room, seminar room etc. of the Institute

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if the work is part of the Cabinet approved DPRs within the approved cost. The Institute is still in project mode.

The Secretary, FC informed that the subject work is within the scope of the approved DPR under cost of the ICT Infrastructure. The expenditure has been booked under IRG as there no fund was available in Project Head (Cost of ICT Infrastructure) for taking up the work which will be added in the appropriate head of the project while seeking additional fund from the MoE of after completion of the project. The FC recommended to BoG for ratification of the same.

12. **To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of release of balance fund under ICT infrastructure cost to CPWD as some ICT items have been executed in the construction project undertaken by the CPWD**

MoE Comments: May be noted. The institute to ensure the funds allowed under the ICT category is not crossed.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if the work is part of the Cabinet approved DPRs within the approved cost. The Institute is still in project mode.

The Secretary, FC informed that the Institute had informed this matter earlier that the CPWD incurred some of the ICT expenditure under construction head. The MoE had suggested to segregate the ICT expenditure from the construction and put up the matter to the FC/BoG. Accordingly, as confirmed by CPWD that ₹ 32.96 Cr has been incurred towards ICT expenditure under the construction project as executed by them, the Institute proposes to release the balance amount under ICT head, as available, to the CPWD towards construction over and above the earlier sanctioned amount of ₹ 843.09 Cr (Cost of construction+ Cost of escalation and contingencies) against the already incurred expenditure of Rs. 32.96 crore under ICT head in the construction. However, the Institute will include all these ICT expenditures under ICT infrastructure cost at the time of the completion of the project while seeking additional cost from the MoE.

The FC recommended to BoG for approval of the same.

13. **To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of engagement of Consultant (Civil) and Consultant (Security) on contract basis for smooth management of newly operational IISER Berhampur Permanent Campus**

The proposal was discussed at length.

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: May be considered hiring through a third party agency.

The FC recommended to BoG for approval of engaging the above two consultants through advertisement.

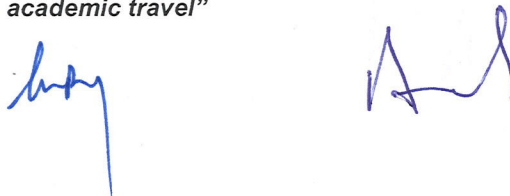
14. **To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of amendment in clause 7(d) of Seed Grant Policy for faculty joining the Institute**

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: There are no approved guidelines of MoE on this subject. May be considered from IRG of the Institute in line with what other IISERs follow.

The Secretary, FC informed that the Seed Grant Policy of the Institute was already approved by the BoG on the recommendation of the FC. The Institute proposes an amendment to the already approved policy.

The FC recommended to BoG for approval of amendment in clause 7(d) to be read as follows: **"Travel within India using Seed Grant may be allowed to Faculty and Students in the research group of the concerned Faculty within the allocated segment of the Seed Grant to cover the academic travel"**



15. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of the Annual Report and Separate Audit Report of the institute for the Financial Year 2023-24

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: May be considered, approved and forwarded to MoE for submission to the parliament.

The FC recommended to the BoG for approval of the Annual Report and Separate Audit Report for the Financial Year 2023-24 (enclosed as Annexure) of this Institute for submission before both Houses of the Parliament through the Ministry of Education.

16. To consider and recommend to the BoG taking up a case with MoE for the special sanction of Rs. 10 cr under equipment (OH-35.02) as Grant-in-aid pending completion of project

MoE Comments: The Cabinet approved limits under the individual category, as also the overall funds under non-recurring and recurring are to be adhered to. Any amount beyond that requires the approval of the Cabinet. So, this may be dropped.

IFD Comments: The normal process is that Institute has to complete the Cabinet approved DPR works within the approved cost and declare out of project mode duly submitting Project Completion Report. Works/ equipment which were not part of the approved DPRs, has to be taken up separately out of HEFA loan or other source. For completion of the approved DPR works, if the cost is escalated due to material/ labour cost hike, GST & other levies, that may be sought from MoE upto 20% of the original cost with the approval of Secretary (HE). This doesn't include works not the part of approved DPRs.

The matter was discussed at length. The Secretary, FC informed that there is no approved list of equipment mentioned in the DPR other than department-wise allocated fund. However, the proposed expenditure is essential as the newly joined faculty would need basic minimum small equipment to start their research besides some essential items under equipment head for the day-to-day operation of the Institutional activity. Further, as the proposed expenditures are over and above the sanctioned amount under Equipment Head, a separate proposal regarding this may be referred to the Ministry for consideration.

The FC recommended to the BoG for forwarding a proposal on the matter separately to the MoE for examination and consideration. However, the FC recommends to the BoG to allow the Institute to incur these essential expenditures under IRG now and then add to suitable head under project at the time of completion of the project while seeking additional cost from the MoE.

17. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of the expenditures committed from IRG of Rs. 3.85 crore

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: The normal process is that Institute has to complete the Cabinet approved DPR works within the approved cost and declare out of project mode duly submitting Project Completion Report. Works/ equipment which were not part of the approved DPRs, has to be taken up separately out of HEFA loan or other source. For completion of the approved DPR works, if the cost is escalated due to material/ labour cost hike, GST & other levies, that may be sought from MoE upto 20% of the original cost with the approval of Secretary (HE). This doesn't include works not the part of approved DPRs.

The Secretary, FC informed that the expenditures for the listed works (Construction of STM lab, Construction of Cryo TEM Facility and Small animal research facility) have been booked under IRG, which will be included in appropriate head of the project at the time of completion of the project while forwarding the proposal to the MoE for additional cost. The amount so sanctioned will be recouped to the IRG. The FC recommended to the BoG for approval of the same.

18. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of Rs. 3,56,62,903/- for Supply, installation, Testing and Commissioning of Audio-Video system in the 500 pax Auditorium and 90 pax Lecture Hall-02 Nos in Auditorium Block of the Institute

MoE Comments: The Institute to ensure that the funds allowed under the respective categories are not crossed.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if part of the approved DPRs and approved cost by the Cabinet.

The Secretary, FC informed that the subject work is within the scope of the approved DPR and the funds under cost of furnishing head are available. The FC recommended to BoG for approval of the same under the cost of furnishing head.

19. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of the Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction of the CPWD for Preliminary Estimate for Supply & Installation of Office Furniture for Administration Block & Faculty Rooms in Academic Block Parts, and in Health Centre and Guest House Buildings of the Institute

MoE Comments: It may be informed if this work is within the approved DPR and the Cabinet approved category under which this falls. It may be informed if the said category has balance funds available.

IFD Comments: May be considered, if part of the approved DPRs and approved cost by the Cabinet.

The Secretary, FC informed that the agenda was circulated to the B&WC for its consideration. Presently, some of the B&WC members have made certain comments on the proposal (specifications) and the same has been referred to the CPWD for clarification/ modification etc. The proposal will be sent to the B&WC again for consideration. Further, it has been informed that the funds are available in the furnishing head and the work is under the approved DPRs. In view of this, the Secretary, FC requested the FC to recommend to the BoG to authorise the Chairperson, B&WC to approve the AA&ES for the subject item based on the approval of the B&WC through circulation.

The FC recommended the above proposal to the BoG for approval.

20. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of the empanelment of IMS & SUM Hospital, Campus-III, Sitalapalli, Berhampur under CGHS tariff

MoE Comments: May be noted.

IFD Comments: Autonomous Bodies are covered under CS(MA) Rules. May be considered, if the facility is available as per the approved CGHS rates notified by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

The FC recommended the above proposal to the BoG for approval for empanelment of the said Hospital under CGHS approved rates as applicable with credit facilities.

The following additional agenda (under any other items) were discussed with the permission of the Chairperson, FC.

21. To consider and recommend to the BoG for approval of utilization of unspent balance of private sponsorships and registration fees for Conferences

The Institute conducts National/International Conferences for which the Institute gets sponsorship from various agencies including private sponsors.

The Institute proposed to transfer the unspent balance of private sponsorships for Conferences and registration fees to IRG or utilize the same in any other Conference.

The FC recommended the above to the BoG for approval.

22. To consider and recommend to the BoG for erection of the Statue of the Mahamahopadhyaya Chandrasekhara Singha Harichandana Mahapatra Samanta, popularly known as 'Pathani Samanta' renowned Astronomer, Mathematicians & Scholar from Odisha during 19th Century in the IISER Berhampur Campus.

The Institute has now substantially shifted to its permanent campus and the construction work of the Institute as undertaken by the CPWD is expected to be completed by April 30, 2025. Being an Institute of National Importance imparting science education, we propose to erect the statue of eminent scientific scholars of the state to encourage the young students to know about them and instil National pride in their mind. In this connection, the Institute is proposing to erect the brass-metal statue of Mahamahopadhyaya Chandrasekhara Singha Harichandana Mahapatra Samanta, popularly known as 'Pathani Samanta' in the IISER Berhampur Campus. He was an astronomer, mathematician and scholar who measured the distance from the Earth to the Sun with a bamboo pipe, and traditional instruments. He was born on 13 December 1835 and died on 11 June 1904. His research and observations were compiled into a book called "Siddhanta Darpana", which was written in both Sanskrit and the Odia script. He earned the Mahamahopadhyaya Award in 1893, for his usage of traditional instruments for astronomical observations. He was born in the princely state of Khandpara, in the Nayagarh District of Odisha. An article on his life and works is enclosed at **Annexure-2**. The expenditure in this connection may be met under OH-31.

The FC considered the above proposal and recommended the same to the BoG for approval.

23. To consider and recommend to the BoG for implementation of revised monetary ceiling for reimbursement of Briefcase/Office Bag/Ladies Purse etc. in terms of Ministry of Finance, Dept. of Expenditure OM No. F. No. 13016/1/2005-GAD dated May 01, 2024.

The Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, vide their OM No. F. No. 13016/1/2005-GAD dated May 01, 2024 (placed at **Annexure-3**) has revised the monetary ceiling for reimbursement of Briefcase/Office Bag/Ladies Purse.

It is mentioned here that the BoG in its 2019-2/9th meeting held on July 26, 2019 had approved reimbursement of the above on the recommendation of the 2019-2/8th FC held on July 26, 2019. The FC is requested to recommend the BoG for approval for implementation.

The FC considered the above proposal and recommended the same to the BoG for approval.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members of the FC.



(Pradeep Kumar Ray)
Registrar and Secretary, FC



(Ashok Kumar Ganguli)
Director

21/11/25

Minutes Approved

(Chairperson, FC)