

PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH

Minutes of the special meeting of the SYNDICATE held on 22nd July 2016 at 5.00 p.m. in the Syndicate Room, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

PRESENT

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| 1. | Professor A.K. Grover Vice Chancellor | ... (in the Chair) |
| 2. | Dr. Ajay Ranga | |
| 3. | Professor Anil Monga | |
| 4. | Shri Ashok Goyal | |
| 5. | Dr. Balbir Chand Josan | |
| 6. | Principal Charanjit Kaur Sohi | |
| 7. | Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa | |
| 8. | Professor Emanuel Nahar | |
| 9. | Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky | |
| 10. | Shri Harpreet Singh Dua | |
| 11. | Principal I.S. Sandhu | |
| 12. | Professor Keshav Malhotra | |
| 13. | Professor Navdeep Goyal | |
| 14. | Shri Raghbir Dyal | |
| 15. | Professor Shelley Walia | |
| 16. | Principal Surinder Singh Sangha | |
| 17. | Shri T.K. Goyal, Director Higher Education, Punjab | |
| 18. | Dr. Parvinder Singh (COE) (Officiating Registrar) | ... (Secretary) |

Director, Higher Education U.T. Chandigarh could not attend the meeting.

Vice Chancellor's Statement

1. The Vice Chancellor said, "I am pleased to inform the Hon'ble members that:

- (1) Professor R.C. Sobti, Vice Chancellor, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow and former Vice Chancellor, Panjab University has been felicitated with Bharat Gaurav Life Time Achievement Award by the Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha at The UK House of Commons in British Parliament in London on July 2, 2016.
- (2) Dr. Ganga Ram Chaudhary, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Environment Studies, have been awarded a project entitled 'Indo-US Partnership on Green Chemistry/Engineering & Technologies Education, Research and Outreach for Sustainable Development' under Indo-US 21st Century Knowledge Initiative, in collaboration with Dr. Jaspreet S. Dhau, Florida Polytechnic University, Lakeland, Florida, USA, for a period of 3 years w.e.f. 1st August 2016 with a financial allocation for Rs.1,21,28,000/- (Rupees one crore twenty one lakhs twenty eight thousand only).

RESOLVED: That felicitation of the Syndicate be conveyed to –

- (i) Professor R.C. Sobti, Vice Chancellor, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow and former Vice Chancellor, Panjab University on having been honoured with Bharat Gaurav Life Time Achievement Award by the Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha at The UK House of Commons in British Parliament; and
- (ii) Dr. Ganga Ram Chaudhary, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Environment Studies, for having been awarded a project entitled 'Indo-US Partnership on Green Chemistry/Engineering & Technologies Education, Research and Outreach for Sustainable Development' under Indo-US 21st Century Knowledge Initiative, in collaboration with Dr. Jaspreet S. Dhau, Florida Polytechnic University, Lakeland, Florida, USA.

Recommendations of the Think Tank dated 9.7.2016

2. Considered the recommendations dated 9.7.2016 (**Appendix-I**) of the fourth meeting of the Think Tank, constituted in pursuance of the discussion in the Senate meeting dated 27.9.2015.

NOTE: Minutes of the meetings of the Think Tank Committee held on 27.10.2015, 12.01.2016 and 01.02.2016 along with a summary note on current status of sources of funding of Panjab University are enclosed (**Appendix-I**).

The Vice Chancellor stated that this is a special meeting convened for a very special purpose. To give them a brief, let him recall that since the last financial year, the University has been facing the challenge of providing money for meeting the day-to-day expenses, which are absolutely necessary for sustenance of the University. For day-to-day needs, what he meant is the salary budget of the University for the teachers and non-teaching staff and pension for the pensioners and some minimal funds just to pay electricity, water bills and other maintenance charges of the University. The University has faced budget difficulties in past as well. In recent times, they faced such a situation where they became short of money up to 31st March 2015, when they received the lesser amount from UGC/MHRD at the fag end of the year. Understanding well, they submitted the revised budget for the previous financial year in the Senate of 27th September 2015, and in that very meeting, the Senate decided to constitute the Think-Tank to worry about the finances of the University. The Think-Tank had several meetings. The 1st meeting was held in the month of October 2015, 2nd in the month of January, 2016 and 3rd meeting in the month of February, 2016. The 4th meeting of the Think-Tank was held on 9th July 2016, after the release of 1st instalment of grant for the current financial year. The 1st instalment released to them amounts to only Rs.40 crore with which they could barely pay the salary bill for the month of June 2016 only. After that he had a couple of visits to Delhi and he has been trying to meet various officers both at the UGC and MHRD. He is trying to explore some

viable solution to the problems to the University. They had got sanctioned only Rs176 crore last year, which is the same amount which was given to them during the previous year. As such, they did not get any increase. If the Punjab Government has frozen its grant to the University at Rs.20 crore, then *de facto* the central government has also frozen its grant at Rs.176 crore. In this kind of situation, the University cannot be sustained. They cannot balance their books and could not continue for long. He had discussed this issue with the officers both MHRD and UGC whether the University could proceed with the new academic session or not. So it was in that background he had the meeting and discussion with those officers and there is apprehension that unless the Centre makes some change in the *de facto* situation, they could not proceed further. He was given to understand that the MHRD has not given any directive to the UGC that they should freeze the grant to Panjab University at a given level. There is no directive from the MHRD and whatever directive is there, a copy of the same is there as a part of the annexure to the papers which have been supplied to them. He does not know whether the members had a time to go through all the documents or not. He has placed before them today two documents, including a proposal which he has made to the Chairman, UGC on July 11, 2016 in the background of 4th meeting of the Think-Tank, which was held on July 9, 2016. The proposal that has been made to the Chairman, UGC is that the Centre should continue to give them 12% increase every year on face value of the year in which the University for the first time received money from the non-plan budget of Government of India. In fact, in the year 2013-14, they received Rs163 crore for the first time from the non-plan budget of Government of India. At the time of releasing the money, they (Government) had said that only 8% annual increase would be allowed. So they were arguing with the MHRD that 8% increase is inadequate because with it they cannot take care of the increase in the DA which is happening every year. DA increases every year and the salaries are supposed to be inflation protected. They give DA to its employees as is being done by the Central Government for its employees as well as to the employees of the Union Territory as also by the Punjab Government. In fact, 8% increase cannot take care of the annual increase of DA plus 3% annual increment and few promotions. He had pleaded with them that they give them 12% annual hike, which would be more realistic. Even if they freeze everything and do not initiate anything new, they could not survive with 8% annual increase. Keeping that in view, he had proposed to the Chairman, UGC to give 12% increase every year keeping 2013-14 as the base year. If they agree, this year the allocation to the University would be of the order of Rs.230 crore. If they have to balance their books, they need to generate additionally about Rs.30-35 crore at least during the current year. He could not increase the income of the University by any other means except the examination fees, because the Handbook of Information stood published in which the tuition fees has already been mentioned, and the students are supposed to take admission on the basis of information whatever has been provided to them. As such, no additional income could be generated through tuition fees. Only one way is left and that is by way of examination fees. So, the Committee has looked into this exercise and made recommendations. The recommendations of the Committee were supposed to be supplied to them by 18th July 2016, but somehow the University could not do so. It is an inadvertent lapse on the part of the officer/s, as the recommendations which should have been sent to the members on 18th, could not be supplied to them. Now, all the papers have been placed before them. There is

a delay and he sincerely apologizes for the lapse on the part of the office. The mandate of the proposal is to increase the examination fee up to Rs.35 crores for this year. They are meeting today, but unfortunately the details could not be provided to them before the start of the meeting. However, now the same are before them. **So, it is a do or die situation for them at the moment.** If they raise the income of the University by enhancement in the examination fees, then they could try to persuade the Central Government to accept to release them a grant of Rs.230 crores. He is scheduled to meet the Secretary, MHRD on 25th July at 3.00 p.m. A copy of the proposal sent to the UGC/MHRD has been made available to them. He has discussed the matter with the Secretary, UGC and Director, Higher Education, MHRD. So, it is in this entire background that if they do not raise their resources and bring the same to a level from where they could persuade the Central Government to meet their needs, they face a problem. The Government did agree to give 8% increase in the year 2013-14, but that was inadequate. If the Government agrees to 12% increase every year taking the figure of 2013-14 as a base, then they could meet their obligations until the year 2016-17. The MHRD has written a letter to the UGC that they should meet Panjab University needs. Now, the UGC has replied to the MHRD that they would not be able to meet the Panjab University needs out of their non-plan allocation. The MHRD has accepted that "Yes", they have received a communication from the UGC that they could not meet the current needs of Panjab University. Now, what is the way out? The way out is, as discussed between him and UGC's Director Higher Education, that through the revised estimates for the current financial year, a special request be made by the MHRD to the Finance Minister, Government of India, that this money be provided to Panjab University for its sustenance. If they provide and everything goes right, then this year, they would be able to balance their books, but it is only for this year. Nobody knows as to what would happen after the implementation of the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission. Then the whole matter needs to be revisited absolutely afresh. The Think-Tank has come up with the proposal that they would enhance the income by 20% this year, 25% next year and 25% in next to next year. They are not at the moment in a position to do anything more than this under the given circumstances and the given background and history of the University. It itself is a tall order, but since they have been discussing for about one and a half year and the way the things are happening in other Universities in the country, including Centrally funded Institutions, the present and the previous Governments at the Centre had been pleading that the institutions supported by the Centre would have to increase their income gradually every year. Only then, the entire enhancement in the budget of the University/Universities would be borne by the Centre and this applies to the IITs, IIMs, Tata Institute of Social Sciences and other Institutions, which are being supported by the Centre. So they face the real dilemma at the moment. If they did not do anything, then nothing would happen to them and he is afraid that the University is heading towards a closure and the crisis is most serious so far as the Institutions in Chandigarh are concerned. If for whatever reason the crisis deepens and spreads to the Colleges of Punjab, he is afraid that the Punjab Government would disconnect all the Colleges affiliated to Panjab University and align them either with Punjabi University, Patiala or Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, and if that happens, then the Panjab University *per se* would lose its resources of Rs.200 crores. Out of that only a small fraction comes from the Campus, and the Campus contribution is only about Rs.50-

55 crores. They have only 22 odd Colleges in Chandigarh and about 170 Colleges in Punjab. Out of 200 Colleges, only 10-12% happens to be in Chandigarh. About Rs.156 crore out of Rs.200 crore is coming from other than Panjab University Campus. They could not hope to generate more than Rs.20-25 crore from the Colleges of Chandigarh. Their current deficit is of the order of Rs.250 crore, and if Rs.20 crore, and if income from Colleges from Punjab gets lost as well, then just for their bare survival, they would need Rs.350 crore from the Centre. However, the Campus expenditure is going to remain as the salary bill of the campus is not going to reduce suddenly even if the austerity measure for non-teaching staff are adopted. The situation is extremely serious and grim. They could not do something very drastic. So it is in that background that they are proposing to generate income of about Rs.35 crore from the students who are going to write to the examinations in the months of December 2016 and April 2017. They have 2.5 lac students and want to generate an income of Rs.35 crore. It is something of the order of Rs.1400/- or Rs.1500/- per student on the average in a given financial year. It is for the students, who would write the examinations of the University during the current session, i.e., forthcoming two semesters, just to pay the salaries to the teaching and non-teaching staff and the pensioners of all shades. This is the background and the proposal is before them.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that in the opening statement made in the agenda, it has been stated that efforts be made to increase the income of the University by increasing the tuition fee and examination fee by 20%.

The Vice Chancellor clarified that right now, they are considering only the examination fee.

Continuing, Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that it is written that the examination fee be increased by 20% for the year 2016-17. He tried to draw the attention of the House towards page 35.

The Vice Chancellor again clarified that they want to increase the University income by 20%. In fact, they need 20% more income than they had last year. They had income of the order of Rs.200 crore and want to increase that income to about Rs.230 crore. He further clarified that page 35 relates to tuition fee and the same should be ignored at the moment because the tuition fee is a matter of agenda for the meeting of the Syndicate scheduled to be held on 31st of July 2016. Therefore, they should just ignore it today. They had made a summary of everything. The Annexure of tuition fee is there because there are two Notes on Annexure-I - (1) The income for the year 2016-17 has been estimated after considering the anticipated increase in examination fee, as proposed by the Committee; and (2) The vision of fee structure of various courses of Panjab University (as per Annexure-II) is under the consideration of a Sub-Committee of Think Tank. The impact of such revision if approved by the competent bodies would take place from the next session, i.e., 2017-2017. It is in that context that the Annexure -II is there. The Annexure -II pertains to tuition and the tuition fee is a part of the agenda of 31st July meeting of the Syndicate, and the tuition fee has to be effected only from the next year, i.e., 2017-2018.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that that means they are only considering Annexure-I.

The Vice Chancellor stated that he has given them the background and they are considering just this. If they managed to raise their income by some amount, and in the background of that, he could hope to present it to the Senate, and if the Senate consents, then in the background of that he could meet the Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), on 25th July 2016 at 3.00 p.m., and set the process that in the Board of Finance meeting their representative/s would come where the revised budget requirements of the University would be placed and those revised requirements have to go to the Syndicate meeting in August, and thereafter, they have to go to the Senate meeting. Then only the revised estimates could be made as a formal submission to the MHRD and UGC, so that when they would submit their revised estimates, the requirements of Panjab University become a part of their revised estimates. He knows that they are cross forwarding so many things, but he has a difficulty, and all of them have a difficulty because they are collectively responsible for providing governance to this Institution.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that his query is that the University is trying to raise a sum of Rs.35 crore during this financial year and the same is only through the examination fees.

Professor Navdeep Goyal stated that he could make some clarification because he was the Chairman of the Committee which looked into this propose twice. When they were looking at the fee structure, two things came to their minds – (i) that different departments started different courses and they proposed different examination fee structures. When they looked at the total fee structure, about 100 odd examination fees were found for different courses. The first thing, which the told to the officials was, that they have to rationalize this because of the varied fee structure. They were also facing another problem particularly when the Controller of Examinations told them that though the fee was different, but the students were depositing something else by seeing the fee structure because it was difficult to gauge from the fee structure as to which fee is applicable on him/her. One thing, when they were looking at the fee structure, was that this fee structure is to be reduced. Now, the components of the fee structure have been brought down from 100 to 12-15. Secondly, of course, they were talking about from where the enhancement would come. Initially, they presumed that they have to enhance the total fee structure by 20% and they made the proposal accordingly. Probably, that proposal was taken to the Think Tank. In the meeting of the Think Tank it was thought that it should be enhanced to the level, which he (Vice Chancellor) is talking about, i.e., to Rs.35 crore to Rs.40 crore. Then they had another meeting, and fortunately because of the fact that the officials have worked in a manner. He has earlier also asked them as to what is the difference. They had calculated on the basis of as to how many students are there in a course. The next thing what they did was, because it was written somewhere that the new courses which they had started, the structure of the same was also very less though the fee structure of the old courses was also comparatively less. In almost all the old courses, the enrolment was very high, and the same is low in the new courses. For that reason, they had recommended much less high in such courses and somewhere they had not even recommended any hike. They had recommended hike in the courses where enrolment is

high in a manner that they achieve the desired result. It is not that they had recommended exorbitant hike in all the courses.

The Vice Chancellor stated that they have to go step by step. This also has been done because they are hoping that the Centre would step forward. He has told the Officer/s of the MHRD that they should agree to give 12% increase on the base figure of 2013-14, and the books would be balanced in this manner. They should see the letter written by the Secretary, MHRD, to the UGC. The Secretary, UGC, has accepted that they had a lot of unspent money in the non-plan Budget in the year 2012-2013, and they had no difficulty in giving whatever Panjab University asked. He (Secretary, UGC) showed him (Vice Chancellor) a letter written by him now to the MHRD. There were seven Budget Heads in it and they (Panjab University) is the last to enter in their list. First of the seven Budget Heads is the Constituent Colleges of Delhi University, then Constituent Colleges of Banaras Hindu University; and then Inter-University Centres (7 in number), which were opened by the UGC itself in the years 1988, 1989, 1990, when Professor Yash Pal was the Chairman of the UGC, because they are their own Centres, they have to give them the salaries, and they could not say that they should generate their own income. The pressure of asking them (Panjab University) to generate income is because they are meeting 50% of the salaries from their own income, and the Panjab University has been meeting this large fraction of the salary requirement from its own income. Different Universities in the country has different revenue models. He was in Pune University, Pune, day before yesterday, and he has brought the entire revenue structure of Pune University. In Pune University, the teachers and non-teachers salary of sanctioned positions is 100% paid by the Maharashtra Government and the salary of all the teachers of self sustaining courses is paid by the (Pune) University entirely from its own sources. Pune University has an income of Rs.685 crore, and out of that only Rs.120 crore comes from the Maharashtra Government, which is towards the salary. As such, Pune University has never faced any crisis in paying salary to its employees because the salary budget is sacrosanct as it either comes from the Government or from the University's own sources. What are the University own sources, over a period of decades they had generated what they call a "Corpus Fund" of the University. Pune University has a Corpus Fund of over Rs.500 crore. In that Rs.500 crore reserve, whatever income that they have, it is with that income they run the self sustaining courses. Whatever interest they get on that, they do not consume the same. In fact, they flow back some of the interest to the Corpus Fund. So the Corpus Fund continuously rises. The interest from the Corpus sustains their recurring agenda, which increases with the inflation, that never suffers. They had 9 lac students enrolled in the Colleges of Pune. Every two years, they increase the examination fee by 10%. However, their gross enrolment ratio is rising, and the number of students writing the examinations of Pune University typically rises by 10% every year, particularly during the last five years as they have introduced several new courses. Everybody wants branding of Pune University, the people writing the exams of Pune University is continuously rising. They also charge affiliation fee every year for continuing of affiliation. So they have a revenue model of a kind, that running the University is not a problem, and only expanding the University is a problem. He has brought everything from there and has submitted the same. He would make a comprehensive summary and he is not hesitant to present it to the Think Tank of the University at an appropriate time, but that is all for

the future. Right now, for them, it is a survival issue. Do they continue as an Institution in this academic year or not? This is the survival issue. He has told them that one is microscopic that some they have effected more hike and somewhere less, but the burden is of the order of whatever he is telling them, i.e., Rs.1,500/- per student. So the burden is on the average Rs.4/ or Rs.5/- a day. It is Rs.4/- every day on every student for having this Institution survives and conducts the examinations during the current academic year. First of all is the continuation of this Institution in this academic year. The examinations would be conducted, when they reach at the end of the semester. This is the crisis which they faced at the moment.

Professor Shelley Walia stated that he could realize that they face very dismal situation. He was thinking that the University of this stature has to think for its closure, and not only closure, but also going around begging for money in order to last for another six months or a year. He feels that he (Vice Chancellor) is sensitized, they are also sensitized to the whole situation. But the rest of the public is not, who are making the noise outside, are not aware that they (University) are facing this kind of very crucial problem. He personally thinks after having heard him and saying as to what the policy of the Government on education is, and that present Government is also considering that 25% of Budget on education has to be curtailed by the Centre and the State Education Departments. Keeping that in view, he thinks that the situation is very blink, and because it is very blink, he thinks that it does not need much of debate. They have to take drastic steps and the first step which the Think Tank has taken, he thinks is a very concrete step keeping in view the seriousness of the situation, which they are facing. So they should go ahead, and he endorses that they should go ahead and implement the recommendations of the Think Tank, and then from there move on to generate more funds so that they could actually self sustain and do not have to depend at all on others.

The Vice Chancellor stated that the point is that today is 22nd July, and on 24th morning they are going to spend half a day just to discuss in the Senate the finances of the University. They wanted a special meeting of the Senate, and at that time, he did not realize that the matter would fast forward like this and they would be facing such a situation. So 24th meeting would be with full participation of the Senate, and when there is a Senate meeting, they are well aware that civil societies, in the form of correspondents of entire media, also watch this. The students' leaders are also going to watch that. So whatever they do, the matter would start to get disseminated, and the reality is that it would start getting disseminated. If not, from tomorrow, certainly from day after tomorrow. Today morning, when they had a meeting of the IQAC, the House was full, barring 1 or 2 people, who could not come as they had to go away urgently. Both the representatives on their Senate, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal and Shri Satya Pal Jain were there, and so was the representative of JNU, who was also former Vice Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU). They had a full house and they took a cognizance of all these things. He shared with them as to what their proposal is, and he also shared with that they are facing this kind of problem. They think that the crisis, which they are facing, is started to get disseminated and he was told by the representative of GNDU that their neighbouring University, i.e., Punjab University, Patiala, faces even more serious situation. Of the three Universities, the only University, which is at

the moment in a slightly healthier financial situation, is GNDU, and rest of the Universities are in a very-very shaky situation.

Professor Shelley Walia enquired does he think that they have to ask the State to pitch in? Anywhere in the world, if the State does not pitch in looking after the educational institutions.

The Vice Chancellor said that the point is that the State has frozen the grant to be given to the University. He added that first time they faced the crisis was about 14 years ago, when they had a deficit of Rs.49 crore, and the Punjab Government contribution of 40% came to Rs.19.36 crore and the Punjab Government did not give more than Rs.16 crore. That was the time, when the crisis came in. Now that Rs.16 crore has become Rs.20 crore and that's all. So what would the State give to them? GNDU gets only Rs.50-55 crore from the State Government and Punjabi University gets only Rs.70 crore from the State Government. So as compared to that, look at them. They are getting Rs.20 crore from the State Government and even when they are in crisis, they have got Rs.176 crore from the Centre. In this way, they are getting Rs.196 crore.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that there are about 3 lac students in Punjabi University, Patiala and 20,000 on the Campus, whereas the students in Panjab University is 2.5 lac and 15,000 respectively.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that the Punjab Government has problem in giving grant to the University and problem in Panjab University becoming a Central University also.

The Vice Chancellor stated that much water has flown on all these things. Let them not start re-writing the history. Let them go what the ground reality is, and the ground reality is that the Centre is somewhat appreciative of them as an Institution of national importance. They might not be Central Institution in the strict sense. When he goes and tries to meet the officials on behalf of Panjab University, they accord respect to the Vice Chancellor of this University as if one is a Vice Chancellor of the premier University of the country. There has never been an occasion that he had arrived at the Secretary, MHRD, office, unannounced, sent a card and he said, "No", he does not want to meet him. He (Secretary) has accommodated him every time, maybe for five minutes just to receive a representation. This is not a recognition, he has been told, is offered to every Vice Chancellor of every University in India. He has invited the new Union Minister, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Shri Prakash Javadekar ji, to Panjab University Campus during the Teachers' Day week. He is considering it and he is hopeful that the new Minister, MHRD, would be in their Campus between September 5 and September 9, and he says that he would give a Nation-wide Broadcast using the National Network like the one they had the broadcast of Chairman, UGC. He is hopeful that he would be here and September 5 is not far away, and is well before 30th September when the revised budget estimates have to be submitted. He thinks that the academics of the University would be able to carry them through. If they meet their requirements half way, the Centre would come forward and meet their requirements half way. So these are the hopes and one lives by the hopes.

Shri Raghbir Dyal stated that this meeting is basically to consider the report of the Think Tank and to consider hike in examination fees. It is good that they constituted a Think Tank so that a policy matter is framed for the finances of the University. But it has also to be seen that somewhere they are not coming out of their comfort zones. He would like to read out few lines from the proceedings of the Think Tank for the information of the members, through which Professor D.V.S. Jain has stated that there was a time when there were five INSA Fellows in Chemistry, five in Mathematics and three in Botany, now there is no teacher from Panjab University, who is Fellow of INSA. Professor Pam Rajput has stated that what are the reasons that their University is no more a nursery for producing eminent economists and social scientists for that matter? Then their President, PUTA, he has clearly said that there is a lack of accountability, particularly in the University Teaching Departments. It looks to him that the problem is not of today; rather, it was there for the last so many years, but the University could not anticipate it. They did not come out of their comfort zones, because they extended the age of superannuation from 60 years to 65 years without have ample finances, and also recruited so many teachers as guest faculty, and made several appointments during the last one and half a year. They are getting only 8% notional increment, due to which problem is that they suddenly need Rs.35 to Rs.40 crore, so that they could give salaries to teaching and non-teaching staff. Earlier also, they have discussed this matter. Had they made collective efforts, the situation might not have been so dismal. Several times it has been raised that there are several departments in the University, which could be clubbed due to which expenditure could be curtailed up to some extent. The process of Academic and Administrative Audit is very slow, and he does not know when it would be completed. Several times, it has been suggested that there are certain courses, where admissions could be made through lateral entry, particularly computer courses, through which they could enhance their revenue. Similarly, if the introduce Entrance Test for admission to the courses being offered in Social Sciences Departments, their revenue would get increased. The Entrance Tests are already there in the Science, Engineering, Law Departments, but in Arts, Languages, Humanities, etc., they do not have Entrance Tests. Similarly, it had been suggested on numerous occasions that the number of seats should be increased. If the seats are 30, they should be enhanced to 40. These are small steps, through which income of the University could be enhanced. Had their syllabi been commensurate to the industry, there would have been more collaboration? They could have made their alumni more active. He has been seeing in the Senate for the last 4 years that despite pointing out/suggesting time and again, he thinks they are not able to move in this direction collectively, due to they have not generated much revenue except the fees (examination, tuition fee, self-financing courses) from the students of affiliated Colleges and the University Campus, where they have been making notional increment, i.e., 5% or 10%, and due to which they have caught in this situation. According to him, in B.A./B.Com. they charge a fee of about Rs.1,000/- and under Semester System, they have enhance it from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.3,000/- wherein the increase is about 50%. In Masters, perhaps they start with charging about Rs.1,200/- and finished with about Rs.1,500/-. In Sciences with practical, the fee is between Rs.2,000/- and Rs.4,000/-. After going through the data, he has a rough estimate that they are increasing the examination fee alone from 50% to 80%, so that they could generate about Rs.35 crore. Before this, they have increased in the

Syndicate and Senate the tuition and other fees of the students, and the same would be revised in the next Senate. Since in the University Teaching Departments, there are only 15,000 students, he thinks that they are going injustice to the students of affiliated Colleges by increasing Rs.4,000/- to Rs.5,000/- in one go. Therefore, personally, he is not in agreement with this. He is in favour of only enhancement to the tune of about 10% only and generate the revenue. They should put pressure on the Government by saying that these are the achievements of their University and they are a very prestigious University, they should be given some funds. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the Government to provide higher education. Seeing the unique status of Panjab University, they should be given funds. So personally, he is not for this vast increase in examination fees, which roughly ranges between 50% and 80%. He (Vice Chancellor) has already told that in the next meeting, they would take up the tuition fees. They have already increased the tuition fee in the previous meeting of the Senate w.e.f. the academic session 2016-2017, and that is too much for the students. So, he personally is not in favour of this. It should be a systematic and gradual process. So he is not in favour of this hike.

Shri T.K. Goyal, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, said that so far this fee issue is concerned, he has no issue.

The Vice Chancellor enquired whether he do not want to give any opinion or he endorses the proposed hike.

Shri T.K. Goyal, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, said that he agrees with the proposal.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky stated that he thinking is, as stated by Shri Raghbir Dyal, that any hike in fees should be rational and gradual because today they might be enhancing the examination fees. But as he (Vice Chancellor) has already told them that next they would consider enhancement in tuition fees, where he is seeing 100% increase, which is very shocking. Even to this hike, so many students have collected and protesting against it. His point of view is that they should talk to the Central Government. He has earlier also suggested that if need be, a joint delegation should be taken and do whatever they could, but the burden of education should not be put on the students. On the one hand, the Central Government is giving so many facilities for providing education in primary schools, and talking about free education, free education to girl children, etc. and on the other hand, they are not providing funds for the higher education. From the papers, it seems that there are about 2.5 lac students and they would be able to generate additional income of about Rs.35 crore, but when he is seeing the comparative statement, it is very shocking that there is proposal of increasing the fee of MBA from Rs.4,000/- to Rs.1 lac. It is just like igniting the fire in the University. Whatever they want to do should be done rationally and some sort of percentage should be evolved for hiking the fee uniformly. Even if the fees are to be hike every year, it should be done in a gradual manner, but not like this, i.e., in an exorbitant manner. If they increased the fees in this manner, people are going to protest in a big way, and they would not be able to control them. Since the Central Government has umpteen funds, they should approach the Government to provide them sufficient funds.

The Vice Chancellor said that he has already told them everything. He has just explained to them that the University faces such a grim situation that if there is no salary paid to the employees, the University would close down, and the University closed down mean, the University closes down not for the Campus, the University closes down for 20 Colleges of Union Territory of Chandigarh and the University also closes down for the 172 Colleges for the State of Punjab.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that it is not their sole duty that they only have to think about the University, the Central and Punjab Governments have also to think about the University. Are they (Central and Punjab Governments) not answerable to the society for the closure of the University due to this severe financial crisis? Should they not bail us out? According to him, they (Central and Punjab Governments) have also responsibility towards this University and are answerable to the people.

Professor Emanuel Nahar said that they very well aware about this crisis being faced by the University. In the times come, it would be very difficulty for the University to pay salaries to its employees and also maintain the academic excellence. The State Government is escaping from its duty and is not releasing the due grant to the University. So far as Think-Tank is concerned, it has concentrated on tuition and examination fees. The Think-Tank must have paid attention as to how the expenditure could be curtailed and how to create the resources for generating income for the University. In the last three years, there has been a lot of contribution form Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, who has at the one point of time appealed to Hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and got special grant released to the University. If such an effort is made to Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, it would be good for the University to come out of this financial crisis.

Dr. Ajay Ranga stated that, in fact, the Think-Tank had been constituted to suggest ways and means through which the income of the University could be increased. They have only suggested the way of increasing income through making hike in the examination and tuition fees. He agrees with Shri Raghbir Dyal that they had pointed out several times in the meetings of the Syndicate and the Senate that there are ways, except tuition and examination fees, through which the income of the University could be increased. One issue which is coming to his mind is that earlier they used to be NRI seats, but now the same are not there. Earlier, they are able to generate quite a large chunk of the revenue form the NRI seats. When he sees the fee structures of Panjab University vis-à-vis other Universities, their fee structure self-financing courses is heavy in comparison to other Universities. If they introduce more NRI seats, they would be able to generate more revenue. Shri Raghbir Dyal has suggested introduction of Entrance Test for admission to courses being offered in Humanities, Social Sciences and languages Departments. Though there are 20-30 seats in these Departments, they received applications between 250 and 300. Similarly, the University Institute of Legal Studies received more than 1000 applications. They could review that structure as the parents of the students who wish to take admissions at University Institute of Legal Studies have the paying capacity. He remarked that those who are in paying capacity, there the fees should be increased. Secondly, if they do not take yearly affiliation fees from the Colleges, they should start taking the same.

The Vice Chancellor said that they have to find out slowly and steadily the sub-heads where they could increase the revenue.

Shri Raghubir Dyal said that the fee for extension of affiliation is Rs.2000/-.

Dr. Ajay Ranga said that, according to him, a fee of Rs.2000/- for extension of affiliation is too less.

Principal S.S. Sangha remarked that though the fee for extension of affiliation is only Rs.2000/-, the expenditure on T.A/D.A. to the members of the Inspection Committees is about Rs.60,000/- or more.

Continuing, Dr. Ajay Ranga said that the upper limit of income for exemption to the students belonging to the weaker section of the Society, including SC, ST, etc., has been kept at Rs.2.5 lac per annum. Though there should be hike in fee structure, he is not in favour of such an exorbitant hike in fee; rather, the hike should not be more than 10%. Secondly, so far as the upper limit of Rs.2.5 lac per annum is concerned, even the fourth class employees are not covered under this. The children of the peons are not able to pay a fee of Rs.1.5 lac. On the one hand, they are increasing the fees, and on the other hand, they are closing the door of education for the poor. He felt that they should consider it so that poor, deserving and brilliant students, whose parents could not afford to pay high fees, are not deprived of higher education. This issue of hike in fee and the financial crisis which they are facing has come because they did not effected reasonable hike in fees every year. The minimum hike in fees, i.e., at least 2% or 3% or 5%, should be made annual feature, so that neither it pinch the payee nor the University or any other person of the society feel that the University is doing something wrong.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that he would like to tell one more rationale for proposing this hike in examination fees. While considering the issue in the Committee they have seen the fee structures of Guru Nanak Dev University and Punjabi University. Whatever they have proposed, in most of the cases the same is much less than Guru Nanak Dev University. He added that in the beginning he had told that if University is closed down, the Colleges affiliated it would either get affiliation from the Guru Nanak Dev University or Punjabi University, and then perhaps, they have to pay more fee than what they are supposed to pay here. He thought that he had taken care of them.

The Vice Chancellor said that if the Punjab Government taken away its affiliated Colleges from the Panjab University and the income of the University would be drastically decreased, and this University as an Institution would not be able to run unless the Centre takes over this University. If the Centre takes over this University, then they (students) have to give same kind of money (fees) to this University, which they are giving to GNDU. In fact, in GNDU the students are paying three times more fee than Panjab University. Since the Panjab University is not a Centre University, they (Centre Government) are not bound to meet full deficit of the University. If they become a Central University, then everything has to be done in accordance with the Centre directive, they are saying that the University has to drastically reduce the number of its non-teaching employees.

Shri Raghbir Dyal remarked that they should not get salary for a couple of months and instead stage a dharna at the UGC, money would automatically come. They should slightly come out of their comfort zone.

Professor Anil Monga stated that he agrees with the suggestions given by Shri Raghbir Dyal. He has given divert suggestions, e.g., increasing the number of seats. He suggested that in the courses, which are in great demand, the number of seats should be increased. In this way, not only the students would be benefited, but also the University would be able to additional revenue. Dr. Ajay Ranga has advocated for filling up of NRI seats, but they could not fill up the NRI seats because as per the directive of the High Court they could only admit true NRIs. As such, there is a need to propagate the NRI seats in the foreign countries as information does not reach to their people, who are living abroad, that Panjab University has NRI seats in such and such courses. If they make sincere efforts to propagate the NRI seats, perhaps, they would be able to fill up all the seats. Since the rent of the shops at the campus is on lower side, the same should also be enhanced to generate additional revenue.

The Vice Chancellor said that they would not be able to earn much by increasing the rent of the shops.

To this, Professor Anil Monga said that they should try to generate additional revenue from all the sources.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa remarked that if they get additional Rs.1 crore from the enhanced rent, it would be one part of the hundred crore.

Professor Anil Monga said he endorses the proposed hike in examination fees as it is the need of the hour. Secondly, since the hike is not more than Rs.1400-1500, it is not much burden on the students. So he endorses it.

Principal Charanjeet Kaur Sohi stated that whatever figure they have reached at – whether the increase is 10% or 20%, the communication should be open to the students and they should be made aware of it. What they are discussing here that the Colleges would be no more affiliated to Panjab University and they would go either to GNDU or Punjabi University, Patiala, where the students would pay three-times more fees than Panjab University. Secondly, they should also be made aware that since the Semester System has been introduced, the expenditure on the conduct of examinations has also doubled. The students should be convinced by giving such arguments. She also thinks that the increase should be little less, but every year. Also, they should make a divide between the rich and poor students. Those who could pay, should be made to pay more and those who could not, should be asked to pay less and be given certain incentives as the foreign Universities are doing. Later when they get job, it could be recovered from them. Despite increasing the examinations and tuition fees, they should also focus on other sources, from where the additional income could be generated, e.g., alumni especially who are residing abroad. Both the alumni residing abroad and those who are in the Corporate World, could donate to the University substantially. Since the students were being asked to bear the additional burden, the teachers should also contribute something

to bear the burden, so that the University comes out of the financial crisis. Simultaneously, the expenditure should also be curtailed.

Dr. I.S. Sandhu stated that with the introduction of Semester System, they are already charging almost double examination fee from the students. According to him, they are facing financial crisis only because when they tried to increase the fees, either they did not approve or reduced the same due the pressure of the students. Even if the fees had been hiked, it was only between Rs.100-500/-. Had the fees been increased routinely, perhaps, the burden might not have this much. In fact, the burden is much which might attract stiff opposition from the students' bodies/organization, and they might land in big trouble. He pointed out that when the revised pay-scales had come in the year 2008-2009, they had allowed the Colleges to charge a sum of about Rs.350/- from the students to payment retiral benefits to the teachers, which has not become Rs.1,940/- per student. This should be a separate head, which is there in certain Colleges, but not in several Colleges. Similar charges could also be taken from the campus students. Further, they are taking only Rs.2,000/- as affiliation fee for the new courses. In fact, they could take more affiliation fee as the first preference of the students of Punjab is Panjab University irrespective of whether the student belonged to the jurisdiction of Punjabi University or GNDU. If they take Panjab University affiliation fee of about Rs.100-200/- from the students, it would not pinch them, but the University would be able to generate substantial additional revenue. The Controller of Examinations, who is also holding the charge of Dean, College Development Council, could tell them as to how many students are appearing in the University examinations. With an affiliation fee of Rs.100-200/-, they would be able to collect a big amount. He further said that there are about 30 seats in almost all the courses being offered at the University campus. If those 30 seats are enhanced to 40, they would be able to generate additional revenue for the University without incurring any additional expenditure. With these small steps, they would be able to tide over the financial crunch, if not fully, up to some extent. He remarked that only those students go to the Colleges, who did not get admission at the University campus. Perhaps, a representation might have come to the Vice Chancellor relating to non-filling up to 23 seats in the Department of Music even though they had received more than 196 applications. Earlier, he had been succeeded to get the pass percentage of the Entrance Test reduced to get 65 candidates admitted in the Department of Punjabi, whereas without the reduction in pass percentage the Department was admitted only 23 candidates. As suggested by one of the members, there should be fee for the Entrance Tests also, so that they are able to get money from all the admission seekers. Instead of there being certain percentage of NRI seats, the NRI seats should be additional so that it does not affect the meritorious students and at the same time they are also able to generate some revenue. With these small steps, they would definitely be able to generate some additional income instead of putting additional burden on the students. If they approve the recommended fee hike, he does not think from the coming years, they would be able to admit this much number of students. Had the fees been increased every year continuously, perhaps, they might not have been in this kind of financial crisis. He suggested that 5% or 10% hike in fees should be effected every year even if some of his friends objected to that and record their dissent.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that he could not hear his (Vice Chancellor) statement as he has come late, but whatever he could recollect, he (Vice Chancellor) has stated that they would get Rs.230 crore, if they generate an additional revenue of Rs.35 crore. He enquired is it true?

The Vice Chancellor said, "Yes". He further stated that they have a deficit and now that deficit is to be shared between the enhancement to be made by the Centre and the income generated by the University itself. The Centre at one stage, when they were balancing the books, in that year gave them Rs.163 crore and they managed to balance their books. Now, he is proposing to the Centre that if they are ready to increase that figure by 12% every year, then this year's grant was Rs.520-530 crore, and if they enhance Rs.52 crore, then they would be able to get Rs.230 crore. As such, Rs.230 crore of the Centre, plus Rs.230 crore of the University and Rs.20 crore of Punjab Government, then the University remains stagnant. Though there would be no progress of the University, they could balance the books this year. This in nutshell is the proposal at the moment. They could increase the income by increasing here and there, and if they use all those things, they would be able to generate between Rs.10-20 crore because they are in dire need of money as they did not have any development grant. They must explore whatever possible means they have – whether NRI seats, more rent from the shops at the campus, requesting then alumni to contribute, all the teachers voluntarily contributing, etc. so that they could create fund of the kind that the needs of the economically weaker sections of the society are get met and their education could be subsidized either by not putting the burden of enhanced fees. Meaning thereby, that they should generate some corpus that the students belonging to the economically weaker sections of the society are able to complete their study either by giving them gratis or loan, that as and when they will have money in their lives, they give back. They hope that they would give back. All those are additional thinks, which they all need to do because that should be their income for the development needs of the University. Right now, it is the minimal survival of the University, the minimal survival of the University in the sense 'keep paying salaries to the teachers, non-teachers and the pensioners'. He has not taken this burden on his own. They are a Central Institution, Central Institutions have certain ways of functioning. The UGC says that they have certain students – teacher ratio, and the UGC also says that they should pay full salary as per the UGC scales. If they are located in Chandigarh city, and if the teachers of the Government Colleges in Chandigarh are being paid salaries as per the UGC scales, including Dearness Allowance and the teachers of grant-in-aid Colleges are also being paid full salaries, he could he advocate that the Dearness Allowance of the University teachers should be frozen because the University does not have income/funds to pay. The Centre has money to pay to the teachers of Government Colleges and also has money to teachers of grant-in-aid Colleges. 100% money of the Government Colleges teachers would come as also 95% of the grant-in-aid Colleges, but the Dearness Allowance of the University teachers would be frozen, because there is no enhancement in the income. The Colleges and the Universities could not be run in this manner. They would go back to the situation that the University teachers would get what the Punjab Government is wanting to give, i.e., Rs.15,600/- plus Rs.6000/-. If they go ahead with that, they would not get quality teachers because once the teacher is recruited in the University, he/she is there for life. If they make the service conditions in this

University poorer than the service conditions in the competitive Universities, there would be nose dive. If they would nose dive, the Centre would not give them whatever funds are required. So the University is at the edge of closure, and this is problem, which they are facing.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa stated that the concern of the Vice Chancellor is genuine one.

Continuing, the Vice Chancellor stated that with great difficulty, they have managed to conceive this solution, which they might not be able to refuse, that let him put an offer on the table of MHRD. They have not increased the fees for a long time and did not keep pace with the inflation. What should they seen to be doing that the Centre might not be able to refuse their offer, but this is the maximum that an Institution and the society could do. So this is the maximum solution that he is trying to put on the table. When he goes to MHRD, where the Punjab IAS is sitting as a Joint Secretary, who is looking after the Central Universities, he tells him if GNDU is charging such fees and the students are studying there, why are they not generating income by charging fees up to that level, and he has no answer to him. He has no answer to Shri S.S. Sandhu, IAS and Joint Secretary, MHRD, in-charge of Central Universities, when he argues with him like this. Actually, he is speechless. He went to the UGC, where there is another Secretary, Professor J.S. Sandhu, a former Director of Academic Staff College of GNDU, which has a NAAC score better than them, he tells him that GNDU is a healthy University and they are able to survive, why are they not able to generate the income? And he has no answer to both of them (Shri S.S. Sandhu and Professor J.S. Sandhu). Governments are run by the Secretaries/Joint Secretaries in Delhi. These Joint Secretaries, of course, not only provide the input to the Secretary, Higher Education, but also to the Minister. Now, tell him as to what does he need to do. The confrontation with the Centre would do them no good, and it would only nose dive this University and it would be very difficult to extract it out from there.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa stated that sometimes, these bureaucrats are far away from the reality when they decide while sitting in air conditioned rooms. His point is that before making any policy, they must have data base. Do their University has data base as to what is the income of the parents of the students who are getting themselves enrolled here. They must have that data base so that they could show that if 2.5 lac students are studying here, the annual income of their parents is this. Has this data with them?

The Vice Chancellor stated that what answer should he give to a Joint Secretary, who belonged to Punjab, when he tells him that the boundary of GNDU starts from such and such village and their's also starts from there, but to the opposite side. The students next from that village is paying fees to GNDU, why could not the student of next village of that very State pay those fees to Panjab University. Are not the economic conditions of the villages almost same or the parents of the students, who belonged to the jurisdiction of Panjab University, poorer than the rest of Punjab, and he has no answer to that. Maybe he has not lived in Punjab, but *prima facie* he has no answer. He requested Shri T.K. Goyal, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, whether he is right?

Shri T.K. Goyal, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, said that he does not want to comment on any such type of issue, as according to him, it is their internal issue.

The Vice Chancellor said that it is not an internal issue. In fact, he is Director, Higher Education, Punjab, which is the greatest University of Punjab.

Shri T.K. Goyal, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, said that regarding building up of the University, he would like to say one thing that they should start responding, when they are sitting in the University. His Hon'ble colleague is telling that the Officers are well aware of the ground realities, and he feels that even the University people are also not well aware about the ground realities. The Punjab Government is writing letter to the University, but it has not received any response from the University for the last two months. Then they are blaming the Officers. In fact, they should blame the system and not the Officers only.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa stated that if they stop calling Panjab University a premier University and that it is not a University of national importance and start comparing it with out general Universities, then his (Vice Chancellor) statement has more weightage. If the compare Panjab University with out Universities like GNDU, Punjabi, etc., then they have think differently. 9% to 10% fee hike was proposed, which they reduced to 5% and at that time there was an agitation by the students and they were also lathi-charged. Now, nobody knows the status of the case. Though it is not directly related with this issue, but indirectly is. Even if they created 2-3 criminals, they would not be doing justice to their duties/responsibilities and for that they all would be responsible. Possibility of increase of things like such would there. There are increasing the examination fees only between the range of Rs.5,000/- and Rs.6,500/- and when they would increase the other fees, it would be shameful for them. They are now increasing the fees by 10 times. They were talking about generating the additional revenue for the last so many years. Dean Alumni might have done a lot of work for seeking funds from the Alumni and several others are ready to work on this issue. They have to think on it optimally, and involve those who could contribute. He would like to suggested up to the extent that in the list of nominations, which would be suggested by the Vice Chancellor to the Chancellor, the names of 2-4 alumni should be there. Those who are presently financially icon, they should also be recommended for nomination on the next Senate, so they could also generate some income for the University through their resources. On the one hand, the Centre is making contribution and on the other hand, Panjab University is making the contribution, but in the Panjab University why only the students should contribute. There are three components in the University, i.e., teachers, non-teachers and the students. The others should also share some burden. They should donate at least 5% of their salary to the University. The major part of the budget could not be met by increasing the fees of the students, and there are many things to set right. When they say that they are a premier University and has a name, they should as to how they could sell their products in the world. Earlier, the proposed fee hike was reduced from 5% to 2.5%. Now, if they increase fees more than 10%, they must have the data base, wherein they must have the income groups of the parents of the students, who study here, and present the same is missing. Firstly, they should prepare the data base, so

that they could show the same to the Union Government because all the policies of the Union Government is also data based. Secondly, so far as contributory factory is concerned, why did they always shift the burden to the students? Whether they have not worked out on this for the last 2-3 years? It meant they have not worked out and suddenly they have to face this financial crisis. What is/are the reason/s of this crisis? Whether they have made wholesale recruitments, but that is a part of the expansion, and with that the income of the University would also increase. So far as NRI seats are concerned, they have already discussed it that they are not properly publicizing them. They should give more and more NRI seats to the academic and professional courses. Similarly, they could also sanction certain self-financing seats in all the courses in addition to the general seats. As said by one of the members that the Hon'ble Court has barred the Universities/Colleges to admit NRI sponsored candidates under the NRI seats. If they could not admit NRI sponsored candidates, besides, NRI/Foreign Nationals or their wards, they should find a way out to create third category, which could also be admitted under the NRI seats, so that they could generate revenue for the University in any manner. He is very much against the proposal under consideration and he is of the considered opinion that the entire burden should not be put on the students alone; rather, the other major components, i.e., teachers and non-teachers should also bear some burden to come out of this crisis.

Professor Shelley Walia stated that as he sees the problem, the drastic situations need drastic measures. He feels the reason that they are meeting in an emergency, but his colleagues are not realizing the seriousness of the situation and they are talking in terms of gradual or 5% or 10% hike or they talk of many other measure, which they all are aware of. They are talking that the Think Tank has also discussed all these measure. These measure, which they are talking, he does not think, the moment that they have before them, calls for such a seminar. They do not have time for such seminar. Why they have taken this particular decision and he thinks the Think Tank has taken this decision and also authorized the Vice Chancellor that he is the one who has to run the University and he is the one who is aware of the fact that the University is almost approaching closure, which would be very sad. Taking that into consideration and not ignoring that fact, he thinks he endorses the view of the Think Tank because to him the situation is very-very serious. The NRIs seats, implementation of charging fees from the affiliated Colleges, etc. he knows those problems are there, and they would take care of them. He thinks that each of these issues need deliberations like they deliberated on the examination fees. He does not ask the question why is it that they bring in only examination fees. The only way for generating funds, he thinks at that moment and at this particular juncture and concrete amount of funds to be generated, because the only way was to increase the examination fees. They cannot do it through NRI or charging the Colleges a sit would take at least 6 months or a year. What they need to do is that they have immediately act on it? Therefore, he would like to say that he completely endorse the viewpoint of Think Tank that they authorized the Vice Chancellor to take all kind of necessary steps in order to meet this very dire financial situation which they are facing today. So they should not sit back as it is do or die situation for them. The Vice Chancellor do not wants that tomorrow the University comes to closure and he also does not want that. At the same time in order to pacify the student and to appease them to some extent, he says that he would like to contribute

Rs.5,000/- that the students know that the teachers are also aware of the fact and are making some contribution. When the students get to know that instead of two air-conditioners, they are using only one air-conditioner as they are facing the very-very serious financial problem. Once they understand that this is what the teachers are doing, he is sure that they would be readily agree to pay the enhanced fees. But on the other hand, they should not be scared that there would be demonstration. They must face the demonstration or face the closure.

Professor Keshav Malhotra stated that since he is part of the Think Tank, he endorses what the Think Tank has recommended and it is also be need of the hour. When in 2013 they considered the 25% hike in fees, including tuition fee, fee of self-financing course, etc., in the Syndicate, the hike in fee was reduced under some pressure although he fought up to the last saying that this is the occasion when they should rise above. Had they not succumbed to the pressure to the students and did not do manipulations, they would not have faced this situation, and they would have got Rs.256 crore instead of Rs.176 crore because they would have justified. He has pleaded in the meetings of the Syndicate and Senate several times, but none listened to him, and instead they played to the galleries. Now, it is being said that why they did not effective small hikes gradually. They had been recommended gradual hike in fees by 10%, but the same was reduced to 5% or even 2.5% by the Senate. Had the gradual increase of 10% been effect, today they might not have faced this financial crisis and there might not have been need to increase the examination fees in this manner. When during the years 1964-1965, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Prime Minister of India, he had suggested that every citizen of the country should adopt austerity measures. While increasing the fees of the students, they should also set examples in the University by adopted certain austerity measures and making sacrifices. Wherever they could control, they should control the expenses and come out with examples. Whatever facilities they have got, they should forgo them and maybe by starting from top to bottom and this is right time to do that. If they did not adopt these measures, they are going to collapse sooner than later because if the University does not remain, the students would automatically be not there. There are so many things like this. In fact, his heart is bleeding. Had they done proper financial management at the right time by adopting the steps which they were suggesting from time to time, they might not have reached at this situation. Today, they are appreciating Shri Raghbir Dyal, but when gave those suggestions, they thought them as bitter pills. Whatever steps the Vice Chancellor has adopted, they authorized the Vice Chancellor not only today, but also for future, that if such like more steps are required to be taken, he could take them and they (he and his teaching community) are with him in this regard. If they did not do this, they would definitely collapse. This is not the time that they should do this and that as said by Professor Shelley Walia. An affiliation of Rs.2,000/- was fixed when the value of rupees was much high. Nobody allowed to increase the fees, as they always played to the galleries. The Colleges had collected crores of rupees by selling the brand of University, but they are still beggars. As suggested by him every student both belonging to urban and rural areas should pay to the University. The students studying in Chandigarh Colleges should pay at least Rs.2000/-to the University. Those students who are studying in the rural area Colleges should pay a sum of Rs.100/-. However, if they want they could exempt the students of rural and boarder areas, but those parents who could spend lacs of rupees on their children should be

asked to pay to University and this is the right time to do so. A suggestion given by Dr. I.S. Sandhu looks good to him that the students should at least contribute for payment of retiral benefit to the teachers. If they discontinue the practice of re-employment of University teachers up to the age of 65 years, they would have to pay Rs.30 lacs as gratuity and other retiral benefits, and there would be explosion at that time. They are talking only about austerity measures. At present, they are getting only 180 days Earned Leave whereas their counterparts in the Colleges are getting Earned Leave of 360 days. The teachers are bearing with the University hoping that they would get it when the funds are available with the University. The suggestions have come and the same should be got considered by the Think Tank so that some of them could be implemented expeditiously.

Dr. I.S. Sandhu intervened to say that they had constructed the building of College Bhavan by collecting merely a sum of Rs.10-20/- from the students. The students do not mind to pay a sum of Rs.100/- as it is not much difficult for them to pay. Since they have lacs of students, they would collect crores of rupees at one stretch.

Continuing, Professor Keshav Malhotra stated that he had suggested in the Senate that they should freeze wasteful expenditure. But nobody paid heed to it since the suggestion had come from Professor Keshav Malhotra. In the meeting of the Think Tank, he had pleaded as to why they are passing the buck on to the students of the Campus and not on the students of 2.5 lacs. Examination fee is indirect form to contribution to the finances of the University. He was talking about collection of about Rs.15 crore, whereas Professor Navdeep Goyal, the Chairman of the Committee, which has recommended hike in examination fees, has collected a sum of Rs.35 crore has increasing the examination fee by about Rs.1,400/- per student. When Semester System was introduced it determined that only those students would be admitted to 3rd or 5th Semester, who would be able to clear 50% of their papers or more. He had not heard about this provision in the Semester System. Under the Semester System, the total duration of completion of the courses is mentioned irrespective of clearance of any number of courses in any particular semester/s. Although they have started on going classes, the students are attending the same even though they have taken the admissions, which is affecting the academics. After the introduction of the semester system, suddenly a lot of pressure has come on Controller of Examinations for declaration of results within a stipulated period. According to him, since semester system is a continuous process, admission to next higher class should be allowed without requirement of clearance any number of papers. If the students are allowed to appear in re-appears papers without any stipulation, the University would earn additional income by way of examination fees. They could also charge more fees from the student for reappearing in the examinations. Three years ago he had pointed out that earlier the fee at UIET was Rs.70,000/-, why the same has been reduced. What was the fault of those who had earlier paid more fees at UIET? They could not increase the fees in accordance with inflation as they played to the galleries. A suggestion of his should be taken to the Think Tank that if a student join a course, he/she should be allowed to complete the same, with which there would be more pressure on the employees and they would work hard. He added that he is the only person who is taking maximum work from his staff, and during administrative audit has surrendered a couple of posts. He

also suggested that they should conduct maximum examinations, a possible, in different shifts. Those who are sitting idle on their seats, they should be shift to the examination branch. They could also introduce the system of differential fee structure. Those who have the paying capacity, should be charged more fees and those who do not have, should be asked to pay less. Similarly, they could also prescribed higher fees in self-financing courses. As such, certain things are needed to be done. They could discuss these suggestions in the meeting of the Think Tank so that the things, which could be implemented, are implemented as early as possible. In the end, he said that whatever has been recommended by the Think Tank, has been recommended after application of mind. So it should be approved and implemented as it is the need of the hour.

Shri Ashok Goyal stated that first of all he just wants to express his satisfaction on what the Vice Chancellor and all my friends sitting on left hand side are saying as he has been saying that for last three years that this is the situation which they are going to reach for one reasons or the other, but he was snubbed from his left and right. And he was also given an impression as if he was the only person who has never been optimistic and has always been pessimistic. He always used to say that they have writing on the wall and they have to be prepared. He remembers the word given by Professor Keshav Malhotra in the meeting of the Senate that they have to form a Crisis Management. He is very happy that the Vice Chancellor has acted, and the only thing is that the Think Tank is not constituted on that (i.e., his pleas), but on subsequent developments. At the moment, he would not like to make any suggestion as to what is to be done because they have already reached a stage where a decision has to be taken today, now and here only. They are not in a position to take a decision that they could increase the fees gradually tomorrow and day after tomorrow. In fact, he was anticipating such a decision, maybe from the Board of Finance also. He does not say that the Vice Chancellor or his other friends know the background, what he does not know. But it is his experience as to how the Governments have been behaving in the past. The only good luck for this University was that they got special grant on the personal intervention of Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, from the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. Instead of being cautious at that time, they rather became a spoiled child that no problem, as and when any such exigency will come, the Government would come to their rescue. So much so that they had been expressing as Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky in the beginning said that the Central Government should also be equally worried as they also have the same kind of stake as they (the members of the Syndicate & Senate and the University people) have. They always thought that it is responsibility of the Central Government and the Central Government would never afford that the Panjab University is closed. He had been saying that let they start taking steps so that they might not reach a stage, where they have reached now. But somehow or the other, usually collective decisions are taken by the University bodies. Before he proceeds further, he would like to know as to what the present income from the examination fees.

It was replied that they are generating an income of about Rs.88 crore from the examination fees.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said, “No Sir”, it would be more than Rs.100 crore. They should take the data of 31st March 2016, whereas they are taking the data of 31st March 2014.

It was clarified that for the academic year 2015-16, the total income from the examination fees is Rs.88 crore.

Continuing, Shri Ashok Goyal stated that as per the proposal the hike is almost 37%. He does not have any discretion, if they ask for his opinion, as they have no discretion at the moment to say “Yes or No”. The answer is that they could not do without this, but at the same time, as said by Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa, they must send a message that they are not a body, which is interested in passing on the burden to the students. They do not want to pass on this burden of Rs.1,400/- to the students even though the Vice Chancellor has said that it is Rs.4 or Rs.5 per day. Even this burden, they do not want to pass on. In fact, they have to plead and convey to them that they are helpless and their hands are raised. So they have to do it, but while doing so, they must send a signal that it is not only they (students) who would be feeling the pinch, they are also ready to bear the pinch as they are more responsible for the situation in which they reached now; rather than they (students). He does not know how far it would be taken, but his suggestion though he does not know whether the Finance & Development Officer would be able to tell as to what is the rough estimate of the T.A./D.A. being paid to the members of the Senate. His simple proposal is that if they are increasing the examination fees by 37%, let them give a message by adopting such means and methods that they reduced 40% of the expenditure from T.A./D.A. of the members of the Senate, so that they are able to tell them that it is not only the students, though that is not going to be of much importance, but he is interested in the message, which they want to send. He is sure that it is not at all difficult to decrease the T.A./D.A. He was reading the letter written by the Vice Chancellor and the minutes of the Think Tank also. It was two ways exercise – one was to take steps to enhance the revenue; and another was to cut the expenditure. They only have been talking about, because that is the need of the hour, as to how to increase the revenue, but somehow cutting the cost, at the most they would be able to save about Rs.50 lac or Rs.1 crore, but if they were not cutting the expenditure, which could be easily cut, then probably they did not have any right to pass on the burden not only on the students but on any part of the society. They have been saying under the pressure of the UGC, they had been filling up the posts especially of the teachers. It was the UGC who said that the University could not keep the positions vacant and in the same breath the UGC is saying that sorry they could not meet enhance the grant. If the UGC wanted one mandate to be followed and runs away from its responsibility and liability, then probably they wanted the Panjab University to do a magic and what they would be doing today and if the same is done by the Senate also, it would only be a magic and for doing this magic, they would have to put the burden not only on the students but the society as a whole and the responsibility would be on them to convince the society that they have done it under great pressure and they were pained that they were doing it. He remembered that in the meeting of the Board of Finance in the month of February 2015, he had said that the Vice Chancellor should start thinking about taking some steps. As Professor Shelley Walia said, it is the Vice Chancellor who has to run the University and has to face the brunt of the UGC or the MHRD or the students. He is happy that, though he could not

attend the meeting of the Think-Tank, the Think-Tank has recommended that the Governing Bodies may authorise the Vice Chancellor to take steps to increase the revenue. He is still happy that the Vice Chancellor has tried to take everybody into confidence. He is sure that, obviously not to the liking of anybody the steps which have been recommended by the Think-Tank, nobody is happy with that, but they have to think. He is sure that after having done this, the kinds of suggestions which are coming it is the outcome of ultimately the realisation that they have to do something and they could not give the slogan that it should be reduced to 5% or 2.5% and they have to keep in mind some things. They have to deal with the Government also with very convincing arguments. If the Vice Chancellor is asked by some Secretary or Joint Secretary of MHRD that why the Panjab University could not charge the same fee as is being charged by Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), in fact, it is very sad that the MHRD has started comparing the Panjab University with GNDU and started comparing Punjabi University with GNDU. That is where they have taken the Panjab University too. He wondered why the MHRD did not compare Panjab University with Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) or Delhi University and could see the fee structure of those Universities. When the MHRD or UGC expected Panjab University to work at par with JNU or other Central Universities, then the MHRD or UGC had no moral to compare Panjab University with GNDU or Punjabi University. Panjab University is having all India character. The students come to Panjab University from all over India. Barring Delhi University, in all other States there is a State quota of 85%:15% may be somewhere 50%:50%. They have not put any such reservation. They could also have 50% reservation for tricity and 50% for outside the tricity and with this the problems of the hostel would be gone and they could spend the money on other things. They did not want to cut down their status and were hoping that they would become a Central University and the Government has to be told that they should compare Panjab University with the kind of the Universities where they are now. In his opinion, GNDU or Punjabi University are no role models for them and those Universities stand nowhere as far as the status of Panjab University is concerned. After having no option but to say that he hundred percent agreed with the recommendations of the Think-Tank and suggested that a Committee could be constituted wherein, he was sure that, so many ideas would come to take care of the situation that they did not face any such crisis again. The Vice Chancellor had said that there is a corpus of Rs.500 crore with Pune University. They also tried to create a corpus in the name of Fund for Higher Education. Now, there is hardly any fund in that account. But they were also in a position to create that kind of fund that for God's sake in future any such situation comes, they did not have to adopt the policy of beg, borrow and steal. They would have that cushion period of 3-4 months from that corpus. That is what the Vice Chancellor would like to have and the whole Senate would like to have. He was sure that the Vice Chancellor and the friends would not mind if while doing introspection, if he was blaming himself also that they have not been able to evaluate and appreciate the kind of situation that they have reached. Obviously, hoping against hopes that the Central Government as the Vice Chancellor has also used his personal connections out of the way hoping that something would come out. The Vice Chancellor was doing and seems to be convinced that something needed to be done at their end also to convince the Government to give 12% instead of 8%.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Director, Higher Education at one stage had said that 8% is an unrealistic figure.

Continuing, Shri Ashok Goyal said that if the Secretary, MHRD had spoken, may be they were also helpless. So they did not have to hope that the Government is going to give 12%. They should be happy if the Government gives the 8% increase also. So, without looking from the Government any kind of substantial or meaningful help, they must convince themselves that the show has to be managed by themselves. It is a huge amount because if they said Rs.35 crore that has a different meaning. The moment they say Rs.1400/- per student, it completely dilutes. But as the Vice Chancellor has put it that only just Rs.4/- per day, then it is nothing. So, this is how they have to present. This Rs.1400/- could have been divided in at least 3-4 phases and then that would not have been more painful. How this increase of Rs.1400/- is to be presented in Rs.4/- per day, that is the responsibility of all of them to convince the students that they have to wait for the time when the University was looking for reducing their fee as and when they have the funds, as and when they have the corpus. Even though they know that it is not going to be realistic. But the students should know that they did not want to unnecessarily burden the students. The students have started thinking, the people in the society have started thinking that probably they have got completely indifferent attitude to the society and the students because of their red tapism approach. He would like to cite an example. As the Government compares the GNDU with Panjab University, the Vice Chancellor is speechless. It is just few days back that 6th July was Eid and the Government declared the holiday on 7th instead of 6th and they took a decision to observe the holiday on 6th because 7th was the last date of getting applications or opening of the Departments. They could see the impractical point of view of the University, 7th was gazetted holiday declared by the Government of India also. The applications which were supposed to be received by the University on 7th, not realising that the post office was closed on 7th and the applications which were sent well within time, reached the University on 8th, it was said that the date is over and the applications could not be entertained. He felt that in such situations they should adopt practical viewpoint. Further they have about 80 Departments and out of them 10 Departments of the same University took the practical and liberal view and considered the applications while others did not. If somebody is a non serious student and if he/she could not get admission, he/she would not have got otherwise also because of not falling in that merit, but if somebody because of no fault of his/hers, finds place in merit, but just because the application had been received on 8th is not admitted, do they have not to blame themselves that there is something wrong. The holiday which had been declared on 7th, it is only in Chandigarh where one could know that the University would remain open on 7th. But they should think that they had sought the applications throughout the country where the people know that 7th is a closed day. So much so there is another case. 6th being a holiday, the application form was supposed to be reaching here on 7th and since all Indians they did not believe much in the postal services, they thought to send the application form through courier so that it reached on the 7th. The courier people also under the impression that Panjab University follows Government holidays, the courier people did not deliver the couriers. His simple suggestion is that they have to send a message that they were concerned with the interest of the students, their parents and the society as well and if they have to take

the step today, it is because of the helplessness and complete collapse as he had said earlier in a meeting of the Think-Tank also that if they did not take the steps today, they were going to collapse and the Vice Chancellor had used the same words. But it is always never late if they take the steps today. He is with the friends to authorise the Vice Chancellor, reminding the other friends that who are feeling that this increase should not be made that nobody is doing it willingly, happily or to harm the students.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that he endorsed the recommendations of the Think-Tank and it is only focussing on the increase in income. As suggested by Shri Ashok Goyal that they should have the expenditure side also. After today, the Think-Tank should think on austerity measures also and where they could control their expenses. As a Chairperson, he also felt that the application forms of some of the students reached the University on 8th and realised the problem and took the decision.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that he had also received information in this regard.

Professor Anil Monga said that they had considered the application forms which were received on 8th.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that those applications which were received on 8th and have been considered as late applicants and were considered if they fall in top 25%, then they are considered before the waiting list started. But in the Department where there is no position is to be dereserved where the students would go. His suggestion is that, as the same had been done earlier also, if there were any such cases, the additional seats should be sanctioned to the Department.

The Vice Chancellor said that he would talk to the Dean of University Instruction.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that it could be done.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that if they did not sanction the additional seats, it gives a wrong message.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that they had considered such cases in the Department of Evening Studies.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that they all know the difference between a public and private University. The data which had been provided to them has come after deliberations and research done by the Think-Tank and has recommended that the examination fee hike is necessary. The fee structure which they wanted to submit to the MHRD has been taken as prevailing in the University where the fee is between around Rs.7000/8000. If they were hiking the fee on this amount, but in the Colleges this fee is already being charged at the triple the rates. A student paying the fee of Rs.7-8000 would pay the enhanced fee at the rate of Rs.4-5 per day. But in the Colleges the fee is already being charged 3-4 times. The fee hike is different in different classes which is in the range of 34%, 73%, 68% and 63%. The Think-Tank should have considered the fee of the Colleges also before taking a decision for hike.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that they have to take it seriously that the Colleges are charging more fee.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that there have been such complaints.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that there are two types of complaints about the Colleges. One is that the Colleges are charging higher fee. Second is that the as per the sanctioned strength of the students, there is a minimum requirement of teachers. The periodical inspection of the Colleges has not been done. The Colleges are having about 250 students in one section.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the data which had been provided to them and the examination fee structure of the University has been taken where the fee is between around Rs.7000/8000 where the hike has been affected at Rs.1500/- and in the Colleges where the fee is already around Rs.25,000/- and with this increase the College students have been burdened more. They should keep in mind the financial situation prevailing in Punjab. The condition of the farmers and the industries is very bad. If they were asking an increase of 12% from the Government, then they could also increase the fee by 12% but they increased the fee manifold.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Government is saying that when they started giving the money to the University, what was the contribution of the University? Have they increased the contribution at the same rate they were asking from the Government? But they have passed on the entire deficit to the Centre year after year without raising the income. That is what Shri Ashok Goyal was saying that they have created this situation themselves.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that when the Government asked the University to hike the fee citing the example of GNDU, they should compare whether they were charging more or less fee than the GNDU Colleges. They have to keep these things in mind before hiking the fee. In the Colleges of GNDU, there is a differential fee structure which has been devised on the basis of paying capacity of the local area-wise. There is no uniform fee structure.

The Vice Chancellor said that the MHRD has not said that everything has to be in microscopic way what the GNDU is doing but saying that the GNDU has generated the income to run their affairs. The Government has asked whether they were able to generate income to run their affairs. GNDU is getting only Rs.55 crore.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that from January till date so many meetings of the Syndicate have been held and in the first meeting itself Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa had said about the foreign students. In the Colleges of Management, the number of local students is less as compared to students from African countries. It should be seen as to why those students are not coming to Panjab University. Those Colleges of Managements have tie-up with the embassies for getting foreign students. They should also see this aspect. If they are in a crisis and wanted to generate an amount of Rs.35 crore, it should not be imposed on the students who are already paying the fee of around Rs.40,000/-. If there is really any crisis, they have to take steps that the University employees including them could contribute one month's salary. By this way they could face the public

and could say that they themselves have taken an initiative. Then there could be no strike. At the moment, the students did not as to how much fee is being increased. At present, the proposed fee hike is about Rs.1500/- in the examination fee, as they would also consider hike in tuition fee, if the students come to know of this, the students of the Colleges could also protest. They are also part of the system and were ready to contribute. The implications of the examination fee hike would be greater. They were going to put heavy burden on the public which would not be acceptable to the people.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that it is not that why he is saying so because he is students' representative. The students of the affiliated College students are being burdened from all quarters. The fee structure provided by the Colleges branch for M.Sc. classes in Chandigarh Colleges is about Rs.20-22 thousand whereas the Colleges are charging about Rs.45,000/-, which, he is not sure, might include the examination fee also. Now when the examination fee would be increased, it would also burden the students. The examination reforms to be done in the University are pending. In the University, the teachers take 2-3 months to evaluate 20-30 answer sheets. He thought that now the time has come that they have to partially outsource the examination work also to cut down their expenditure. The students could not pay for the salary of the teaching and non-staff of the University, for the infrastructure and also for the pension corpus. He had earlier said these things. It is not the question of increasing the fee or not. There would be no such situation. He would request the PUTA to take a free period symbolic which would send a message to the UGC. Did they not anticipate such things during the last 2-3 years? As the Vice Chancellor has used his all sources, he would like to know whether the PUTA has taken any delegation to MHRD or put pressure or had organised a token strike? Was there any continuous pressure? The teaching and non-teaching staff of Panjab University should come out of their comfort zone otherwise in the days to come there would be more difficulties. He requested not to do injustice with the students of the affiliated Colleges just for using the brand name of Panjab University.

Principal Surinder Singh Sangha said that there are three issues. The first one is that how they could increase the income without putting the burden on the students. They could do so many things without increasing the fee. The second is if the burden of increase in the fee is to be put on the students, then how much and the third is what is the role of the teachers in this? As Shri Ashok Goyal used to say that a penny saved is penny earned. Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa has also said that they should start from the lower level. About Rs.15-16 crore could come in this way that when he got the feedback from the students of the area to which he belongs. From Punjab, about 500-600 students go to Himachal Pradesh University or Kurukshetra University for doing M.Sc. in Mathematics as this course is not imparted through correspondence in Panjab University. Even a College like Khalsa College in Jalandhar is admitting about 150 students in M.Sc. (Mathematics). So, they should start the M.Sc. (Mathematics) through correspondence. They would be able to get an income about Rs.1.5-2 crore from 200 students in which the Department of Mathematics could also contribute by organising the free PCP for about 15 days or on a nominal honorarium. There is such a demand of M.Sc.(Mathematics) that they could also have more than 200 seats.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that the University teachers are not ready to teach the course work for the Colleges.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that he would like to complement what Principal Surinder Singh Sangha is saying that there are 30 seats in the Department of Mathematics in M.Sc. (Mathematics) and the Department is not ready to increase the seats even up to 40 and in the 3rd and 4th semester, the course splits in two streams of Pure and Applied Mathematics thereby there could be only 20 students in each stream. There is very rigidity. The same situation runs across almost all the teaching departments of the University. He had been harping on this issue for the last 3 years as a small and one time measure to increase the revenue.

Continuing, Principal Surinder Singh Sangha said that he has come to from some relatives and friends who have studied in the GNDU that the GNDU during the last 5-6 years has increase the units in some of the courses like Architecture, etc. Due to this, the students have somewhat suffered but by engaging the new faculty and with the help of experienced faculty, the GNDU has doubled its sources of income. If they were able to increase the seats by 25%, they could generate about Rs.8-9 crore. As said by Principal I.S. Sandhu, if they did not touch the examination fee, they could get about Rs.5 crore by collecting Rs.100/- for creation of crisis fund. They have decided to increase the fee from Rs.1500/- to Rs.2500/-. The fee in the Government Colleges is Rs.5,000/- even for B.Sc. courses and with the increase in examination fee, the students would have to pay the equal amount. The examination fee could be increased a little but not more. The Senate members could take an initiative and it would send a good message that if they could contribute Rs.5-10,000/- per member. It would send a message that actually there is a crisis and the members are contributing to lessen the crisis following which the others including the general public could come forward.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that he endorsed it and he suggested that their travelling allowance could be reduced from the present Rs.10/- to Rs.9/-.

Principal Surinder Singh Sangha said that perhaps 2-3 years ago some association of Vancouver had invited the University authorities but the Registrar or no one attended the conference. There are about 250 persons who annually contribute and could contribute easily 1000 dollars and the University authorities could take benefit of that. Even there are some persons who are ready to contribute even up to 50000 dollars. They could start some such move and start from themselves which could send a good message and others could also come forward.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that he felt that with the increase of fees, the students might feel that it is a burden entirely on them. So, if they take a comprehensive system for cutting down the expenditure and raising the income, then the students would not find any issue. As now they are seeing that the students in the mood of strike and then there would be the loss of education and the problem of law and order situation also. Since it is the election year, the students would go the parties and it might have multifarious issues. So, they should think over it before taking any steps. They should have a comprehensive system of financial management as some of the

members have said that they could cut down the expenditure so that the students might not think it is the only way that the University is adopting.

The Vice Chancellor said that he did not take any TA/DA from the University and he was ready to give his contribution of Rs.10,000/-.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that it is not known to the public that the Vice Chancellor was not taking any TA/DA and it should be known to the public.

The Vice Chancellor said that he did not want it to be known to the public.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that it should be known to the public.

Professor Shelley Walia said that, that is the only way to pacify the students.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that from now onwards he would also not claim the honorarium.

The Vice Chancellor said that he (Professor Navdeep Goyal) should take the honorarium and contribute towards the fund for providing the subsidy to the students belonging to weaker sections, who could not pay. They should provide subsidy to such students, whose parents have an annual income of less than Rs.5 lac. and create a Cell to help the economically weaker sections on behalf of the office of Dean College Development Council and on behalf of the office of Dean Student Welfare.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that he would contribute his honorarium to that fund.

The Vice Chancellor said that the DA instalment is due to the Panjab University employees from 1st January and they have not issued the DA instalment. If the teachers of the University who are in the highest income group could pledge to give their arrears of DA instalment, they could not tell of the non-teaching staff who are the lower income group, to create the fund which would go towards providing subsidy to the students. It is a message and they could make an appeal and could not impose.

Professor Anil Monga said that he would contribute his honorarium as Dean Alumni Relations to this fund.

The Vice Chancellor said that this is one way of creating a corpus to help the students of the economically weaker sections.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that about 6-7 years back, such an appeal was issued by the Vice Chancellor of Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana to the teachers to contribute at least one month salary and lot of teachers had contributed.

The Vice Chancellor said that he was not saying for one month salary but only for the DA arrear due from 1st January. Let the people contribute to that corpus fund which would be utilised for providing subsidy. He could only say that he would pay to this fund.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that there is a need to have vigilance. As earlier he had said about the College Bhavan building, the meeting of the Committee has not been for the last 5 months. He had requested to circulate to the members about the norms of the construction of the building and which of the items had been included in the tender. They have to see all these things that what is the difference between the cost of construction of the University and other organisations? Whether there is any difference or not? On the one hand, they are squeezing the students but on the other they have given free hand to someone. He had been saying these things since February. He requested to provide a copy of the cost of the construction, the norms of construction and the tender document of the College Bhavan to all the members in the next meeting of the Syndicate.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that if they could increase the entrance examination fee as and when next time the entrance tests are to be held which could also generate some income and they could reduce the hike in the examination fee and it should give a message that the hike in examination fee was the last solution which they had to resort to.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that they could also generate revenue from the estate of the University also. He cited the example of University auditorium, the booking charges of which are Rs.500/-. This could be enhanced.

Principal B.C. Josan said that he is of the opinion that genuine examination fee should be increased. He further said that additional seats in every Department should be created.

The Vice Chancellor summarised the discussion which is mentioned in the resolved part.

Shri Raghbir Dyal recorded his dissent and he completely opposed the hike in fee.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that it is a burden on the Colleges. It is not a proper way. They understand the concern of the Vice Chancellor and the concern of the Government but it is not a proper way to increase the fee of the Colleges situated in Punjab. Only the fee structure of the University has been kept in mind and not of the Colleges. It is not that they are opposing it but it is a reality.

Shri Ashok Goyal suggested that some persons from the Colleges should also be involved in this Committee.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that it is totally unjustified and straightaway not acceptable to the students of the Colleges as it is one way. He has strongest possible dissent on it. For the last about 4 years he and some other members had been opposing it but suddenly the fee has been hiked. He has the strongest possible dissent on.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that as Shri Ashok Goyal is saying, some more members be added to Think Tank.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa suggested that whatever donation they collect up to 31st March in a year the same should be utilised in the next academic session. They should contribute

whatever they could. Secondly, when they take such decisions, they should also involve the students in the process. In the higher level meeting also, the elected representative of the students should be involved which could give a message that the students have been consulted. As a governing body, they are not deciding that the share of the teaching/non-teaching should be taken but if they could voluntarily contribute.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that they could gradually increase the fee.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that if they were talking about the closure of the University in which not only the public but the Vice Chancellor and the Senate would also be responsible. It would be also a shame on the Government as to where the higher education system is going.

Principal I.S. Sandhu suggested that as Shri Ashok Goyal is saying they could authorise the Vice Chancellor to have members from the Colleges in that Committee which could justify the things. They could also gain from the suggestions which have been given. As the Think-Tank has recommended the increase of 20%, 25% and 25% to meet the deficit, if the Committee could have a meeting and it might that the increase could be reduced to 10%.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that in principle they agree that they wanted to raise Rs.35 crore.

The Vice Chancellor said that right now, they did not know as to how many students were there and but it is just an estimate.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that as Shri Harpreet Singh Dua had said that let they keep in mind the fee structure of not only the University but also of the Colleges as this decision would be applicable to all the students.

The Vice Chancellor said that if they look at the numbers, numbers are such that wherever the fee has not been increased for the last 5 years in a row, there the fee increase is a little larger and the number of students is also large. It has not been done unscientifically.

Shri Raghbir Dyal enquired about how many students were in the first year.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that roughly a student who was paying Rs.1800/- would have to pay Rs.2700/- which means an increase of Rs.900/-.

The Vice Chancellor said that the number of students in B.A. is 1 lac, in B.Sc. 75,000. The number of students is large in B.A.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the GNDU has raised its revenue by starting the courses in the Colleges on share basis. If a College is running a PG course with 60 seats, GNDU has kept the share of 20 seats with it.

The Vice Chancellor said that when they would consider the tuition fee, they could keep such things in mind. Right now, it is the

examination fee. It is a kind of burden but uniformly distributed. It is in that sense that it is uniformly distributed burden.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that whatever decision they take is taken after proper application of mind.

Principal Charanjit Kaur Sohi enquired as to whether they could increase the fee when they had already admitted the students with certain fee structure.

The Vice Chancellor said that it only the examination fee and it is not a part of the prospectus and the examination fee for the year 2016-17 has not been notified till date.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that for paying the salary to the staff of the University, they were putting a burden on the students. What to talk of one month's salary, the University teachers could at least announce to contribute the salary of 5 days.

The Vice Chancellor said that the sense is that everybody is anguished that the fee has to be increased. There are a couple of people who feel that under no circumstances this burden should be done and vast majority is for increase in fee.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that it is not vast majority as Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky, Dr. Ajay Ranga, he himself, Principal I.S. Sandhu and one-two others have also spoken against the hike.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that the names of the members dissenting on the issue be recorded.

Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky said that it is not that when they would bring the item for increase in tuition fee, the same could also be increased.

The Vice Chancellor said that the points is that they would have the sense of what about the Secretary is saying on 25th July and he would tell the views of the Syndicate.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that what the members wanted the clarification is that there should be not any proposal before the Syndicate or Senate to increase the tuition fee. That could be considered only the next year.

The Vice Chancellor said that right now it is only the examination fee for the year 2016-17 and hopefully the HRD Minister would be in Panjab University in the month of September and only then they would able to sense the things.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that in some of the courses, the fee has been increased from 80% to 100% and even 195%.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that in one of the classes the fee has been increased by 140%.

The Vice Chancellor said that with a heavy heart and 2-3 persons not endorsing the increase and rest of the people are willing to go along the recommendation that has come to the from the

Committee and the Committee did the task on the basis of the recommendation of the Think-Tank meeting dated 9th July. It is in that spirit that it is being done. On suggestions by some of the members, he said that they are not taking up the tuition fee.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa recorded his dissent on the fee increase.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that there is another suggestion that as the Vice Chancellor has and all other members have also heard patiently each other on this very important issue, he requested that in the Senate also let everybody be free to express his/her feeling. Even if the whole day is taken on this issue, there is no problem.

RESOLVED: That though there was an anguish across the entire Syndicate, with heavy heart they considered to enhance the income of the University via the route of examination fees. Some of the members of the Syndicate are very concerned and they think that this should not be done, but the vast majority of the Syndicate members do think that the crisis, which the University is facing, it is the only possible step to come out of the crisis. So they are willing to go along the proposal, which has come to the University from a Committee, which was asked to do a job in the background of the recommendation of the Think-Tank, which met for the fourth time on 9th July 2016 and suggested that this be attempted. The Committee has given the algorithm. Though some members have very strong reservation, majority of the people are willing to go along, considering the crisis the University is facing at the moment. The Syndicate members have also made many useful suggestions, which amount to cut down the University expenditure and also amount to suggesting various avenues to enhance the income of the University – whether by virtue of increasing the number of seats, especially where the number of seats is 30, attracting more NRIs for enhancing additional revenue, which might not come to a big amount, and the University could also generate some income by way of enhancing the rents of the shops and from certain few more things, which have been suggested by the members, e.g., starting few additional courses at USOL, for which earlier the University was reluctant. The members have also offered to voluntarily contribute their honoraria, etc. for creating a corpus from where imparting of education to the students belonging to economically weaker sections of the society enrolled in the University for various courses, could be subsidized. An appeal be made to the teachers of the University to contribute to such a corpus their arrears of D.A. which is due to them from 1st January as and when the same is released.

The following members recorded their dissent for enhancement of examination fee as a source of additional income for the University:

1. Shri Raghbir Dyal
2. Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa
3. Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky
4. Principal S.S. Sangha
5. Shri Harpreet Singh Dua.

While discussing the issue of hike in examination fees, Professor Keshav Malhotra pointed out that one of the reasons for losing the revenue is the vacant seats in various courses particularly the seats meant for the Kashmir migrants. He added that last year there were about 100 seats for the Kashmir migrants.

The Vice Chancellor said that decision to admit the Kashmir migrants was being taken on year to year basis. This year, no circular came from the Government for admitting the Kashmir migrants. Last year, whatever had come, he had approved the same.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that, in fact, there is some confusion in the letter which was received last year. In the letter the session 2015-16 was mentioned and in it "till further orders" was also mentioned. Now, certain people are interpreting that the Government has withdrawn the said benefit/concession. However, according to him, even if there is no letter from the Government, it does not stop the University to admit Kashmir migrants in accordance with the previous letter of the Government. He urged the Vice Chancellor to take decision in the matter and allow the admission of Kashmir migrants on the pattern of previous year.

RESOLVED: That the Kashmiri migrants/their wards, be admitted to various courses being offered by the University during the academic session 2016-17, on the pattern of the session 2015-2016.

Recommendations of the Committee dated 13.07.2016 regarding UGC 3rd and 4th Amendments

3. Considered the recommendations of the Committee dated 13.07.2016 (**Appendix-II**) to take appropriate steps for implementation of UGC 3rd and 4th Amendment (**Appendix-II**).

Shri Raghbir Dyal and Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky suggested that the item be taken up in the meeting to be held on 31st July.

The Vice Chancellor said that the item is important because many people whom the UGC has made eligible by virtue of their having done Ph.D. before 2009 and this is the time when lots of jobs are to be advertised. Many such candidates are approaching for getting the certificates so that they could apply for the job.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that these are the recommendations of the Committee in which the points No. 2 and 3 are okay. In point no.1, there is no doubt that they have to adopt the 4th amendment and it seems that the 3rd amendment has been withdrawn.

Some of the members said that they had not gone through the item thoroughly and the item could be discussed later.

The Vice Chancellor said that recommendation no. 2 of the Committee is the most relevant. As per the amendment, the Dean of University Instruction be authorised to issue the certificate and he has been getting requests.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua enquired whether the Punjab Government had adopted it.

The Vice Chancellor said that it is not related with Punjab Government.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that with the issuance of the certificate the candidates would be eligible to apply for the jobs.

The Vice Chancellor said that during this time of the year, most of the posts are advertised and he has also been getting the requests from so many candidates.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that whenever there is any amendment from the UGC that should be implemented immediately without waiting for the Syndicate and Senate as otherwise it takes several months to adopt the same.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that it would not apply to the jobs for which the last date is already over. The agenda should have been provided in advance and they must have been given the time to study the same thoroughly.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that Principal I.S. Sandhu has raised a very pertinent point that would it be applicable to those who have already submitted the applications.

The Vice Chancellor said that they would have to re-advertise the posts.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that as far as the Colleges asking for the panel is concerned, that has nothing to do with it because they are supposed to go as per the earlier existing regulations and that is the position as far as University is concerned. They would have to revisit. It is not to revisit the applications which have already been submitted. It is to revisit the advertisement if possible. If they pass it today and if corrigendum is not given and if some people who have to appear for the interview, they would say that it has been approved. So the persons who had already applied as per the advertisement would go by the advertisement.

The Vice Chancellor said that the students who had done Ph.D. from the University, they are to be issued the certificate.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that they agree with it. But the posts which had been advertised and the corrigendum is to be given and if there were any problems that should be discussed.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that they were passing only that the candidates who have done Ph.D. prior to 2009 and if they have followed the UGC guidelines, the competent authority would issue the certificate. He requested that the language should be somewhat modified as the certificate would be issued by the Dean of University Instruction on the recommendation of the guide and the Chairperson.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that it should be approved as the candidates have to apply for jobs.

The Vice Chancellor said that the point is that it should be approved and he would get it endorsed by the Senate so that the candidates could not be deprived of the opportunity.

Dr. Ajay Ranga said that the Regulation 3 says that those candidates who were registered before 11th July 2009, they would be exempted after fulfilling these conditions and would be exempted from NET and the certificate would be issued by the Dean of University Instruction on the recommendation of the supervisor. In the year 2010, Panjab University issued a letter in which the word enrolment was replaced by registration. He thought that it was under the guidelines or some letter by the UGC for granting the benefit of scholarship. He requested that the word enrolment should be replaced from the year 2006 in place of 2010. In that letter it is written that the then existing rules of the University would apply to the candidates.

The Vice Chancellor said that he would like to see that document and requested Dr. Ajay Ranga to provide the documents which would be placed in the supplementary agenda papers of the meeting to be held on 31st July.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that if they adopt it what would be the fate of the 3rd amendment.

The Vice Chancellor said that the 3rd amendment has been withdrawn.

Professor Navdeep Goyal said that during the period from 5th May to 11th July there were some requirements. Ultimately, after facing the protests, the UGC had withdrawn the 3rd amendment. If the same is now adopted as the conditions are applied retrospect, and during that period if some teachers are eligible, those would get stuck or unnecessary the eligibility would be delayed by two months.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that so they did not have any discretion.

RESOLVED: That the following recommendations of the Committee dated 13.07.2016, as per **Appendix**, be approved:

1. That UGC 3rd Amendment be adopted with effect from May 4, 2016 and 4th Amendment with effect from July 11, 2016.
2. That as per Para 3, page 22, UGC 4th Amendment, the Dean of University Instruction, Panjab University, be authorized to issue the requisite certificate, signed by the Supervisor(s) and the Chairperson concerned, to the candidates registered for Ph.D. degree in the Panjab University prior to July 11, 2009.
3. In the light of UGC 4th Amendment, a Committee be constituted to revisit the templates and applications forms for direct recruitment as well as Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) promotions and to suggest modifications.
4. That as the UGC has stipulated in 4th Amendment, under Category-III at page 25, the marks for Research Publications be given only if the papers are published in either Refereed/Reputed Journals as notified by the UGC, therefore, no teaching post be advertised till UGC comes out/approves the list of notified Journals.

General Discussion

- (1) Shri T.K. Goyal said that his request is to allow the two Colleges to be opened.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Committee had visited both the sites and the Committee was happy with one College and not with the other one.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the other College could be started partially only for Arts classes as one block of the building is ready and for that purpose they have purchased the furniture which would be in place by 31st July.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the proposal under which these Colleges have to be opened should be provided to the House so that the same could be studied. The Constituent Colleges were opened under the scheme of aid from the Central Government. He enquired whether the proposed Colleges are Government Colleges or Constituent Colleges.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the buildings of these Colleges have been constructed from the funds of Punjab Government and the same would be handed over to the University for the purpose of running and for that purpose recurring grant would be provided to the University. The grant for running the Constituent Colleges is given by the Punjab Government and recruitment would be done by the University.

The Vice Chancellor said that his understanding is that the proposal is that as presently they were running 4 Constituent Colleges now it would be 6 Constituent Colleges. Whatever applies in terms of recruitment for the Principal and the teachers, it would be exactly like the earlier 4 Constituent Colleges.

Dr. Ajay Ranga enquired whether they were in a position to bear the burden of these Colleges.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that what Dr. Ajay Ranga was saying is right. It is a good gesture of the Punjab Government. The building at Dharamkot is complete and the College could be started there. He would like to bring few points to their notice. The Punjab Government gives a grant of Rs.1.5 crore each for the already running 4 Constituent Colleges. There are 19 teaching and 11 non-teaching posts sanctioned for a College. The initial pay of the teachers comes to Rs.1.27 crore. The number of students at present is about 500 and the number of teachers in the subject of Punjabi is 2. If more students are admitted then they would need at least two more teachers to be appointed in the subject of Punjabi. The expenditure on the salary of the temporary teachers who are working on the minimum pay comes to Rs.28 lac. Thus, the total expenditure on the salary comes to about Rs.1.54 crore and that also by paying the initial pay. And if they regularise the class IV and other employees, the salary would increase to about Rs.50 lac. If the Punjab Government really

wants to provide free education to the children of rural areas, it is a good gesture. The minimum recurring grant with the implementation of the 7th Pay Commission recommendations would come to Rs.3 crore. If the officers could get a commitment from the Government for this, then they should have no objection in starting the Colleges. He agreed with the proposal of the Government to provide education. If they get these two Colleges, there would be a loss of about Rs.1.5-2 crore if the Government did not agree to pay the recurring as there is no mention of this in the proposal. Earlier also one DPI had issued a statement in the Syndicate but later the same was withdrawn.

Shri T.K. Goyal read out the letter dated 23.5.2016 issued by the Punjab Government wherein it was written that the annual recurring grant for running the Colleges would be given by the Government and the Colleges be started w.e.f. the session 2016-17.

Some of the members said that such promises had been made but not fulfilled.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the Punjab Government had fixed the grant to the University at Rs.20 crore a long time back and they could estimate the value of that money in today's situations. Instead of incurring the expenditure on these Colleges, the Punjab Government should also increase the already promised grant by Rs.10 crore so that they could not burden the students by enhancing the fee.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the Vice Chancellor had already expressed the sentiments of the members to the Education Minister in an effective manner. If they delay the matter, then the admission session would be over and it would be a loss to the public.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that if it is political compulsion of the Government, it is a good step and if they could condone the delay, they should allow these institutions to open. Since the Government is taking steps to provide education they could allow these Colleges to start by relaxing some conditions.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that there is no issue of granting affiliation as these would be the Constituent Colleges of the University.

The Vice Chancellor said that he is one of the members just chairing the meeting. The members have to accord recognition to the person sitting on this chair. He is a person realising what the members want and is in minority in this House. He said that as Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa was saying that for the purpose of society, whatever may be the political compulsion, if something good is being done, it should be done. Do the members agree with what Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa is saying? Next issue is the commitment of the Punjab Government that the grant has not been quantified. In the meeting, he had got quantified the grant and also that whatever grant they need to run the existing 4

Constituent Colleges, there should be no capping on that. It was written in the minutes that there is no capping of Rs.1.5 crore. It has to be whatever they tell the Government as they give the details of the accounts. It has also been got recorded that the recruitment would be made as per the University rules and the teachers would be paid the full salary whether the GNDU or Punjabi University might pay the full salary or not. If they have to run these Colleges like the already 4 Constituent Colleges, all the things would be exactly like those Colleges and there would be no compromise on that. They had given these things to the Education Minister who has accepted and it is recorded in the minutes. Shri T.K. Goyal is right that it has been recorded in the minutes in the files of the Punjab Government, a copy of the minutes might be available in the Colleges branch. His only concern is that as per the report of the Committee, one College could be started and not the other one.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that one block of the other building is ready and the Arts classes could be started at any time. Even the furniture would be provided to the Colleges by 31st July as they have already placed the supply order.

The Vice Chancellor said that after all it is a statement made by a very senior responsible officer of the Punjab Government. If they have any reservations, they should make a re-visit on 31st July and see the things whether these are in place as Shri T.K. Goyal is saying that the furniture would be supplied by 31st July. One College could be approved and for the second they could see the infrastructure.

Principal I.S. Sandhu said that he agreed with Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa that undertakings are being given. Could the Education Minister could give in writing that full grant would be given for the Colleges.

The Vice Chancellor said that it is very clear to him and he got it recorded.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the total expenditure on the 4 Constituent Colleges is to the tune of Rs.9.6 crore and after deducting the income, it comes to Rs.8 crore. So, the Education Minister said that Rs.1.5 crore is not enough and it should be Rs.2 crore per College. Everything has been recorded in black and white.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that with due apology to all, they have discussed very serious issue just now wherein they have tried to generate even Rs.1 lac additional. It should be not taken otherwise that in Punjab Government files, there are so many things recorded with regard to Panjab University starting with opening of Regional Centre, Muktsar and they could see what the Government had committed and as Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa is saying that once an institution is opened, people would not want it to be closed. If they did not want it to be closed, then it would become a liability of the University. They know as to what is the status of the Regional Centre at Muktsar? It was opened with such a big fanfare and Shri Raghbir Dyal has been saying in every meeting about the bad

condition of the Regional Centre and everything is recorded about this in the Government files. As far as the grant is concerned, it is part of the Act that Punjab Government would give 40% of the deficit to the Panjab University. But the Punjab Government on their own put the cap at Rs.16 crore and as one Chief Minister had the attachment with the Panjab University, he made it Rs.21 crore meaning an increase of Rs.5 crore and he did not know under what circumstances it came from Rs.21 crore to Rs.20 crore and now for all practical purposes Panjab University has completely surrendered and has left any hope of getting anything more than Rs.20 crore from the Punjab Government. They were only looking towards the Central Government. They would feel happy if that grant of Rs.20 crore comes in time. He is also of the votary that the Colleges should be opened in rural areas and it is very good initiative on the part of the Government. Having said that how do they ensure that whatever the commitment on the file or off the files is made is going to be met by the next Government or not. Secondly, they are sitting in the University and as University they were supposed to make a survey where a College is required to be opened in the name of the rural area in a place like Dharamkot, he thought that there is already a College. In Ferozepur, there are so many Colleges, then what about the Survey Committee of that. There is no such concept in the education system that for Government Colleges, there would be different criteria and different criteria for private Colleges especially when those private Colleges are aided Colleges and also run with aid given by the Government. Still he is not aware that, but take it for granted he had said earlier also, at the time of the Constituent Colleges also that they were given the mandate of opening up of only 3 Colleges and the Punjab Government at that time said to open the 4th College and everything would be given from the Punjab Government. But it is known to everybody that how going after time and again and begging time and again, they have been getting the amount in instalments. The fact of the matter is just because they have not recruited the whole staff as yet, just because the whole staff is fresh and it is today that the expenditure is Rs.2 crore. It is well known to everybody that after the 7th Pay Commission and after 5 years of the inception of these Colleges, they would need at least Rs.3-3.5 crore and at that time the same Government would say that it is recorded in the minutes that they have to give Rs.2 crore. All these things taken into account and instead of repenting thereafter that they would not allow to increase the fee, then they would think that if they had not taken this decision, there was no need to increase the fee. Frankly speaking, the attitude of the Government is to withdraw from their responsibility of imparting education especially in the rural areas and they by getting trapped into such situation were allowing the Government to run away. He had a perception that the Government is not in a position to open the Government Colleges because there is a ban on the recruitment by the High Court. If there is ban on recruitment, he did not know whether any effort has been to get the ban lifted.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that so many efforts had been made but the ban has not been lifted by the High Court.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that tomorrow again they would be posed the same question by the Government of Punjab that if GNDU and Punjabi University can afford to pay the teachers Rs.21600/- why they were paying Rs.60,000/- and then they would have to say yes. There would be so many problems as they were facing in the case of Constituent Colleges of Panjab University as also GNDU and Punjabi University were facing. Then there the situation is different in those two Universities because ultimately whether the Universities bear the expenditure or the Government, it is the same thing because the funds are to be given by the Punjab Government. Here, the situation is not the same as they were answerable to Central Government also where they have to go with begging bowl everyday and nobody is helping there. The Government would say that who told them (University) to open the Colleges without commitment and just because they have got commitment on files and too by bypassing all norms, regulations and provisions of the Act. If they could answer these questions, then he would be the first person to say that open both the Colleges. There is no problem if the salary has to come from the Punjab Government and the buildings are already there. In his view, such decisions should not be taken like this that just because the Government has announced and if the Panjab University Syndicate and Senate have to go by the diktats of the Punjab Government at the eleventh hour, then no problem. He should not be misunderstood. Shri T.K. Goyal is here as a member of the Syndicate of Panjab University and not as a representative of the Punjab Government. But at the same time, if they have to look from the University point of view that how the University's interest is to be protected not that they were against imparting education to the rural students, but if they open the Colleges and then tomorrow if they are not able to pay the salaries of the employees and they would have no excuse that the grant has not come from the Punjab Government, but they would have to pay the salary, they would become employees of Panjab University and would be governed under the service conditions of Panjab University as University is doing everything as per Punjab Government rules and their (University) excuse that as and when the grant is received from the Punjab Government, they would pay the salary, that would not be acceptable. Keeping all these things, they could move ahead.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that they have increased Rs.35 crore in just 3 hours and the Punjab Government is giving Rs.20 crore. Whatever proposal is submitted to the University, the Think-Tank should do the analysis of the same whether they could do it or not. Everything like this should come through the Think-Tank and Think-Tank should think over the same.

The Vice Chancellor said that there is no need of creating another forum. The Syndicate meets every month and they could make a special Committee of their own.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that the Think-Tank could say that they have increased the income of Rs.35 crore but an expenditure of Rs.5-6 crore has also been added.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that as Professor Keshav Malhotra has raised the issue. His submission is that let them work as Panjab University as a team and see what is in the best interest of the University and rather than to be populist and repent thereafter over where they had gone wrong. He is sure that even if Shri T.K. Goyal says on behalf of the Government even under oath, even by giving an affidavit as Principal I.S. Sandhu has said what they would do and he (Shri T.K. Goyal) would say that he has acted in good faith. It was the Vice Chancellor who was sitting in the meeting who got everything recorded in the minutes which is there in the files and the Minister agreed, the University approved and the Government approved even then the people are not able to carry out, what he could do.

The Vice Chancellor said that let a Sub-Committee of the Syndicate meet the Punjab Education Minister who is also a member of the Senate, narrate it and bring it.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that when the Regional Centre, Muktsar was opened by the Chief Minister, it was said that it would be made at par with Harvard and Cambridge and the Panjab University higher officers, members of the Syndicate, Senate thought as if they were going to Switzerland. But they did not know what would be the financial position. They must understand that the Government which is not in a position to sanction any post in Government Colleges, even somewhere if their sanctioned strength is 45 teachers and only 4 are working, even a Government College is running with only 1 teacher just because they have financial constraints, just because the Government Colleges are run by the Parent Teacher Association funds, just because now most of the courses in the Government Colleges are self-financing courses, still if they expect that the Government would give Rs.5-10 crore to run these Colleges, probably they would be in a fools' paradise, let them see.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that they were cutting down the expenditure and making a corpus, but in fact burdening themselves by this. The Punjabi University and GNDU have been told by the Government to run the Constituent Colleges on their own as the grant given by the Government or raising the income is the same thing. The Government says that let the Universities bear the expenditure of Constituent Colleges. They were not appointing the teachers in the University and if they wanted to incur the expenditure, they could open the institutes in the University. It should be got analyzed as to what is the long term experience of running the Regional Centres and the Constituent Colleges. They could start these Colleges only after having done the analysis of what is good and what is bad. Otherwise, the income of Rs.35 crore that they are generating by increase in the examination fee would be finished.

The Vice Chancellor said that a Sub-Committee of the Syndicate could study it and if necessary, follow up it with the Punjab Education Minister.

Dr. Ajay Ranga said that they could take a decision by looking at what has been the earlier conduct of the Punjab Government.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that they should ask all the grant of Rs.20 crore, Rs.40 crore for the Rural Centre, Kauni.

The Vice Chancellor said that they could take the files from the office and could ask for the grant from the Education Minister.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that one way out is that they would engage the teachers, would run the Colleges, make admission and do everything but for the Government not as University. The teachers would not be employees of the University, College would be affiliated, the salary would have to be paid by the Government.

The Vice Chancellor said that then it would not be treated as the 5th Constituent College and not their responsibility. To this, the members said yes.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that the Constituent Colleges were opened by the Central Government and they got 3 Colleges and the 4th was added by the Punjab Government. So if the Central Government could run the Constituent Colleges, then why the Punjab Government could not run on the same lines because in that case also the recurring expenditure is to be met by the Punjab Government and here also the same thing. But the question is that if employer and employee relationship between Panjab University and the teaching and non-teaching staff working there, then every responsibility and liability would be of Panjab University and no responsibility of Punjab Government. Punjab Government accountability or at the most moral duty is to release the grant well in time. If the Government did not release the grant, then they have no excuse.

The Vice Chancellor said that then they have to get the advance from the Government.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that is what he is saying that the Government says that the appointments have to be made by the University and being the employer the appointment letters have to be issued by the University and the Government would release the grant.

The Vice Chancellor said that how much time he could spend in conducting the interviews. Whenever the walk-in-interviews are held about 30 persons come for the interview and he has to sit from morning till evening.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that the Vice Chancellor must have the fair idea of the actual situation on the ground. If they authorise the Vice Chancellor to take the decision whatever he would like to take in the best interest of the University.

The Vice Chancellor said that he would not like to have the authorisation. He has another two years to complete his term. If the things go haywire, he wanted to be realistic, he could be off even earlier than that. His retirement from the Atomic Energy is on December 31, 2016. He is mentally prepared to return to Mumbai on 31st December, take his retirement and say good bye to everything. He could not be running in this chaos. This chaos has cost him so many things in terms of that he left his scientific career. He has to do so many things of his scientific career. He is attached with the University as his alma mater. He is attached with the University only if he could do something for his alma mater. He did not want to be sitting here and presiding over a chaos and destruction. Why should he do it?

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that this should be the last statement and he should not make (more).

The Vice Chancellor said that he did not want to take any authorisation. The Syndicate has the continuity. He as a Vice Chancellor did not have the continuity.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that for the last 4 years, he has been raising the voice over the matters related with the Regional Centre, Muktsar. If they think that he had not used the proper language or had shouted, even after 4 years of having raised the matter in the Syndicate and Senate, the construction work of the Regional Centre has not been done. Even there was no opposition from any side. Till date, no work has been started. Panjab University has earned crores of rupees from the Colleges and has constructed so many buildings in the campus including Sector-25 but could not give Rs.2 crore for the Regional Centre. It meant that the Panjab University is punishing them. Perhaps since he was raising the issue which did not suit the Vice Chancellor, the punishment is even more than that.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that he did not know much about it but the scheme of starting Constituent Colleges was a scheme of the Central Government that they would give the money for a specified number of years and then the Punjab Government would take over the Colleges. These two new Constituent Colleges are under the same scheme or the Punjab Government has used only the word Constituent College. Secondly, as is the case of Constituent Colleges of Delhi University, Delhi University is not responsible to meet the financial needs of those Colleges but it is Delhi Government.

The Vice Chancellor said that the money comes from the UGC and not from the Central Government.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that in this case if the Punjab Government wanted to open the Colleges, they were ready to help by appointing the teachers and several other things. The Punjab Government should give the grant directly and run these Colleges on the lines of Government Colleges. But with these Colleges, there would be burden. He cited the example of Evening Studies where they have a sanctioned strength of 40 teachers and the expenditure is Rs.6 crore. If

they project a figure of Rs.6 crore for one College, then it becomes Rs.24 crore for the 4 Constituent Colleges without the implementation of the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission. Then who would bear this burden. Then they have to increase the fee and there could be opposition to the same. They are facing the problem of teachers in the Constituent Colleges. They were utilising the funds collected by way of fee from the students to pay the salaries of the teachers in the absence of the grant from the Government. They should think over it and in the garb of the Constituent Colleges, this burden should not be put on them. That is why he was saying that the matter should be sent to the Think-Tank to analyze it.

The Vice Chancellor said that Think-Tank is nothing and it was constituted just for a specific purpose. For this matter, the approving body is the Syndicate. A Sub-Committee of the Syndicate could do the job before whom the issue has been raised, those who are having the experience of handling this and who have their time and effort to the University.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that the Punjab Government wanted to start the Colleges from this session itself which might not be possible after going through all these things. The matter did not end here only. It would have to go to the Board of Finance also and the whole procedure, even if they say that it is done, how they were going to get it approved from various bodies and if without that they do, that probably is not advisable.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that there are so many demands and there would be financial burden. They are not able to meet their own expenditure and with these Colleges, there could be more burden.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the related papers in black and white should be provided to the members so that they could come to know what is the policy of the Punjab Government. They have full faith in the Government but wanted to know what is the decision of the Government? Whether the Government would bear all the recurring expenses on infrastructure, etc.?

Shri T.K. Goyal said that it is a commitment by the Punjab Government and not by an individual. The way that they were talking that the Syndicate is not represented by one person, it is an entity. The same is the case of Punjab Government. It is a communication from the Punjab Government and not from an individual. So they could not doubt the Government in that and the matter could be taken by the Vice Chancellor with the Punjab Government.

Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa said that what Shri T.K. Goyal was saying whether same has been communicated to the University.

The Vice Chancellor said that it is clearly written that the main building is almost complete and the rest would be

completed as committed by the PWD officials and contractor present at the site before the start of the classes. The Government is in the process of supplying the requisite furniture and equipment to the College and the same would be in place very soon. The Government has already committed to provide suitable furniture grant, for staff and other supporting staff. In view of this, it is recommended that the University may start the process of admission in the College keeping in view the large interest of the students and the public. The University is not going to start any process. The University has no process to admit the students in this College for that area. A Principal is needed for the College. His suggestion to the Government is to give someone on deputation who is an employee of Punjab Government to do this task.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that the additional charge could be given to someone.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the additional charge could be given as has been done by the GNDU and Punjabi University.

The Vice Chancellor said that they have got a Principal with great efforts and if additional charge is given, the purpose for which the Principal had been appointed, would be defeated.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that they are not clear about the details of the letter of the Government where it is written Government College, Dharamkot and Ferozepur. In the Government files, these are Government Colleges and the 4 Colleges which the University is running are Panjab University Constituent Colleges. This is a proposal for 11 Government Colleges.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that these are not Government Colleges but University Colleges.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that he wanted that the proposal should come from the Government. There is a difference between Government College, Constituent College and aided Colleges. If they agree with Shri T.K. Goyal that these are Constituent Colleges, then the documents should be provided where it is written that it would be a Constituent College. This must have been approved by the Cabinet and if it was approved as a Government College, then how it could become a Constituent College.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that he is definitely clear and it is a matter of record that it would be a University College.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that the Vice Chancellor could be authorised to take a decision.

The Vice Chancellor said that if there were happier times he would have taken the responsibility. But in the background of the very severe financial crisis that the University is facing, he did not want to take any more responsibility. The members are the Government and let one Government talk to the other Government and could form a Sub-Committee.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that in the very serious financial crisis, they also want to take a very conscious decision. As far as the University and the regulations are concerned, they could not grant affiliation to a Government College. Let the Government open the Colleges bypassing all the procedures. He wanted to know if in future the grant is not given, where would the University go and his experience is that the grant would not be given.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that the University is getting the grant for the Constituent Colleges. However, earlier there was some delay. Even during the last year they had cleared the backlog of the grant of the aided Colleges by giving the grant of Rs.400 crore instead of the due Rs.256 crore.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that the Government could run these Colleges like the one at Jalalabad.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that the best way is that the Punjab Government may run the College as a Government College and they would grant the affiliation.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that it is known to everyone that out of 11 Colleges, 9 are already functional.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that they would have to face the problems for having increased the fee.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that Panjab University is collecting crores of rupees from the students of Punjab.

The Vice Chancellor said that if he talked to bureaucrats in Delhi, they would say that Panjab University is a liability thrust on them and they have to worry about the nation.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that they could negotiate with the Government.

The Vice Chancellor said that they could go and negotiate with the Government as they have the experience. They could form a Sub-Committee of the Syndicate and have negotiation.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that it is the branding of the University that there is high merit for getting admission in a College in Chandigarh and a in a College nearby in Banur, the students did not want to take the admission.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that even the people are interested in taking admission in Panjab University Colleges by paying the donation in comparison to the Colleges situated in the vicinity and affiliated to other Universities.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that earlier there was a Home Science College opened in a rural area at Kauni. The College was not running properly. The Punjab Government said that there was a vast land, building and hostels available and the

Punjab Government requested Panjab University to open a regional centre there and promised that every help would be provided. But what the University got was only the building. As the Vice Chancellor had said in the last meeting that only the building is there, there are so many requirements for the College. He said that the Vice Chancellor could constitute a Committee with the help of Shri Raghbir Dyal.

The Vice Chancellor said that they should not leave the decision to him. He proposed that let Shri Raghbir Dyal, Shri Harpreet Singh Dua, Professor Keshav Malhotra, Professor Navdeep Goyal, Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa, Principal Surinder Singh Sangha visit the site.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that since he is an employee of Punjab Government, he did not want to become a member.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that let the College be run like the Jalalabad Government College. This was supported by Shri Harpreet Singh Dua also.

The Vice Chancellor said that a Sub-Committee be formed and Shri T.K. Goyal would set up a meeting with the 6-member Sub-Committee.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that he withdrew from it as there is a conflict of interest.

The Vice Chancellor said that there is no conflict of interest.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that let the President, PUTA be there in the Committee. He said that he would not be a part of the Committee.

The Vice Chancellor said that Shri T.K. Goyal would set up a meeting with the Education Minister and the 6-member Sub-Committee should take a decision on behalf of the Syndicate.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that they could authorise the Vice Chancellor to take the decision to which some of the members said 'yes'.

The Vice Chancellor said that he did not want to take this authorisation given the severity of the financial crisis that the University is facing. The 6-member Sub-Committee should meet the Education Minister.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that they authorise the Vice Chancellor and the local Syndics should meet the Education Minister.

The Vice Chancellor requested Principal Surinder Singh Sangha to accompany the members.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that if they were sending Principal Surinder Singh Sangha, Shri Raghbir Dyal, Dr. Dayal

Partap Singh Randhawa, they could approve the College here itself.

Shri Raghbir Dyal said that they need the leadership of Shri Ashok Goyal.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that he has expressed his views very clearly and are well known. His only interest is interest of Panjab University and rest of the things are secondary for him.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that he is not a part of the decision which is taken on behalf of the Syndicate.

The Vice Chancellor said that how Professor Keshav Malhotra could be a member of the Syndicate if he did not want to be part of the decision. He said that 6 members including Principal Surinder Singh Sangha, Shri Raghbir Dyal, Shri Harpreet Singh Dua, Professor Keshav Malhotra, Shri Ashok Goyal and Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa should go and meet the Education Minister.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that whatever the Sub-Committee would finalise that would also come to the Syndicate.

The Vice Chancellor said that they give the authorization to the Sub-Committee whatever they do. The other things would be given to the Syndicate members. If they were not helping in arriving at a decision, they could categorically say no or could seek time to have reconsideration.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that whatever the findings of the Sub-Committee, that should be placed before the Syndicate.

The Vice Chancellor said that it could be put before the Senate meeting.

Shri Harpreet Singh Dua said that let a proposal from the Government should come whether it is a Government College or a Constituent College.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Sub-Committee should meet the Education Minister and report whatever finding in the Syndicate meeting on 31st July.

Shri T.K. Goyal said that now the final decision is that 5-6 members would meet the Hon'ble Education Minister and then they would take a final call and then they could say yes or no.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that Professor Anil Monga and other members should be made members of the Committee as the burden is to be put on them.

Shri Raghbir Dyal requested that the Committee be formed of the local Syndics and he has confidence in them.

Professor Keshav Malhotra said that as suggested by Shri Raghbir Dyal the local Syndics be authorized.

The Vice Chancellor requested Shri T.K. Goyal to facilitate the meeting with the Education Minister.

RESOLVED: That a Sub-Committee of local Syndics (Dr. Ajay Ranga, Professor Anil Monga, Shri Ashok Goyal, Dr. Balbir Chand Josan, Principal Charanjit Kaur Sohi, Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa, Professor Emanuel Nahar, Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky, Professor Keshav Malhotra, Professor Navdeep Goyal, Dr. Shelley Walia and Shri T.K. Goyal, Director Higher Education, Punjab) be constituted to meet the Higher Education Minister, Punjab, and if need be, visit the site(s) of the proposed Colleges and take a call on whole issue. The meeting of the local Syndics with the Higher Education Minister would be facilitated by Shri T.K. Goyal and matter would return to the July 31, 2016 meeting of the Syndicate.

- (2) Shri Harpreet Singh Dua pointed out that in the list of voters, the designation is mentioned as Assistant Professor and Associate Professor whereas in the schedule which was approved in the month of March 2016, the designations have been mentioned as Lecturer and Senior Lecturer. If the same is not corrected, the nomination papers could be rejected and there could also be problems at the time of approval of the members.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Returning Officer is authorized to address all such concerns.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that it meant that whatever designation of Lecturer/Sr. Lecturer or Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor is mentioned by the College Lecturer while filing the nomination papers that would be valid.

The Vice Chancellor said that in the electoral process everyone should be inclusive. No one should be denied the opportunity due to minor technicalities.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that the Vice Chancellor is right that they have to be inclusive. But sometimes the objector could ask for the proof of approval.

The Vice Chancellor said that all such things be got clarified.

Shri Ashok Goyal said that the last date for filing of the nominations was up to today by 3.00 p.m. The propriety demanded that the list of the nominations should have been displayed. Earlier, it used to be the practice that after the closing time, after getting the signatures of the persons present, the list was displayed otherwise what is the idea of fixing the deadline of 3.00 p.m. If as per the schedule the date of display of nominations is 25th, then nobody stops from displaying the list before that date. Even they should send the list to the faculty members. The candidates were having difficulty to know the list.

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Professor Keshav Malhotra said that it is not known as to wherefrom new rules are being applied.

Registrar

Confirmed

Arun Kumar Grover
VICE CHANCELLOR