

PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH

Minutes of the emergent meeting of the SYNDICATE held on Friday, 7th February 2011 at 9.00 a.m.

PRESENT

1. Professor R.C. Sobti ... (in the Chair)
Vice-Chancellor
2. Shri Avtar Singh Bedi
3. Dr. Dharinder Kumar Tayal
4. Shri Gopal Krishan Chatrath
5. Dr. Gurmeet Singh
6. Principal (Dr.) Hardiljit Singh Gosal
7. Shri Harmohinder Singh Lucky
8. Dr. Ishwar Dayal Gaur
9. Professor Naval Kishore
10. Dr. R.P.S. Josh
11. Dr. Rabinder Nath Sharma
12. Professor A.K. Bhandari ... (Secretary)
Registrar

Shri Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa, Ms. Jasvir Kaur Chahal, Shri Madan Lal Aeri, Dr. Raj Bahadur, Dr. Surjit Singh Randhawa, Mrs. Jasmit Kaur, D.P.I. (Colleges), Punjab and Shri Ajoy Sharma, Director, Higher Education, U.T., Chandigarh, could not attend the meeting.

Condolence Resolution

The Vice-Chancellor referred to the sad demise of Major Jiwan Lal Tewari, who had been a member of the Senate (1.11.1968 to 31.10.1992) and Syndicate for several years.

The Syndicate expressed its sorrow and grief over the passing away of Major Jiwan Lal Tewari and observed two minutes' silence, all standing, to pay homage to the departed soul.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the above Resolution be sent to the press and the members of the bereaved family.

Vice-Chancellor's statement

1. That Vice-Chancellor said, "I am happy to inform that Professor P.S. Jaswal, former Chairperson of Department of Laws, is taking over as Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi Law University, Patiala. The Panjab University had the pride of producing so many Vice-Chancellors, e.g. Professor S.P. Gautam, Professor D.N. Jauhar, Professor Veer Singh and Professor A.K. Saihjpal."

RESOLVED: That the felicitations of the Syndicate be conveyed to Professor P.S. Jaswal, on his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi Law University, Patiala.

Report of the Enquiry Committee on the complaint against Dr. K. Gauba, Director-Principal

2. Considered the report of the Enquiry Committee, constituted by the Vice-Chancellor, to look into the complaint of Dr. Gurshan Ahuja father of Ms. Priyanka, a girl student of the University Dental College, regarding an incident that occurred at Dr. H.S.J. Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital, on 1.2.2011.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the Enquiry Committee comprised Professor Jaspal Kaur Kaang (Chairperson), Professor A.S. Ahluwalia, Professor Sangita Bhalla, Professor Renu Vig and Professor Rajesh Gill. After meeting the complainants, Dr. K.Gauba, Director-Principal, faculty members, Interns and other persons and recording their evidences, the Committee suggested the following corrective measures:

- i) Dr. K. Gauba does not appear to have any *mala fide* intention. His purpose seems to maintain decorum in the Institute/Hospital. The Committee feels that calling Ms. Priyanka to his office and asking her to show her T-shirt by Dr. Gauba in the presence of two faculty members was uncalled for. Further, in order to bring normalcy in the Institute, it is desirable that Dr. Gauba be asked to proceed on leave till the situation becomes normal.
- ii) Likewise, the Committee strongly feels that being a premier educational Institute, all the students of the University, particularly those of the Dental Institute be counseled regarding the importance of discipline and decorum as an integral part of their education and training.
- iii) As per the rules/directions of Dental Council of India, it is mandatory that a Dental Institute/Hospital be headed by a regular well qualified Director/Principal. As the recognition of Dr. HSJ Dental Institute by Dental Council of India is under process, the Committee feels that in the interest of the students, particularly the first batch, the Institute must have a regular well qualified Director-Principal to strengthen its case for recognition.

He thanked the members of the Committee who worked very hard in preparing the report in a short time. He urged the members to help the University to find out the way whatever was possible to defuse the situation. He added that all the statements have been video-taped and nothing has been hidden.

The Vice-Chancellor placed on record the letter written by Dr. K. Gauba (**Appendix-1**) requesting to relinquish the

charge of Director Principal of the Harvansh Singh Judge Institute of Dental Sciences to repatriate him to his parent institution. He has further requested that his leave be extended till he is relieved officially.

Shri A.S. Bedi said that the Committee did not discuss the steps taken by the Director-Principal against him. Therefore, Dr. Gauba was right in maintaining the discipline.

Dr. Gurmeet Singh said that the atmosphere prevailing on the Campus for the last 4-5 days was quite unfortunate. There was no intention of molestation, and only the remark made by Dr. Gauba was uncalled for. He suggested that the requests made by Dr. Gauba in his letter should be accepted.

Dr. I.D. Gaur also suggested for the acceptance of the requests made by Dr. Gauba in his letter.

Principal Hardiljit Singh Gosal said that the Director-Principal was required to maintain discipline in many ways. But they should find a way out to defuse the situation. The University might confront another similar problem tomorrow.

Dr. Naval Kishore stated that the Institute is suffering on account of infighting amongst its faculty members. The functioning of Dr. HSJ Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital was quite different than that of other teaching Departments of University. He added that the teachers, who had earlier been working in private institutions, were accustomed to a different atmosphere. The Dental College comprises teachers, students, patients and attendants. He suggested that a Committee of Senior Doctors should be constituted to go into the affairs of this Institute and steps must be taken to ensure the separate identity and status of the Dental College.

Dr. Dharinder Tayal said that the Selection Committee for appointment of faculty at this institute was headed by persons of eminence, e.g., Professor K.K. Talwar. The faculty at this Institute had been given better grades, so that they did not indulge in private practice. The discipline was required to be maintained. The affairs going on in the Dental College needed to be looked in totality. He was also of the view that the request of Dr. Gauba to continue on leave till the situation eases, should be accepted.

Dr. Rabinder Nath Sharma said that the letter written by Dr. Gauba contained responsible statement. However, he said that the behaviour of other faculty members needed to be investigated. The contributions made by Dr. Gauba in the establishment of this Institute as also getting its affiliation from the DCI were worth appreciation. No doubt, they must find out some way to defuse the situation. But the total functioning of the Institute should be examined through a High Powered Committee, so that a new culture could be developed in this Institute.

Dr. R.P.S. Josh said there was no *mala fide* intention on the part of Dr. Gauba . He on an earlier occasion had said that some way out should be found out to sort out the matter.

Shri H.S. Lucky said that it was not so easy to maintain discipline. Once the problem starts, the University is held to ransom. It was not a case of molestation. There was no intention of the administrator to harass the student. The requests made by Dr. Gauba should be honorably accepted rather they should recognize the services rendered by him to this Institute. He has unblemished record. He was of the view that the PUTA should have taken a tough stand in the given situation.

Shri Gopal Krishan Chatrath said that they had to find out a way to defuse the situation and to come out of the student and teacher turmoil in the University. He appreciated the offers made by Dr. Gauba and said that his request should be accepted honorably.

The Syndicate discussed the report made by the Committee in time and the request made by Dr. Gauba for his repatriation to PGI and his request to continue to be on leave. The Syndicate noted that though the Committee has exonerated Dr. Gauba of molestation and such charges but his remarks were not in good taste.

After discussion, it was –

RESOLVED: That –

- (1) the request of Dr. K. Gauba, Director-Principal, Dr. H.S.J. Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Panjab University for his repatriation to PGI and to continue to be on leave till he is officially relieved, be accepted;
- (2) Dr. K.Gauba will continue to represent the Panjab University as member of the DCI during his leave period;
- (3) the Vice-Chancellor be authorized to request some eminent Medical Educationists to look after Dr. H.S.J. Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Panjab University in the absence of Dr. K. Gauba; and
- (4) the Vice-Chancellor be authorized to constitute a High Powered Committee to look into the affairs of Dr. H.S.J. Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Panjab University, in totality and suggest measures that it remains a professional Institute.

Recommendations of Regulations Committee dated 3.2.2011

3. Considered minutes of the meeting of the Regulations Committee dated 3.2.2011 (**Appendix-II**), and

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Regulations Committee dated 3.2.2011, as per **Appendix**, be approved.

After decisions on the agenda items were taken, the members started general discussion.

- (1) On the issue raised by Dr. Gurmeet Singh with regard to representation of students of M.Com (e-commerce), University Business School, Panjab University, Chandigarh, pertaining to their concerns regarding placements, restoration of projector facility an assurance of non-victimization, the Vice-Chancellor informed that the Dean of University Instruction is going to have a meeting with the Chairperson of the University Business School and some way would be found out to remove students grievance .
- (2) The Vice-Chancellor informed that 100% arrears on account of revision of pay-scales w.e.f. 1.1.2006 to the staff as well as to pensioners have been ordered to be released without waiting of the Punjab Government grants.

A.K. Bhandari
Registrar

Confirmed

R.C. Sobti
VICE-CHANCELLOR