## PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH

Minutes of the meeting of the **SENATE** held on **Monday**, **2<sup>nd</sup> May**, **2022** at **4.00 p.m.** through online mode, at Panjab University, Chandigarh, to consider emergent issue.

## PRESENT:

- 1. Professor Raj Kumar ... (in the chair)
  Vice Chancellor
- 2. Professor Arun Kumar Grover
- 3. Dr. Aruna Goel
- 4. Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla
- 5. Professor Ashok Kumar
- 6. Dr. Balbir Chand Josan
- 7. Shri Davesh Moudgil
- 8. Professor Devinder Singh
- 9. Professor Gaurav Gaur
- 10. Shri Gurjot Singh Malhi
- 11. Dr. Gurmeet Singh
- 12. Dr. Gurmit Singh
- 13. Professor Harmohinder Singh Bedi
- 14. Professor Hemant Batra
- 15. Shri Honey Thakur
- 16. Dr. Inderpal Singh Sidhu
- 17. Professor Jagat Bhushan
- 18. Shri Jagdeep Kumar
- 19. Dr. Jagdish Chander
- 20. Dr, Jagtar Singh
- 21. Dr. Jagwant Singh
- 22. Professor Jatinder Grover
- 23. Dr. Jatinder Kaur
- 24. Dr. Jayanti Dutta
- 25. Dr. Kirandeep Kaur
- 26. Dr. Kuldeep Agnihotri
- 27. Dr. Kuldip Kaur Dhaliwal
- 28. Professor Latika
- 29. Ms. Madhvi Kataria on behalf of DHE, Punjab
- 30. Dr. Mritunjay Kumar
- 31. Professor Mukesh Kumar Arora
- 32. Dr. N.R. Sharma
- 33. Shri Naresh Gaur
- 34. Dr. Neeru Malik
- 35. Dr. Neetu Ohri
- 36. Dr. Nidhi Gautam
- 37. Dr. Nisha Bhargava
- 38. Dr. Parveen Goyal

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- 39. Professor Prashant Gautam
- 40. Dr. Priyatosh Sharma
- 41. Professor Rajat Sandhir
- 42. Dr. Rajesh Kumar Mahajan
- 43. Shri Ravinder Singh
- 44. Professor Ravi Inder Singh
- 45. Dr. R.S. Jhanji
- 46. Professor Renu Vij
- 47. Dr. Rupinder Kaur
- 48. Dr. Sandeep Kataria
- 49. Shri Satya Pal Jain
- 50. Professor Savita Gupta
- 51. Dr. Shiv Kumar Dogra
- 52. Dr. Shaminder Singh Sandhu
- 53. Shri Simranjit Singh Dhillon
- 54. Hon'ble Minister Shri Som Parkash
- 55. Professor Sonal Chawla
- 56. Professor Sukhbir Kaur
- 57. Professor Sushil Kansal
- 58. Professor Yojna Rawat
- 59. CA Vikram Nayyar ... (Secretary) Registrar

#### The following members could not attend the meeting:

- 1. Professor Akhtar Mahmood
- 2. Adviser, U.T., Chandigarh
- 3. Dr. Amit Joshi
- 4. S. Bhagwant Maan, Chief Minister, Punjab
- 5. Dr. Dayal Partap Singh Randhawa
- 6. Dr. Dinesh Kumar
- 7. Shri Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer
- 8. Dr. Harjodh Singh
- 9. Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua
- 10. Director Higher Education, U.T., Chandigarh
- 11. Dr. K.K. Sharma
- 12. Shri Kapil Sharma
- 13. Smt. Kirron Kher
- 14. Dr. Krishan Gauba
- 15. Shri Lajwant Singh Virk
- 16. Shri Manish Wayyer
- 17. Shri Prabhjit Singh
- 18. Mr. Justice Ravi Shanker Jha
- 19. Professor S.K. Tomar
- 20. Shri Sandeep Singh

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- 21. Shri Sanjeev Kumar Bandlish
- 22. Dr. Savita Kansal
- 23. Dr. Suresh Kumar
- 24. Dr. Surinder Singh Sangha
- 25. Shri Varinder Singh

At the outset, the Vice Chancellor wished good afternoon to all the Hon'ble members and welcomed them to the meeting on his own behalf and on behalf of the University fraternity.

<u>I.</u> The Vice Chancellor said, "With a deep sense of sorrow, I may inform the honourable members of the Senate about the sad demise of S. Joginder Singh, Former Principal, GGN Khalsa College, Ludhiana, and Syndic of our University, on April 29, 2022".

As a mark of respect to the departed soul, the Senate expressed its sorrow and grief over the passing away of S. Joginder Singh, and observed two minutes' silence, all standing, prayed to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul and give strength and courage to the members of the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

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

II. The Vice Chancellor said, "I am pleased to inform the honourable members of the Senate that Professor Mukesh Arora, Fellow, has been nominated as a member of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti of the Labour & Employment Ministry of the Government of India.

**RESOLVED**: That felicitations of the Senate be conveyed to Professor Mukesh Arora, Fellow, on having been nominated as a member of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti of the Labour & Employment, Ministry of the Government of India.

Considered the recommendations of the Syndicate (approved by the Vice Chancellor in exercise of the powers of the Syndicate, in terms of authorization given by the Senate in its meeting dated 13.02.2022) with regard to conferment of *Honoris Causa* Degrees and 'Panjab University Ratna Awards' in the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, as follows -

## **Honoris Causa Degrees**

Sr.	Particulars	Honoris Causa
No.		
1.	Professor Ajay Kumar Sood	Doctor of Science
	Principal Scientific Advisor to the	
	Government of India	
2.	Dr. Krishna Ella	Doctor of Science
	Managing Director, Bharat Biotech	
3.	Smt. Suchitra Ella	Doctor of Science
	Joint Managing Director	
	Bharat Biotech	

## P.U. Ratna Awards

Sr.	Particulars	Award
No.		
1.	Professor J.S. Rajput	Gyan Ratna
	Former Director, NCERT, Delhi	
2.	Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha	Vigyan Ratna
	Secretary, AYUSH	
	Government of India, Delhi	
3.	Ms. Rani Rampal	Khel Ratna
	Hockey Player	
4.	Professor (Dr.) Jagbir Singh	Sahitya Ratna
	Chancellor	
	Central University of Punjab	
	Bathinda	
5.	Shri Onkar Singh Pahwa	Udyog Ratna
	Chairman & Managing Director	
	AVON Cycles, Ludhiana	
6.	Khandu Wangchuk Bhutia	Kala Ratna
	Thankpa Painting Artist	

# **NOTE:** 1. Recommendations of the Committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor was enclosed at **Appendix-I.**

2. Brief Bio-datas of all the above persons were enclosed as **Appendix-I**.

Initiating the discussion, Professor H.S. Bedi said that he felt very happy that several new academic activities are being undertaken under the direction of Professor Raj Kumar. Although they had faced certain problems during the period of COVID-19 pandemic, they were successfully able to resolve them under the able guidance of Professor Raj Kumar. During that time also, regular academic meetings were held and thereafter the meetings of Senate through offline and online mode were initiated to be conducted. The major image of the Panjab University is the function of This time after putting in lot of strenuous efforts, Convocation. commitments and hard work, the preparation of Convocation is going on under the directions of Professor Raj Kumar, which itself proved to be an example. The major achievement is that the top Scientists of India, who had invented vaccine for COVID-19, are being conferred the degrees of Honoris Causa. This is not only a matter of respect for them but it is an endeavor on the part of the University to bring their activities at the forefront of India as a whole University. In addition to that, the eminent personalities from Punjab in the field of "Udyog, Gyan, Vigyan, Sahitya and Kala" had contributed the major part of their life, and credited the new achievements in their account. Being an academician, he observed their achievements very closely. The efforts of the members of the Committee who recommended their names for the award of "Ratna" to these eminent personalities are very much appreciated by him. He requested the Vice-Chancellor that through the meetings of the Committees and Senate, the members of the House should give their consent to the degrees of Honoris Causa and awards. It is evident that University is moving towards higher peak, while following the old traditions, which would remain fresh in the minds of the people. He congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for this auspicious work and he welcomed the members of the Senate, whose full support in terms of academic activities is with the Panjab University. While concluding he said that he was grateful to all of the esteemed members of the House.

Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla said that firstly, he would like to thank the Vice-Chancellor for inviting him to give his opinion. He congratulated the Vice-Chancellor under whose able guidance, the Panjab University is touching new heights of achievements while maintaining the golden traditions of the University. With full support of all the members of the House, new academic activities are undertaken, and the reputation of the Panjab University would be at the higher level. Regarding conferment of Honoris Causa degrees and award of Udyog Ratna, Vigyna Ratna, Gyan Ratna, Sahitya Ratna and Khel Ratnas to the eminent personalities are concerned, the Committee comprising Dr. Dinesh Kumar Singh, Professor H.S. Bedi, Professor Avinash Chandra Pandey, Shri Satya Pal Jain, Professor Sukhbir Kaur and CA Vikram Nayyar, constituted by the

Vice-Chancellor has done a credible job. None can raise if and buts about the credentials, credibility and capability of these personalities. This type of transparent selection made by such a capable, intelligent and perceptive persons is a matter of compliment to them. He appealed to all the members of the Senate that this agenda item pertaining to conferment of Honoris Causa degrees and Panjab University Ratnas should be approved with unanimous consent. Amongst these personalities, there are several personalities who had earlier been honored by the Government of India at national and by the Government of other countries at the international level. This process of selection of eminent personalities to be honored in the ensuing Convocation on 6th May, by the Selection Committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor, would enhance the reputation of Panjab University. He saluted the members of the Selection Committee for selecting eminent personalities for the award of Panjab University Ratna Awards and conferment of Honoris Causa degrees and the transparent procedure followed by them. He once again complimented the Vice-Chancellor for selection of such eminent personalities, with whom not only the reputation of experts would be enhanced but the image of the University would also be enhanced.

Principal R.S. Jhanji said that first of all he would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor for organizing the Convocation immediately after COVID-19 pandemic. They are not honouring these personalities; rather the University is getting honoured in honouring them. For this, he would like to congratulate the Committee which had recommended the names of these persons.

Professor Prashant Gautam said that firstly he would like to thank the Vice-Chancellor to approve to conduct the Convocation after the COVID-19 pandemic where His Excellency the Vice-President of India and Chancellor, P.U. had agreed to grace the occasion. At the same time he would also like to thank the Committee for recommending names of the eminent persons from different fields, who had name and fame in their respective fields. He agreed with the viewpoints expressed by Professor H.S. Bedi and Principal R.S. Jhanji that they are not honouring these personalities; rather the University is getting honoured in honouring them.

Professor Latika, endorsing the views expressed by Professor H.S. Bedi, Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla, Principal R.S. Jhanji, said that she also congratulates the Vice-Chancellor for constituting an apt Committee to decide the names for conferring *Honoris Causa* degrees and also the six Ratnas which are going to add to their prestigious list of awardees. These persons would definitely bring more fame and would add to the prestige of the University. She appreciated the Vice-Chancellor and the team for the selection of these names and recommended the entire list for approval.

Dr. Neeru Malik said that firstly she would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor for converting the dreams of the students into a reality, as it is the dream of every student to receive the degree in academic robes. The Committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor is also appreciated by her for recommending the names of eminent personalities and not only the members of the Committee are honoured but also the University is getting honour in honouring them. She felt very happy to know that the name of Ms. Rani Rampal, Captain of India Hockey Team had been recommended. She observed that the biodatas of all the incumbents were impressive and she felt delighted to know their names getting recommended. She suggested that, if possible, the name of Mr. Neeraj Chopra, who has brought name and fame to Panjab University as well as to the country, by wining Gold Medal in the Olympics, be included and if not, his name be considered for Khel Ratna award next time. Since she belonged to sports, she would like to congratulate Ms. Rani Rampal.

Dr. Priyatosh Sharma said that firstly he would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor for the conduct of Convocation. After going through the biodatas, it has been observed that it is itself a good message that they are going to honour these eminent personalities by awarding them the Ratna Awards and conferring *Honoris Causa* degrees. These eminent personalities gave a ray of hope to the humanity by providing the vaccine, by playing in the Olympics which is very much interlinked with female empowerment. He agreed to all the proposals submitted before the House. He hoped that the function of Convocation would enhance the reputation of the Panjab University.

Professor Yojna Rawat said first of all she would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor and the designated Committee and all the members of the House, as they are also considered as the important part of the institution. It is a matter of pride for her that after a very long span of time, the Convocation is being organized, which could not be organized due to COVID-19 pandemic. The best thing what she got from the awardees of this time, is that the University had considered the eminent personalities not only from nationally renowned but also from internationally renowned places. Amongst the awardees, there are two female awardees Dr. Suchitra Ella and Ms. Rani Rampal, by including their names in the list of awardees, the women empowerment would be enhanced, which is matter of joy and pride that women empowerment is recognized with great zeal by the University. The achievements of the Indian women have also been recognized across the globe and for the same a good decision has been taken by the Committee to recommend the names of women awardees by underlining the achievements. She again thanked and congratulated the Vice-Chancellor and she felt very proud that such an eminent personalities would grace the Panjab University and the name and fame of the University

would be spread at far off places. She gave her consent on the whole list of awardees for the same.

Dr. Neetu Ohri said that firstly she would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor for organizing the Convocation immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic. The list of awardees is much better as it includes especially Dr. Krishna Ella who had provided the Vaccine for COVID-19, he contributed a lot in giving the vaccine to India. The names of the awardees are recommended by the team of the Vice-Chancellor owing to the expertise and able guidance of the Vice-Chancellor. She also congratulated Professor Mukesh Arora for his felicitation by the Vice-Chancellor.

Dr. Gurmeet Singh congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for organizing the Convocation and agreed with the viewpoint expressed by Dr. Neeru Malik that the name of Mr. Neeraj Chopra, being the former student of University, should also be recommended for the brand ambassador of the University.

Dr. Nisha Bhargava complemented the Vice-Chancellor for organizing the Convocation after the COVID-19 pandemic. She also appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for constituting the best Committee, which had made good choices as the awardees had contributed a lot in their respective areas. She conveyed her best wishes for the successful completion of the Convocation.

Professor Sukhbir Kaur said that she would like to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor for hosting the Convocation, which is to be presided over by the Vice-President of India and Chancellor, P.U. The persons who had been recommended by the Committee are experts in their respective fields and it would be great honour for the University in honouring them, which would enhance the image of the University.

Professor Savita Gupta said that it is a matter of pride that University is going to organize the Convocation after a period of three years (COVID-19 pandemic). Besides the fear of fourth wave of COVID, all the faculty and staff members are working hard for successfully holding the Convocation, under the able leadership of the Vice-Chancellor. She really appreciated the wisdom and vision of the Committee as the persons identified by it are really true icons of their respective fields. Although these awards are very small in front of their achievements, yet it is a very good gesture to recognize their contributions. She would like to congratulate all the persons whose names had been recommended by the Committee for the conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards as they deserved these degrees/awards.

Dr. Parveen Goyal said that, first of all, he would like to compliment the Vice Chancellor and the entire teaching fraternity for making all-out effort for making the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation successful. Secondly, he would like to congratulate all the persons upon the *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna awards are being conferred. They approve the conferment of the degrees and awards upon the persons, who had been recommended by the Committee.

Professor Ravi Inder Singh said that he complimented the Vice Chancellor for taking initiative and motivating everybody for organizing the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the University. He said that it is very tough job to identify meritorious persons and honour them. These are really meritorious and renowned persons. Hence, they should approve the names for conferment of degrees and awards.

Hon'ble Minister Shri Som Parkash said that the persons, who have been selected for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards, are meritorious and experts in their respective fields. He congratulated the Vice Chancellor as well as the selected persons.

Professor Mukesh Arora congratulated the Vice Chancellor as also the Search Committee for selecting able and scholarly renowned persons for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards, which was a very difficult task. He congratulated all the persons, whose names had been recommended for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards. He also congratulated the Vice Chancellor for the cleanliness drive, which is being undertaken under the leadership of the Vice Chancellor.

Professor Aruna Goel said that, first of all, she would like to thank the Vice Chancellor and the Search Committee, constituted by the Vice Chancellor, for selecting renowned persons from all over the country for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards. In fact, while honoring these persons, it is being felt as if they are honouring themselves. With this, their own pride as also the pride of the University would get enhanced. While going through the bio-datas of these persons, she is feeling proud.

Shri Davesh Moudgil said that he would like to congratulate the Vice Chancellor as well as the Search Committee for identifying renowned persons for conferment of *honoris causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards. In fact, these persons are not only renowned in the country but in the entire world. He appreciated the Vice Chancellor for this and congratulated the Senate and teaching fraternity. These are the persons, who have contributed for the society and the country. Although these persons are diamonds, yet there are several other persons, who have been

contributing for the welfare and betterment of the University for the last so many years. Such persons had worked from behind the curtains. Certain alumni of the University had also given their services in the fields of social service, law, sanskriti, art, etc. and given oxygen to the University. One-two of them could also be selected for such honour. In the end, he congratulated the Vice Chancellor for organizing the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the University.

Shri Satya Pal Jain said that he was a member of the Committee and he would only like to say that the Committee had considered all the aspects of the matter and made recommendations. He is hopeful that the House would accept the recommendations of the Committee. Secondly, at some points of time, they in the meetings of Senate itself suggest names of certain persons for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees/PU Ratna Awards, which is not in good taste. If somebody has a name in his/her mind, he/she should write to the Vice Chancellor, so that the same could be considered next time. There are several persons, upon whom *Honoris Causa* degrees could be conferred, but it is not possible to confer degrees upon all the persons. Hence, when a name is announced on the floor of the House, it creates embarrassment for all of them. In the end, he said that he is hopeful that the entire House would unanimously approve the recommendations of the Committee.

Dr. Inder Pal Singh Sidhu said that he would like to endorse the recommendations of the Committee as the same are appreciable. It is a very good work on the part of the Vice Chancellor.

Dr. Shiv Kumar Dogra said that the persons, who have been recommended for conferment of *Honoris Causa* degrees and Panjab University Ratna Awards, had contributed a lot at the national and international level and they had highlighted the name of the country in the world. To recognize the contribution of these persons, is a honour for the University itself.

Shri Honey Thakur said that the recommendations had been made by the Committee after thorough examination and detailed discussion. They all endorse the recommendations of the Committee. He thanked the Vice Chancellor from the core of his heart for getting the revised pay-scales circular issued despite his busy schedule.

Dr. Jayanti Dutta said that she has observed that all the awardees are from different corners, i.e., from North, East, West, South and even North-East of the country. This would give a truly national character to Panjab University. She congratulated the Vice Chancellor and the Search Committee, which had identified the awardees.

## Comments/Views from Chat Box:

Dr. Jagwant Singh had written, "The conferment of degrees and awards should be approved, as there is nothing which can attract any adverse comment from any quarter".

Dr. Nidhi Gautam had written, "Many-many congratulations for holding Convocation this year after Pandemic. Sir, all the awardees are very respected in their respective fields. We too are so proud to be associated with all the awardees at Panjab University."

Shri Simranjit Singh Dhillon had written, "Many congratulations for holding the Convocation".

Shri Gurjot Singh Malhi had written, "I agree with the proposal".

Shri Jagdeep Kumar had written, "Committee did very good job & house should approve all the names".

Professor Rajat Sandhir had written, "I had submitted this for consideration, Sir. I appreciate the initiative of Panjab University for awarding Honoris Causa Degrees and P.U. Ratna Awards to many distinguished persons who have contributed immensely in their respective areas during the 69th Panjab University Convocation to be held on May 6, 2022. There is no doubt about the contributions of persons selected for conferring D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) degrees by the University. looking at the profile of Smt. Suchitra Ella provided with the agenda of the Senate meeting dated 02.05.2022, I feel that she has a background in management and entrepreneurship, which has been a strong pillar for the Bharat Biotech, a Company that has contributed to the development of Indigenous Covid Vaccine (Covaxin). In my opinion, it would be more appropriate if she is conferred with Doctorate Degree in Management and Entrepreneurship (Honoris Causa), as it would be true recognition of her contributions. The University may bring appropriate amendment in the agenda. I would also congratulate the awardees for their recognition. I had also submitted the email to the Registrar that I posted in the chat box in the morning for consideration."

Professor Jatinder Grover had written, "Congratulations to all the respected awardees".

Dr. Sandeep Kataria had written, "Best Wishes & Congratulations to all the Awardees".

Dr. Gurmit Singh had written, "I congratulate all the awardees and welcome the decision of university to honour them".

Dr. Mritunjay Kumar had written, "Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to all the awardees for the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation".

Dr Kirandeep Kaur had written, "Heartiest congratulations to all the awardees for their great contribution to society and to the country as a whole".

Professor Arun Kumar Grover had written, "I endorse the suggestion of Rajat Sandhir".

Shri Ravinder Dhaliwal had written, "All the Committee members have worked so well, Satya Pal Jain, Sir and all Committee members did very good job".

The Vice Chancellor said that these were the persons, who wanted to opine on the proposal which was placed before the House. He is very happy that almost everyone opined in favour of the recommendations, which had been placed before the House. On the basis of the opinion given by the Hon'ble members, the House unanimously recommends the names of personalities for the final approval of Hon'ble Vice-President of India and Chancellor, Panjab University.

**RESOLVED:** That, it be recommended to the Chancellor, that honorary degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) *(Honoris Causa)* be conferred on the following persons, under Section 23 of Panjab University Act, 1947 appearing at page 9 of P.U. Calendar, Volume I, 2007, in the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 –

- (1) Professor Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India;
- (2) Dr. Krishna Ella, Managing Director, Bharat Biotech; and
- (3) Smt. Suchitra Ella, Joint Managing Director, Bharat Biotech.

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**RESOLVED FURTHER**: That the awards of Gyan Ratna, Vigyan Ratna, Khel Ratna, Sahitya Ratna, Udyog Ratna and Kala Ratna, be conferred on the following persons as mentioned against their names, in the 69<sup>th</sup> Convocation to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022:

1. Professor J.S. Rajput : Gyan Ratna

Former Director, NCERT, Delhi

2. Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha : Vigyan Ratna

Secretary, AYUSH

Government of India, Delhi

3. Ms. Rani Rampal : Khel Ratna

Hockey Player

4. Professor (Dr.) Jagbir Singh : Sahitya Ratna

Chancellor, Central University of Punjab

Bathinda

5. Shri Onkar Singh Pahwa : Udyog Ratna

Chairman & Managing Director

AVON Cycles, Ludhiana

6. Khandu Wangchuk Bhutia : Kala Ratna

Thankpa Painting Artist

( Vikram Nayyar ) Registrar

CONFIRMED

( RAJ KUMAR ) VICE-CHANCELLOR