

Hidayatullah National Law University, Nava Raipur (C.G.)

**Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting
Held on 03.12.2023 at 10:30 AM in the Boardroom**

The meeting of the Finance Committee of the Hidayatullah National Law University took place on 03.12.2023 at 10:30 a.m. in the boardroom.

The following members were present:

1. Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, HNLU - Chairperson
2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice (Retd.) G. Raghuram, Former Director, National Judicial Academy, Hyderabad
3. Shri R.S. Vishwakarma, Ex-Chairman, CGPSC & Ex-Principal Secretary Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur (C.G.)
4. Shri C.J. Khatri, Ex-Finance Controller, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur (C.G.)
5. CA Jagriti Agrawal, HNLU
6. Dr. Vipan Kumar, Associate Professor & Registrar (I/c), HNLU - Member Secretary

The Vice-Chancellor of the University extended a warm welcome to the members of the Finance Committee and requested Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) G. Raghuram Goda to chair the meeting. Thereafter, the following agenda items were taken up for discussion:

Agenda No.	Particulars of Agenda Item
1	<p>Approval of the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting dated 18.03.2023.</p> <p>Notes: The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 18.03.2023 are placed for approval.</p> <p>Decision: Approved.</p>
2	<p>Confirmation of Action Taken Report on the Decisions taken in The Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 18.03.2023.</p> <p>Notes : The Action Taken Report on the decisions made in the Finance Committee meeting held on 18.03.2023 is placed before the Finance Committee for perusal and confirmation.</p> <p>Decision: Confirmed.</p>

3	<p>Audit Report of the Chartered Accountant for the Financial Year 2022-23 for perusal.</p> <p>Notes: M/s KCMG And Associates, Bilaspur (C.G.), the Chartered Accountants Firm, has completed the Audit for the Financial Year 2022-23 u/s 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act. M/s KCMG And Associates has submitted the Audit Report, which is placed before the Finance Committee for perusal.</p> <p>Decision: The members of the committee perused the audit report filed with the income tax department by the Chartered Accountants of the University.</p>
4	<p>Proposal for appointment of External Auditor for the Financial Years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.</p> <p>Notes: As per the decision of the Finance Committee in its meeting dated 11.12.2021, M/s KCMG And Associates, a Chartered Accountants Firm, was appointed for external audit for three years, i.e., FY 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 by inviting EOI. The firm has completed the audit for the given three years.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is placed for necessary guidance for the appointment of an External Auditor for the Financial Years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.</p> <p>Decision: The members of the Committee recommended that the process for appointment of auditors should be completed before the closure of the current financial year.</p>
5	<p>Placing Revised Budget Estimates for the F.Y. 2023-24 for perusal and approval.</p> <p>Notes: The University has launched its Research Centres under hub and spokes model titled as <i>RH@S</i>.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is proposed to revise the budget estimates for the FY 2023-24 by adding a specific head for research expenditure incurred by the schools and centres and allocate a sum of Rs. 5,00,000/- per centre. The revised budget is placed before the committee for perusal and approval.</p> <p>Decision: The committee perused and approved the revised budget.</p>
6	<p>Reporting of the fee refunded to the parents of the Late Ms. Urvi Bhardwaj, a final year student of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.).</p> <p>Notes: Late Ms. Urvi Bhardwaj, a final-year student, committed suicide on August 24, 2023. The University decided to refund the semester and mess fee collected from her to her parents. Accordingly, the semester fee and the</p>

	<p>remaining amount of the Mess fee, after the deduction of the proportionate amount, have been refunded to the parents of the Late Ms. Urvi Bhadwaj.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is placed for the perusal and information of the Finance Committee.</p> <p>Decision: The members of the committee took note of the item and commended the gesture of the University administration.</p>
7	<p>Payment of arrears to the faculty under the Career Advancement Scheme (CAS).</p> <p>Notes: The Assistant Professors who were found eligible under the Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) from Level 1-2 and Level 2-3 their Level of pay under the 7th Pay Scale of UGC has been upgraded from the date of eligibility. The total amount of Rs.18,98,891/- along with Employer contribution towards EPF amounting to Rs. 2,18,427/- was paid to the 13 Assistant Professors who were found eligible under CAS.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is placed for the perusal and information of the Finance Committee.</p> <p>Decision: Approved</p>
8	<p>Payment of ESI liability along with other charges.</p> <p>Notes: The University, after going through the provisions of the ESI Act, 1948, and under the guidance of its EPF and ESI Consultant, resolved that the ESI Law is applicable on the University since June 2017. The matter was taken up and all the pending dues from June 2017 to March 2023 of ESI amounting to Rs. 21,38,851.00, along with applicable interest and other charges, were paid by August 2023. The entire contribution was made by the University and no deduction was made from the salaries/ wages of the Employees.</p> <p>From April 2023 onwards, the University has regularised the ESI payment and has been remitting ESI contributions for and on behalf of the Employees. The pending dues of the ESI Consultant @ Rs. 1,000.00 + GST per month have also been cleared by the University in November 2023.</p> <p>Decision: Approved.</p>
9	<p>Approval of Financial Powers of the Registrar.</p> <p>Notes: As per the financial regulations of the University, the Vice-Chancellor may authorise the Registrar to incur expenditure on revenue heads within the prescribed limits prescribed by the budget. It is proposed to authorise the Registrar to incur expenditure of up to Rs 50,000/- subject to post facto approval of the competent authority.</p>

Accordingly, it is placed for perusal and information of the Finance Committee.

Decision:

The Committee having carefully considered this item, in the interest of efficient administration, approves the authorisation of Financial powers to the Registrar; and recommends further, that the Competent Authority should formally pass an order authorising the Registrar of the University: to incur expenditure of a maximum value, of Rs. 50,000/-, on any invoice/bill under Revenue heads within the limits specified in the Budget for the Financial Year. Every such authorisation of the Registrar shall be placed before the Competent Authority, for information and post-facto approval.

(Note: Dr. Vipin Kumar, Registrar (I/c) recused himself from the item)

