

HIDAYATULLAH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, RAIPUR

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 06.09.2025

The Finance Committee meeting of the Hidayatullah National Law University was held on 06.09.2025 at 12.00 pm. The following members were present: -

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Raghuram, Former Director, National Judicial Academy
2. Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, HNLU – Chairman
3. Ms. Sharda Verma, IAS (Retd.) - Member
4. Mr. Binod Kumar Lall, State Finance Service (Retd.) - Member
5. Ms. Rajni Pinjani, DGM (F&A), CMDCL - Member
6. Prof. (Dr.) Yogendra Kumar Srivastava, Professor of Law - Member
7. Dr. Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Registrar (I/c) & Member Secretary, Hidayatullah National Law University

Prof. Vivekanandan, the Chairman of the Finance Committee & Vice Chancellor, extended a warm welcome to the members of the Finance Committee and requested Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Raghuram to chair the meeting. The following agenda items were taken up for discussion:

<u>Sl. No</u>	<u>Agenda Items</u>
1.	<u>Perusal of the approved minutes of the Finance Committee meeting dated 23.03.2025.</u> <u>Notes:</u> The approved minutes of the Finance Committee meeting dated 23.03.2025 are placed for information. <u>Decision:</u> The committee took note of the minutes of the meeting dated 23.03.2025.
2.	<u>Perusal of the Action Taken Report on the decisions of the Finance Committee meeting dated 23.03.2025.</u>

Sl. No	Agenda Items																												
	<p>Notes:</p> <p>The Action Taken Report on the decisions of the Finance Committee meeting dated 23.03.2025 is placed for perusal and approval.</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Approved.</p>																												
3.	<p>Update on Income Tax Case.</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>The University had challenged the Income Tax Department's demand/Penalty orders for the following before the Hon'ble High Court of Chhattisgarh.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No</th> <th>Assessment Year</th> <th>Demand Order</th> <th>Penalty Order</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2011-12</td> <td>22,46,320 (Disposed off)</td> <td>15,94,381</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>2012-13</td> <td>3,03,09,910 (Disposed off by CIT (A))</td> <td>1,68,01,496</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>2015-16</td> <td>3,29,16,900</td> <td>2,61,66,191</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>2016-17</td> <td>3,90,88,328</td> <td>2,93,08,009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>2017-18</td> <td>2,31,78,649</td> <td>4,21,18,476</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total:</td> <td>9,51,83,877</td> <td>11,59,88,553</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The High Court held that the Department's orders were not in accordance with the principles of natural justice, as no opportunity of being heard was given to the University. The Court remanded the matters to the CIT(A) for fresh adjudication on merits.</p> <p>Subsequently, the University represented the cases before the CIT(A)-NFAC, for AY 2011-12, the CIT(A) passed a closure order holding that no tax was payable by the University and set aside the demand of the Income Tax Department.</p> <p>In respect of the above other demands, the Department had also issued penalty orders. These have also been challenged by the University before the High Court. Since the first demand order has already been reversed by the Court, the legal opinion given states that the penalty orders are not sustainable and</p>	Sl. No	Assessment Year	Demand Order	Penalty Order	1	2011-12	22,46,320 (Disposed off)	15,94,381	2	2012-13	3,03,09,910 (Disposed off by CIT (A))	1,68,01,496	3	2015-16	3,29,16,900	2,61,66,191	4	2016-17	3,90,88,328	2,93,08,009	5	2017-18	2,31,78,649	4,21,18,476		Total:	9,51,83,877	11,59,88,553
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	<p>advised to await the outcome of further appeal process to be taken up with the tribunal.</p> <p>Decision: The committee took note of the update regarding Income Tax demands.</p>
4.	<p><u>Claim by M/s Rajpoot Securities – Release of EMD and Pending Bills.</u></p> <p>Notes:</p> <p><u>Claim by the Agency:</u> M/s Rajpoot Securities, vide letter dated 28.02.2025, has requested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Release of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of ₹5,00,000. 2. Payment of pending bills for December 2018 and January 2019. <p><u>Review of records</u></p> <p>The agency was awarded a security services contract on 11.07.2017 valid up to 10.07.2018. The contract was later extended till 30.06.2019. During the contract period, repeated irregularities and non-compliance with the agreement were observed, including failure to submit statutory records (health reports, police verification, EPF, ESIC, GST details, etc.).</p> <p>Security personnel deployed by M/s Rajpoot Securities lodged a complaint with the Labour Commissioner alleging non-payment of wages as per collector rates, non-issuance of salary slips, illegal deductions of PF/ESI without deposit, denial of weekly offs/overtime, and payments made in cash instead of bank transfer. They also reported non-provision of ID cards, uniforms, and safety gear, indicating serious statutory and labour law violations by the agency and the same was forwarded by the Labour department to the University on 16.07.2019.</p> <p>M/s Rajpoot Securities also failed to pay wages to the security personnel deployed at HNLU, upon receiving complaints from the security persons deployed at HNLU, the University issued a notice to M/s Rajpoot Securities for the violation of the provisions of the agreement on 15.03.2019 and also informed that the university will use Clause 48 of the contract agreement to withhold Rs.5 lakhs.</p>

Sl. No	Agenda Items
	<p>Accordingly, the University directly paid the wages of the employees for the period from December 2018 to June 2019.</p> <p>Additionally, while terminating the contract on 30.04.2019, the University administration also took a decision to forfeit the EMD of ₹5,00,000 for the violations of the agency as per the contract agreement.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is placed for perusal and guidance on ratification in the books of accounts as liability/income.</p> <p><u>Decision:</u></p> <p>The committee directed the University to give an opportunity to the agency for a final appeal stating his claims and the reasons for the same in the light of the various omissions and commissions listed in the earlier show cause notice which has resulted in the action taken by the University including forfeiture of the EMD.</p>
5.	<p>Creation of HNLU Staff Compassionate Fund.</p> <p><u>Notes:</u></p> <p>The University proposes to establish an HNLU Staff Compassionate Fund with the objective of providing financial support to staff members during medical emergencies, accidents, death in the family, or other unforeseen crises. The Fund shall be maintained in a separate bank account and governed by a duly constituted Committee. It will be sustained through donations, voluntary contributions from faculty, staff & others, collections from students fines, and accrued interest. In addition, the University proposes to allocate a one-time corpus of ₹1 crore to strengthen the Fund and ensure its long-term sustainability. Draft policy is enclosed herewith for perusal.</p> <p>Accordingly, it is placed for approval for allocation of a one-time corpus of ₹1 crore for the HNLU Staff Compassionate Fund.</p> <p><u>Decision:</u></p> <p>The committee suggested certain modifications to the draft of the HNLU Staff Compassionate Fund and directed the revised policy to be circulated to the members for their final approval.</p>

Sl. No	Agenda Items
6.	<u>Any other matter with the permission of the Chair</u> No matter was placed under this item.

The Registrar (I/c) & Member Secretary expressed gratitude to the members for their attendance and valuable contributions to the meeting's agenda.



Registrar (I/c)