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PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH
(Esttd. Under the Panjab University Act VII of 1947)

IMPORTANT: Please send the Report regarding the Action Taken on the following Para on the enclosed proforma, which must reach Deputy Registrar (General) within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of despatch. **This may be treated as MOST URGENT as the Vice-Chancellor has taken a serious view on the non-availability of the Action Taken Report.**

Copy/Extract of the Paragraph 16 from the minutes of the meeting of **SYNDICATE/SENATE** held on 23.4.2023

16. Considered recommendation of the Regulations Committee dated 22.04.2023 (Appendix-) that the Regulations for 4-Year Undergraduate Honours Programmes, under NEP, 2020 framework, to be introduced at the Panjab University Campus and Colleges affiliated to Panjab University, for the following Programmes effective from the academic session 2023-24:

1. B.A. Honours
2. B.Sc. Honours
3. B.Sc. Honours (Under Honours School Framework)
4. B.Com. Honours
5. B.B.A. Honours
6. B.C.A. Honours.

Initiating discussion, Dr. Dinesh Kumar said that he would like to request for consideration of one more item with the permission of the House that introduction of new course of BBA was proposed to be started in P.U. Regional Centre, Ludhiana, which was approved. The file was inadvertently sent to the office of D.U.I. instead of placing the same before the Syndicate. He requested that presently the course has not been started, after the approval of the Syndicate, they would apply to Bar Council of India for its approval. He requested that Vice Chancellor may be authorized to approve the course on the behalf of the Syndicate.

Several members agreed the view point expressed by Dr. Dinesh Kumar and requested that the Vice Chancellor be authorized to approve the introduction of the course on behalf of the Syndicate.

Dr. Jagtar Singh said that request was also made to the Registrar that record of Affiliation Committees/Inspection Committees was received from the year 2018 to 2022 whereas they want that the reports from the year 2014 to 2022 may be submitted.

Shri Varinder Singh said that for the prevailing session, new Affiliations/Inspection/Selection Committees may be re-constituted and old Committees may be declared redundant, but no action has been on it, till date. He requested that University's Professors, Associate Professors and the members of the Senate should be included in the Inspection Committees. But nothing has been done on it.

It was informed that letters had already been issued regarding constitution of Inspection Committees, to withdraw these letters, it should be decided whether these could be withdrawn.

Dr. Jagtar Singh said that in the Inspection Committee sent for Gurusar Sadhar College for inspection of course of Physical Education, no teacher of Physical Education was included in the Committee.

It was informed that all the Committees had been visited the Colleges before his joining as Dean College Development Council. He asked as the letters have already been issued, either they have to withdraw these letters or otherwise.

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The Vice Chancellor said that the constitution of the Committee should be reviewed.

It was informed that item 16 regarding framing of Regulations may be considered now.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that Regulations are being framed and item has been placed as table agenda.

It was informed that he fully agreed with him, the meeting related to was scheduled tomorrow, but admission process has to be started and these Regulations are required to be framed at the earliest.

Professor Jatinder Grover said that meeting of Regulations Committee was held on 22nd April, 2023 (yesterday), where the members of the Regulations were Dr. Jagwant Singh, Professor Navdeep Goyal and Dr. Shaminder Singh Sandhu had devoted extra time and framed the Regulations. The reason behind the same is that as new admissions are to be started and there is need to make amendment in the Regulations, hence he submitted that it should be adopted and Regulations Committee may be directed to go through the same minutely, and any suggestion or modification of any member may be sent to the Regulations Committee so that the same could be placed directly in the Senate, otherwise the admissions would be delayed.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that in the neighboring states of Punjab, the Choice Based Credit System was introduced without preparation. Ultimately this decision had to be reverted. This policy is new and Colleges are not very much aware in it. There is no doubt that everyone has to shift towards New Education Policy, but in one go, they are proposing multiple regulations, hence it is desired that for implementation of this policy, the input of the Colleges should be obtained. Whereas the Regulations are framed from the University, the problem lies at the level of the Colleges, as they are lacking proper knowledge about the New Education Policy. They could not assess as how to much retrenchment is done with the introduction of New Education Policy. The feedback of the Colleges should be obtained by the University by sending the draft Regulations to be framed under NEP-2020, on the matters regarding Credit System and other issues pertaining to it. He is not aware as to how many Principals were ready for the same. How could the R&S Branch and Examination Branch of the University take the load of the same? He is only of the opinion that Colleges, especially located in Punjab, should be consulted.

The Vice Chancellor replied that Regulations so framed would be sent to the Colleges for obtaining their feedback. They only tried to implement these Regulations in 1st year, and no major variation is made. The Regulations in terms of weightage, internal assessment, have not been amended only the criteria of result has been proposed, earlier the result was in percentage now it would be made on the basis of CGPA. The semester grade point would be calculated; credits have been assigned to the subjects. The Ministry of Education had been repeatedly directing them that they should register on Academic Bank of Credits by creating the individual ID of the students, entering the credits earned by the students. For

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entering the credits in the Academic Bank of Credits, all this exercise is needed to be done.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that it is to be implemented phase wise. Firstly, it should be implemented in the University where number of students are very less. All such implementations have earlier been done in a phased, firstly it was done in the University at P.G. level and later on implemented in the Colleges.

The Vice Chancellor said that earlier also the CBC system had been introduced in the Honours school and CBC system is neither implemented in P.G. courses nor in the University as well as Colleges.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that semester system was implemented in the Colleges in a phased manner. It was not fully implemented immediately in University as well as in Colleges. If it is to be implemented in the College, the input from the Colleges should also be obtained. The same should be introduced at P.G. level in the first instance.

The Vice Chancellor replied that it should not be implemented in P.G. courses, as under NEP-2020, the four year honours course is only to be needed to be introduced at U.G. level.

At this stage, several members started speaking together and din prevailed.

The Vice Chancellor said that U.G.C. had only given the framework for four year honours in Under graduate courses. They are not thinking of preparing the framework for P.G. courses. The major focus is only on four year honours Under graduate courses i.e., only in B.A., B.Sc., BBA and B.com. The B.Ed. regulations and Laws are also not being considered under this policy, as NCTE and BCI are applicable to B.Ed. and Law courses respectively.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that it should be implemented but not in a haste manner, so that the Colleges could implement the same at an ease. Either Sciences or Arts should be implemented in first phase and rest of the courses in second phases.

Shri Amarpal Pal Singh, Director, Higher Education, Punjab, said that the proposal submitted is in order, and what one of the member is speaking about is the Handbook for the Colleges, like they may not be able to start to do something, get confused and then the whole system is failed. So, they should have a mechanism to train the Colleges how it can be implemented.

Shri Varinder Singh said that the Regulations Committee, which submitted the proposal, was constituted in the previous meeting of the Syndicate. Secondly, the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Jagwant Singh was the President of College Teachers Union and presently he is also doing excellent work. Dr. Shaminder Singh Sandhu is also from the College. He fully agreed with Professor Jatinder Grover that they devoted extra time in preparing the framework to be implemented under NEP-2020 so that this work could be accomplished. The representatives of the Colleges in the Committees, which proposed the amendment in the Regulations, were also the members of the Committee.

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Dr. Shaminder Singh Sandhu and Shri Varinder Singh jointly said that Regulations Committee may be authorized to do the changes as per the input received from the Colleges.

Principal R.S. Jhanji said that the framework could easily be implemented in the University as the University has all the digital facilities. But in the Colleges, it would be difficult to do so. In the conference of the Principals where 110 Colleges of Punjab participated and therein representative of the Colleges expressed their views. He reiterated that Colleges would not be in position to adopt the NEP-2020. This exercise is not for one day earlier also at the time of implementation of Credit Based Choice System, they have to face the drop out of students. They did not wish that their admission would be placed at stake. They are presently facing the problem of financial crunch and staff shortage. There are similar other things which are needed to be addressed. It is correct that the entire framework has been prepared in a proper manner. But rest of the persons are not aware, for them it would be a huge dismay for them. Similarly, he is saying, from 2nd May, examinations are commencing and from 15th May, after the declaration of results, the admissions will be commenced, and at this stage, the Colleges are not in a position to inform about the options of three year or four year honours course at Under graduate level. There are some many technical hitches which the Colleges would be faced. The Principals as well as the teachers are in a position to intimate the students about this frame work being implemented under NEP-2020. The College teachers which are associated with the preparation of framework may be aware of this frame work but rest of the Colleges have no knowledge about it. If the same is implemented in the Colleges in one go, it might not happen that their dropouts would be increased. Hence, they should be given time and make the Colleges properly understand about the concept so that they could also be in the position to make understand the students. He doubted that out of these 110 Principals, more than four Principals would be able to make the students understand about the revised frame work. If the authorities want to impose the amended frame work, then it is okay to them. It would be imposed from the academic session 2023-24, but the offices of the University would be flooded with number of queries. If the same is imposed, the queries raised in the Colleges, would be forwarded to the University for redressing. In value added courses, where credits are to be given, the experts for Value added courses would be in a position to contact the Colleges and Could they able to manage the queries related to Value added courses without expertise? If this frame work would be discussed in the Colleges, they would come to know at that stage, that Colleges are not in a position to implement it. His contention is only that this frame work should not be imposed on the Colleges as with his practical experience that whenever such things are imposed, instead of enhancing the positions, they have to face the loss. The Colleges are worried of enhancing the admissions and it only because of the reason that majority of the Colleges are near closing. It might not happen that admissions are enhanced in City Colleges and decline in the rural Colleges. This should be reviewed seriously, the Colleges of Chandigarh would easily update the system as per new framework, because they have the required infrastructure. The Colleges located in Chandigarh have the required digital facilities whereas in Punjab, except some Colleges, they are lacking the facility of proper infrastructure. He himself has no problem, he would do but broadly when talking in the Syndicate, they have to think about other Colleges also. The awareness about

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the revised frame work as per NEP-2020 should be initiated as many of the Colleges are not aware how to work on the credits for value added courses, how to prepare the time-table, who would teach. Could they require the permission of the Faculty that is they capable to teach the students? From where the funds would come? He requested that his opinion may not take on negative side, he is representing the College, hence he is explaining the difficulties of the Colleges. The other members are talking to be done in phased manner, it should be implemented in P.G. courses, they wish that it should be implemented firstly in P.G. courses but for P.G. courses, the U.G.C. had not notified any guidelines. They wish that it should be introduced at the level of the University in the first instance.

Dr. Harpreet Singh Dua said that the work of the Committee has been appreciated. They all are aware that resources of the Colleges are very limited, the salaries of more than 15 months have not been released. To evolve new system in the Colleges, the funds are required. If new policy is adopted, they have to adopt but the Colleges are prepared at the moment. From the data of the affiliated Colleges, they could gather that there is a huge disparity in the number of required teachers, and if two new things are to be included, there would be a lot of problem as they have to compete with the Private Colleges. Till they make the students under the courses under NEP-2020, the students would be got admission in the Private Colleges.

The Vice Chancellor said that the Private Universities had already adopted the NEP-2020.

Principal R.S. Jhanji said that in this session they should do rigorous exercise in the matter and from the next session i.e., 2024-25, it would be got implemented.

Professor Shiv Kumar Dogra said that in his opinion, the amendments in the Regulations under NEP-2020 should be adopted in principle from this session. They should give some time to stakeholders to give their queries and suggestions to the Committee so that these could be considered. A booklet consisting of FAQs should be prepared, and there should be some space so that if any modifications or changes are required to be made in the syllabi, at any stage, could be done. All the suggestions should be sent to the Regulations Committee if suitable the Regulations Committee can consider the input and suggestions to be incorporated.

The Vice Chancellor said that in the meeting of the Principals, it was discussed that amended Regulations would be sent to all the Principals for their feedback and they were also directed to appoint NEP Coordinator/Nodal Officer in their respective Colleges so that they could interact with the team of the University. It was also discussed that workshops/seminars for the College teachers would be conducted by HRDC Centre.

Principal R.S. Jhanji said that they fully agreed on this but instead of implementing from the session 2023-24, it should be implemented from the next session 2024-25.

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Dr. Dinesh Kumar said that the viewpoint expressed by Principal R.S. Jhanji is appropriate, but it should be kept in mind that there are several Private Universities in Punjab which are in the process to implementation from this academic session. Students only consider this point that new Regulations are implemented in these Universities or not. In Punjab, majority of students prefer to study abroad, and in foreign Universities, the tradition of considering 4 year degree course is in place. The little way out of this, would be that Colleges may be given the option to run both the courses (3 year or 4 year) simultaneously so that they could automatically be aware as to students are interested in which type of course. It should categorically be made clear that initially for a period of one or two years, the Colleges can run both the courses simultaneously and students may be given option for the same.

To this, the Vice Chancellor said that it is optional, students have to give choose any option.

Dr. Dinesh Kumar said that it is not optional as per his knowledge. There is a major difference in three year or four year course, as a student if he joins a four year course, after one year, if he wish to drop out, he would get some certificate, even after two years, he would get certificate. Whereas in three year course, he would get degree only, on completion of the same. If he opts for three year course, he has to wait for three years to obtain the degree, if he drops out in first year, he would not get no certificate. On the other hand if opts for four year course, after one year, two years or three years, he would get certificates. He said that the problems raised by Principal R.S. Jhanji should be addressed in a way that all the Colleges may be directed to that options of running both the courses should be given.

Principal R.S. Jhanji said that they should ask the Colleges who have to run these courses.

Professor Jatinder Grover said that issues raised by the representatives of the Colleges are valid, but the concern raised by Dr. Dinesh Kumar that Private Universities as well as GNDU, Amritsar have already implemented to run 4 year courses. The students would automatically get admission in these neighbouring Colleges where 4 year course has been introduced. The students of Punjab who wish to study abroad would opt for 4 year course instead of three year course.

Shri Varinder Singh said that moreover students would only prefer the latest and revised courses.

Dr. Gurmeet Singh said that the Colleges are also affiliated with GNDU, Amritsar and Private Universities. They have to face the same problem also. Initially when the change is proposed, apprehensions and resistance are poured in.

Dr. Mukesh Arora said that the revised Regulations in accordance with NEP-2020, should be adopted in principle from this academic session. In the year 2014, when Professor Arun K. Grover was the Vice Chancellor and he was the member of the Syndicate, at that time, the choice based credit system was adopted in principle and it was said by one of the member Principal Iqbal Singh Sandhu, that it would be implemented from the next session, and that next session had not come till now.

Shri Amandeep Singh Bhatti, Director, Higher Education, U.T., said that problems are not raised only on adoption of NEP-2020, when any policy is adopted for the first time, problems are raised but with time, these would definitely be covered up. They have no option except to adopt this from the current session. They would be considered as losers if they would not adopt it. As stated by other members that Private Universities have go far ahead in adopting this policy. Secondly, what Principal R.S. Jhanji has told, is absolutely correct, there is need to conduct workshops, orientation programmes, and FAQ should be prepared, placed on website and there is no harm of putting some audio/video recordings and one person for handling the queries of the students and tell them each and every thing and would disseminated to all the Colleges. Audio visual messages can also be sent. The Committee members who have worked on that have all type of knowledge for its implementation also. They have no other option, they have to do this and it is his suggestion that they must do this.

RESOLVED: That the Regulations for 4-Year Undergraduate Honours Programmes, under NEP, 2020 framework, to be introduced at the Panjab University Campus and Colleges affiliated to Panjab University, for the following Programmes effective from the academic session 2023-24, be approved:

1. B.A. Honours
2. B.Sc. Honours
3. B.Sc. Honours (Under Honours School Framework)
4. B.Com. Honours
5. B.B.A. Honours
6. B.C.A. Honours.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Regulations Committee, be authorized to make changes in the Regulations for 4-Year Undergraduate Honours Programmes on the basis of input received from different stakeholders, including affiliated Colleges, on behalf of the Syndicate and the final Regulations be placed before the Senate in its next meeting.

No. S.T. 3539-3542

Dated: 01/05/2023

Copy forwarded to the following for information and necessary action and to inform all concerned:

1. AR-DUIB office - To circulate all the Teaching Department
2. DR. colleges/wise - To circulate all the affiliated colleges
3. AR-G.
4. O.S. Regulations

Circulate to all teaching departments.
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8.5.23

[Signature]
Deputy Registrar (General)

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