



COEP Technological University, Pune
(A Unitary Public University of Govt. of Maharashtra)
Wellesley Road, Shivajinagar, PUNE- 411 005

Minutes of 6th BOG Meeting

The sixth (6th) meeting of the Board of Governance of COEP Technological University was held on Saturday, 24th August 2024 in online mode. The following members were present in the meeting:

1.	Dr. Pramod Chaudhari	Chairman
2.	Prof. Sunil Bhirud	Member
3.	Mr. Bharat Gite	Member
4.	Dr. Vinod Mohitkar	Member
5.	Prof. Ashish Lele	Member
6.	Prof. Sunil Bhagwat	Member
7.	Shri. Vinayak Pai	Member
8.	Shri. Amit Paranjape	Member
9.	Prof. Suhas Mohite	Member
10.	Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Thube,	Member
11.	Dr. Dayaram Sonawane	Member -Secretary

Members granted leave of absence:

1.	Shri. Satish Tidke	Member
2.	Prof. Milind Atrey	Member
3.	Dr. Ravindra Utgikar	Permanent Invitee
4.	Dr. (Mrs.) Yashodhara Haribhakta,	Permanent Invitee
5.	Mr. Amit Bajaj	Permanent Invitee

Gm

Dr. D. N. Sonawane, Registrar of COEP Technological University, commenced the meeting by welcoming all members. Dr. Pramod Chaudhari, Chairman of the Board of Governors, has requested to join late due to prior commitments, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sunil Bhirud chaired the meeting in his absence until Dr. Chaudhari joined the meeting. In his opening remarks, Dr. Chaudhari noted that the NIRF ranking was the initial focus when the new Board assumed responsibility. He expressed confidence that the collaboration with KPMG will significantly enhance the University's performance in the NIRF rankings. He also extended his gratitude to his colleagues for their valuable contributions to various initiatives.

Item 6.1: Presentation by Vice Chancellor encompassing the following points: (For Information and Discussion)

Prof. Sunil Bhirud made a comprehensive presentation on the following points for information and brief discussion.

Key highlights/achievements of COEP Tech since last BOG meeting.

• **COEP Tech Video Film**

Prof. Bhirud informed the members that the new video film of COEP Tech is shared with various stakeholders for their reviews and suggestions. It is now available on the University website. Additionally, Dr. Chaudhari shared the video with our alumni in the USA during the Garje Maharashtra Summit earlier this month, where he was invited as the keynote speaker.

• **Engagement of KPMG consulting firm**

Prof. Bhirud informed the members that the University has engaged KPMG for the Transformation Initiative, and their team has begun the work from August 1, 2024. KPMG has provided a 15-day interim report and has also presented a detailed analysis of the University's NIRF ranking.

• **NIRF ranking analysis of COEP Tech University**

The members were informed that according to the NIRF 2024 results, COEP Tech is ranked 77th in the Engineering category and 33rd in the State University category. The University also falls within the 101-150 band among all universities and the 11-50 band under the Innovation category. Prof. Bhirud presented the following observations from the NIRF rank analysis:

- ✓ Despite an increase in scores from 46.89 to 47.89, the rank has dropped from 73rd to 77th.
- ✓ There has been a significant improvement in the University's scores and rank in terms of Peer Perception.
- ✓ Three major parameters need focused attention for improvement:
 - Teaching and Learning (TLR): faculty strength, quality, and experience.
 - Research Output (RP): publications, patents, and projects.
 - Outreach and Inclusivity (OI): regional and gender diversity.
- ✓ Emphasis is needed on faculty recruitment and enhancing the University's research output to maintain and improve the rankings.

Prof. Bhirud further added that detail analysis of the NIRF scores with Peer institution will be done by KPMG and the findings will be submitted shortly. Mr. Gite suggested to undertake aggressive campaigning for publicity nationwide to attract students from other



states. Mr. Paranjape added that the percentage of female students is better as compared to some of the IITs/ NITs.

- **Updates on various admissions**

- ✓ Regarding the admission statistics for the First Year B.Tech and B.Plan programs, Prof. Bhirud informed the members that out of the 863 sanctioned seats, 267 students have confirmed their admissions after the first round. Since many students are aiming for program improvements, it is anticipated that 100% of the seats will be filled by the end of the 2nd and 3rd admission rounds.
- ✓ This year also M. Tech and M. Planning admissions are conducted at the University level. Since the admission process started on time, and two rounds have already been completed, with a third round scheduled for the coming week. As we are conducting PG admissions independently at university level, we may hold two additional rounds to increase the number of admissions. Out of 606 sanctioned seats across PG specializations, 319 have already been filled.

- **Updates on Placement Activities**

Prof. Bhirud presented the current statistics for Placements and Internship:

Placement details of AY: 2023-24

B. TECH- Students enrolled = 695, Placed=543, % Placed= 78.13%

M.TECH-Students enrolled = 236, Placed=110, % Placed= 46.61%

Internship details

B. TECH (6 months) - Students enrolled = 695, Internships= 197, 28.34%

Third Year (2 months) - Students enrolled = 589, Internships=270, 45.84%

M.TECH (10-12 months) - Students enrolled = 236, Internships= 66, 28.00%

Prof. Bhirud added that placement and internship opportunities will be a key focus area for the University to enhance our NIRF score, as there is limited scope for immediate improvement in faculty-related parameters.

Resolution: The Board **NOTED** all above points and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the recommendations.

Item No. 6.2: **Confirmation of Minutes and Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 5th BOG meeting held on Friday, June 7th, 2024.**

Dr. Sonawane informed the Board members that the minutes of the 5th BOG meeting held on Friday, June 7th, 2024, were circulated to all the members for their perusal and suggestions. The minutes were finalized after incorporating all the suggestions received from the members.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Minutes of Meeting and Action Taken Report (ATR) of 5th BOG meeting held on Friday, June 7th, 2024.

Item 6.3: To approve the confirmation of B. Tech & M. Tech degrees to passing out students of various Departments and specializations. Also, approval to hold the Convocation Ceremony for M. Tech students passing out from the COEP Tech University.

Dr. Sonawane informed to the Board that the First Convocation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 12:00 PM in the Main Auditorium, COEP Technological University, Shivajinagar, Pune. His Excellency Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Chancellor and Governor of Maharashtra, presided over the ceremony.

In this prestigious event, a total of 246 postgraduate students graduating in 2024 will receive their degree certificates. Additionally, 14 top-performing students from various specializations will be honored with rank certificates at the hands of His Excellency Shri. C. P. Radhakrishnan.

In a special ceremony scheduled later on the same day, 9 top-performing undergraduate students will be awarded Gold Medals for their exceptional academic achievements and passing certificates to 777 undergraduate students graduating this year will be distributed.

Dr. Sonawane presented the list of the UG and PG toppers and gold medalist for the approval of the Board members. Dr. Sonawane requested and invited all the BOG members to grace the occasion with their esteemed presence.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the confirmation of B. Tech degrees to 777 students & 9 top-performing UG students with Gold Medals as well as 246 M. Tech, M. Planning and MBA degrees to the graduating students of various departments and specializations & 14 top-performing PG students with a rank certificate at the hands of his Excellency Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan. The Board also **APPROVED** to hold the Convocation Ceremony for M. Tech students graduating from the COEP Tech University.

Item 6.4: To approve/ratify the NOC to be given to SRA officials for the development of the slum area under the SRA scheme of Govt. of Maharashtra on Patil Estate Campus of COEP Tech University.

- Dr. Sonawane briefed the members that the Plot No. 65 at Patil Estate, Shivajinagar, Pune (total area 18,783 sq. m) is owned by COEP Tech Pune as per the court order. As the slum dwellers have been residing on this plot since a long time, and as per the SRA Act, they are now entitled to housing according to government norms. The government has provided guidelines and rules for the development of such plots, allowing the owner (a government entity) to receive certain benefits. These benefits can be shared by SRA with the owner through the development process.
- In 2018, Govt of Maharashtra has issued a letter to COEP and given a principal approval.
- Recently, the Honourable Chief Minister visited the site and directed the SRA to proceed with the rehabilitation of the people and revise the policy related to the development of the Patil Estate area.
- The SRA officials are seeking consent to issue the NOC for the development of the slum area under the SRA scheme so that COEP can receive the benefits as per the Government norms and regulations.

- In view of this as well as the in-person meeting of Hon. Vice Chancellor with Hon. Minister-Higher and Technical Education of State of Maharashtra, it has been directed to send a request to Govt to issue NOC to SRA authorities.
- Since issuing the NOC is the prerogative of the Government, a request letter is being communicated to Hon. Principal Secretary Higher and Technical Education through Director, Directorate of Technical Education, Mumbai to issue NOC to SRA authorities and to provide guidance for the same.

After discussion and deliberations, the members made the following recommendations.

- Mr. Vinayak Pai said that the SRA will be giving back 1/4th of the land to COEP. Besides considering the quantum of antisocial elements in the said area, evacuation of the area is feasible only through SRA schemes.
- Dr. Mohitkar said to negotiate further to get some additional construction along with the 1/4th land which SAR will give back to the University.
- Dr. Chaudhari suggested to write to the Government seeking additional land at Chikhali in addition to the 1/4th land as the part of the return benefit and a request letter is being communicated to Hon. Principal Secretary Higher and Technical Education through Director, DTE Mumbai to issue NOC to SRA authorities and to provide guidance for the same.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** that as per the clause mentioned in COEP Tech Act, a request letter is to be send to Govt to issue NOC to SRA officials for the development of the slum area under the SRA scheme of Govt. of Maharashtra on Patil Estate Campus of COEP Tech University as per the recommendations of the committee.

Item 6.5: To approve the Minutes of 5th Finance Committee held on Wednesday, August 14th, 2024.

Dr. Sonawane presented the minutes of 5th Finance Committee held on Wednesday, 14th August 2024. The board members received the minutes, discussed and deliberated.

FC/ Item no.5.2:	To approve minutes of 4 th Purchase committee held on 9 th August 2024
Resolution:	Board members noted and RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes of the 4 th Finance committee meeting held on 3 rd June 2024.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (a)	Approval for initiating the tender process through the University website for the empanelment of vendors for procurement of consumable and non-consumable electrical items required for maintenance of existing electrical installations and for new minor electrical installations in the main COEP Tech campus and hostel buildings.
Resolution:	Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the Empanelment of vendors (including the possibility of reverse auction) for procurement of consumable and non-consumable electrical items amounting to Rs. 10.00 Lakhs required for maintenance of electrical installations.

FC/Item No. 5.2 (b)	Approval to purchase of electric drive set ups in Electrical engineering department, Electrical Drives Lab and water coolers.
Resolution:	The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of Electric drive set ups valued Rs. 17.99 Lakhs as per the sanctioned budget. Board members also APPROVED the recommendations of Purchase and Finance Committee of procurement of the water coolers. As suggested the entire requirement of various departments of the institute should be gathered and requirements can be made to vendors in bulk to avail better price.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (c)	Approval for up gradation of Data Acquisition system for Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) located at the department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering
Resolution:	The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the purchase of Data Acquisition System valued at Rs.11.50 Lakhs/- from listed proprietary vendor as per request from HOD, Department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (d)	Approval to renew/purchase the Microsoft Open Value Education Subscription for the University.
Resolution:	The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the renew/purchase of Microsoft Open Value Subscription by following the proper tendering process through GeM portal and APPROVED Rs. Rs.20 Lakhs plus applicable GST for the same.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (e)	Approval to procure the Corel Draw Perpetual license for Gymkhana.
Resolution:	The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of Corel Draw Perpetual license for the University costing Rs. Rs.10 Lakhs.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (f)	To approve procurement of routers and switches to implement wireless networking as a turnkey work for university students Hostel Campus.
Resolution:	<p>As purchase committee and further Finance committee discussed that the existing network of hostel campus is outdated (3G) and does not cater to student demands and students have raised the concern about not having a consistent internet at hostel campus.</p> <p>Further, Purchase Committee members discussed that it is essential students should have the latest technology wireless network.</p> <p>The Board members discussed, deliberated and RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of wireless devices to upgrade the existing network and APPROVED Rs. 128.33 Lakhs for the same and also suggested to follow the appropriate procurement process through the GeM portal.</p>



FC/Item No. 5.2 (g)	Approval to purchase Video Conferencing system for Main Conference Hall
Resolution:	The board RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of state-of-the-art video conferencing system for main conference hall and APPROVED Rs. 10.00 Lks for the same.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (h)	Approval of purchasing of Five Distribution Switches for different departments.
Resolution:	The board RESOLVED to APPROVE replacement of outdated and irreparable existing network switches and APPROVED an expenditure of Rs. 22.50 Lakhs for the same.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (i)	Approval of the purchase of new furniture for the newly developed building of the Mechanical Engineering Department.
Resolution:	The Board members discussed, deliberated and suggested exploring first the CSR/donations/sponsorship option for procurement of the furniture for newly constructed Mechanical Drawing Hall and Mechanical building estimated. In case the suggested option doesn't work out then as per the budget provisions made for procurement of new furniture, the Board APPROVED Rs. 25 Lakhs for the same.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (j)	Approval of the purchase of heat pump for boy's hostel.
Resolution:	As per the suggestions and recommendations of the purchase committee, the Board members suggested reviewing the current water heating system available in the hostel campus including the solar system and electrical water heating system and preparing a comprehensive report. The Board members also instructed to prepare a comparative analysis to understand the need for a Heat pump system. Accordingly, the Heat pumps are to be procured with the consent of the purchase/Finance committee.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (k)	Approval of purchase of New Mattress for Hostel Students
Resolution:	The Board members RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of 1000 new mattresses at an estimated cost of Rs. 35.00 Lakhs for hostel campus.
FC/Item No. 5.2 (l)	Approval for purchase of Data acquisition devices and sensor systems for Mechanical Engineering Department through SERB project Grant sanctioned.
Resolution:	The Board members RESOLVED to APPROVE the procurement of Data Acquisition devices and sensors costing around Rs. 13.53 Lakhs from the grant received by SERB for Mechanical Engineering Department.

FC/Item No. 5.2 (m)	Procurement of new UPS systems to various Departments as per requirement.
Resolution:	<p>The Board members discussed and suggested a detailed review of existing UPS systems available at various sections and Department of the University needs to be performed before procuring the new UPS systems.</p> <p>The Board members RESOLVED to APPROVE Rs. 70.00 Lakhs for the procurement of new UPS units as per the need and detailed review of existing systems.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.3	To Approve Increment of Dearness Allowance for BOG appointed staff and to approve the payment of DA Arrears from January 2024 to July 2024.
Resolution:	<p>The Board members discussed, deliberated and RESOLVED to APPROVE increment in the DA from 46% to 50% in accordance with the GR of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 10th July 2024 effective from the implementation month. Thus, the increased per month salary burden of Rs. 4,24,414/- approximately. The Board also APPROVED paying the DA arrears arises along with DA difference of amount of Rs. 29,70,898 from January 2024 onwards to BOG appointed employees from the Budget Head-Salary.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.4	To Approve the payment of 5 th installment of 7 th pay arrears to non-teaching staff appointed by BOG
Resolution	<p>The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the 5th installment of the 7th pay arrears to 43 non-teaching staff appointed by BOG amounting to Rs. 15,57,089/- under Budget Head-Salary, in accordance with the GR issued by the Govt of Maharashtra. This amount shall be disbursed in the month of September/October 2024.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.5	To review the work order of Provident fund consultant T.M. Ghorpade.
Resolution	<p>COEP BOG in its 44th meeting held on 24th June 2020, vide item no 7 approved the appointment of Mr. T. M. Ghorpade as legal adviser for HR and Labor Laws related matters of institute. But, in light of the his repeated failure to address the issues related to unresolved problems pf provident funds, the finance committee has recommended reviewing his appointment order and suggested taking appropriate action against him as per the clauses mentioned in the appointment order.</p> <p>The Board members discussed, deliberated and instructed FAO to review the work order given to Mr. T.M. Ghorpade and take an action as per the clauses given in work order.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.6	Quarterly review of budget utilization for first quarter of FY 2024-25.



Resolution	<p>The matter is placed before the Finance committee to appraise the finance committee for budget utilization for the first quarter of FY 24-25.</p> <p>The Board members NOTED the review of budget utilization and APPROVED the recommendations of Finance Committee.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.7	To approve Facility Management Services for IT Infrastructure for University and Hostel Campus.
Resolution	<p>The Board members RESOLVED to APPROVE the tender advertisement for the engagement of new IT Facility Management Services for IT Infrastructure work for the University main campus and Hostel campus through the University procedures and norms with an estimated budget of Rs.30 Lakhs plus as applicable taxes.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.8	To Approve incentivizing the functionaries of the University.
Resolution	<p>As per suggestions given by the Board members, the review was taken and exercise has been carried out to understand the incentive structure of other institutes like SGGS Institute of Technology Nanded, VJTI Mumbai to compare the proposition of the University. The comparative analysis is also performed.</p> <p>The Board discussed, deliberated and RESOLVED to APPROVE the continuation of the incentivizing of the functionaries of the University. The Board APPROVED the proposed per month incentives for the functionaries as per annexure tabled.</p>
FC/ Item no.5.9	To apprise the members regarding receipt of pending scholarship amounting to Rs. 8,82,63,076/- for academic year 2011-12 to 2017-18.
Resolution	<p>The Board members NOTED the receipt of pending scholarship amounting to Rs. 8,82,63,076/- of AY 2011-12 to 2017-18. The Board members expressed thanks to Dr. Mohitkar for his support and pursuing the matter with the Govt.</p>
FC/Item no.5.10	To approve the variation in cost of project of construction of Centre of Excellence (Chikhali Campus) - Proposed by BWC
Resolution	<p>The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE the request and recommendations of BWC regarding an increase in the estimated cost of Rs.8.64Cr. of Civil infrastructure work of COEP-Chikhali project.</p> <p>The Board suggested that the approval is subject to submission of PWD recommendation to the Govt. Dr. Mohitkar suggested revisiting all the budget heads approved in the GR and submitting the reappropriation of the budget once with proper study and understanding the future needs of the project. Dr. Mohitkar also suggested that all the reappropriations should be well within the sanctioned amount of Rs. 150.Cr and no</p>

	additional amount will be approved from the Govt for the project.
FC/Item no.5.11	To approve the tendering of Library-Computer Department Building - Proposed by BWC
Resolution	The Board RESOLVED to APPROVE initiation of tendering process for the remaining work of Library-Computer building as proposed by BWC. Board members are instructed to follow the Govt procedures of tenders and prepare a comprehensive tender catering all the requirements of Library-Computer building.
FC/Item no.5.12	Any other point with the permission of the Chair- Regarding the Mediclaim Policy for the Board appointed University employees.
Resolution	As per the recommendations of the Finance Committee, the Board members suggested doing a proper study and submit a proposal regarding group Mediclaim policy for the Board appointed University employees.

Item 6.6: To approve the appointment of University Statutory and Administrative posts as per the UGC/AICTE/State Govt. norms issued time to time.

Dr. Sonawane apprised the Board members that as per the provisions given in clause no.5(vii) of COEP Technological University Act 2022, and as per the approval given by Govt. of Maharashtra vide letter dated 15th November 2023 and subsequently a letter issued on 16th August 2024, the University needs to make the appointment of University Statutory and Administrative posts as mentioned below and seek approval for publishing advertisement inviting applications for the same.

1. Registrar
2. Director, Board of Examination and Evaluation
3. Director, Knowledge Resource Centre
4. Director, Board of Research, Innovation, Incubation and Linkages
5. Director, Board of Students Development
6. Finance and Accounts Officer

Prof. Bhirud highlighted that, since the Statutes/Recruitment Rules of COEP Technological University have not yet been established, the university will need to adopt the Recruitment Rules of either Savitribai Phule Pune University or Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological University (BATU).

The Board recommended adopting BATU's Recruitment Rules until COEP Technological University's own Statutes/Recruitment Rules are finalized.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the appointment of University Statutory and Administrative posts adopting the Recruitment Rules of BATU.

Item No 6.7: To approve the appointment of “Ms. Yamuna Mahendra Salunkhe” at COEP Tech University based on “Inheritance Rights” (वारसहक्क तत्वावर) as per the powers of appointment vested with BOG as per COEP Tech Act 2022.

Dr. Sonawane informed the Board that Shri. Mahendra Gopal Solunke served as a Sweeper at this University (formerly College of Engineering, Pune) from 05.06.2006 until his passing on 10.11.2022 due to prolonged illness. He was appointed by the Government of Maharashtra. Following his death while in service, his wife, Smt. Yamuna Mahendra Solunke, was nominated as the beneficiary for all his posthumous benefits.

Shri. Mahendra Gopal Solunke served as a Sweeper at this University (formerly College of Engineering, Pune) from 05.06.2006 until his passing on 10.11.2022 due to prolonged illness. He was appointed by the Government of Maharashtra. Following his death while in service, his wife, Smt. Yamuna Mahendra Solunke, was nominated as the beneficiary for all his posthumous benefits.

In line with the Government Resolution (GR) dated 22.12.2023, which approves the Officer/Employee Compassion Policy for certain universities and institutes, a nominated beneficiary may be employed in government service if the employee dies during service. While this GR included COEP Technological University, it did not explicitly address the employment of beneficiaries through inheritance.

Smt. Yamuna Mahendra Solunke submitted a request to the University for employment under this policy. However, the Joint Director, Technical Education, Regional Office, Pune, declined her proposal, citing the absence of provisions for inheritance-based employment in the GR dated 22.12.2023 and indicated that the matter falls under the University's purview.

Subsequently, a GR dated 24.02.2023 was issued, approving the appointment of qualifying beneficiaries of sweepers by right of succession. Additionally, the Under Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Social Justice and Special Assistance Department, issued a revised provision on 21.03.2024, amending the previous GR to remove the requirement for an affidavit of small families and the necessity of obtaining a Caste Validity Certificate before appointment.

Given these updated provisions, Smt. Yamuna Mahendra Solunke's request for employment through inheritance is now under consideration. Since she does not possess a caste validity certificate, she is exempted from this requirement based on the revised GR, and she meets all other criteria for the appointment.

According to Chapter II, Section 5-vii of the COEP Technological University Act, 2022, the University has the authority to make appointments to various posts, including those created by the University and sanctioned by the State Government, as per the specified qualifications and experience given by the Government, UG, AICTE.

As Smt. Yamuna Mahendra Solunke fulfills all the necessary conditions, it is recommended that her appointment to the post of Sweeper in Group-D be approved based on succession. She is the only candidate applying through inheritance, and there are no other candidates in the waiting list for this category.

Prof. Bhirude added that such process is been followed in Mumbai University and other Autonomous institutions.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the appointment of “Ms. Yamuna Mahendra Salunkhe” at COEP Tech University based on “Inheritance Rights” and as per the provision in COEP Act 2022, as well as recommendations of the “Lad-Page Committee”. The Board also suggested checking the process followed in Mumbai, SPPU Universities and other Autonomous institutions for the same.

Item No 6.8: To apprise the Board members about the appointment of full-time Adjunct Faculty, Professors of Practice, Tenure faculty (Contractual basis) at Department of Management and OSD's at various sections of the University as per the UGC/AICTE/State Govt. norms.

Dr. Sonawane apprised the Board that following tenure / contract base appointment on the teaching post were made by the University to cater to the academic load of the University.

- 81 Adjunct faculty selected for various Engineering, Planning and MBA Departments.
- 02 Associate Professors and 02 Assistant Professors on consolidated salary selected on dyeing post created for 03-year tenure.
- 08 Professor of Practice
- 04 OSD's

Prof. Bhirud informed the Board that all Professors of Practice (PoPs) come from industry backgrounds, bringing significant expertise in their respective fields. He expressed confidence that their diverse knowledge would contribute to the University's progress in multiple areas and help to enhance its ranking in the NIRF. The Director, Board of RIIL will oversee and track the deliverables from all PoPs. The Board members made the following recommendations.

- The Vice-Chancellor should organize regular meetings and interactions with all the PoPs to ensure they do not feel isolated in their roles.
- Additionally, the PoPs should be connected with the BoG members to share and discuss their ideas and visions and explore how they can contribute to the University's progress on various fronts.

Resolution: The Board **NOTED** all the appointments of the teaching post made on tenure/ contractual basis and **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the same.

Item No 6.9: To appraise the Board members about various MOU's signed by the University since the last Board meeting.

Dr. Sonawane apprises the Board members about various MoUs signed for promoting research, incubation start-up joint workshop, conferences and exchange program for faculty and students after the last BOG meeting

Resolution: The Board **NOTED** the MOUs signed by the University with various national international Universities and Organizations post the previous BOG meeting.

Item No 6.10: Any other point by permission of Chair

Mr. Bharat Gite gave the following updates to the Board members.

- A donation of Rs. 5Cr is proposed from COEP Alumni Mr. P. N. Bhagwati for setting up a Centre of Excellence in Foundry Technology at the Dept. of Metallurgy and Materials Science.
- To commemorate the Engineer's Day, COEP Alumni Association and COEP Tech will be honoring and felicitating the following alumni with the COEP Abhiman Awards in the gracious presence of Hon. Shri Nitin Gadkariji and Hon. Shri. Chandrakant Dada Patil on 15th September 2024.
- Conferment of the Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. P. N. Bhagavati (1956, Mech), Chairman & MD of Bhagavati Spherocast Pvt. Ltd., recognizing his immense contributions and dedication to the engineering domain.
- Other notable alumni honored during the event with the COEP Abhiman Award included:
 - Mr. Pravin Darade, IAS (1990, Civil), Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra
 - Mr. Raju Basnet (1990, Mech), Cabinet Minister of Sikkim
 - Ms. Monika Panpaliya (1997, Comp), MD - JP Morgan Chase, USA
 - Mr. Hrushikesh Sagar (2010, Prod), Sr. Director - Tesla Motors, USA
 - Mr. Vaibhav Tatwawaadi (2010, Meta), Bollywood Actor

In context to the donation of Rs. 5Cr. from COEP Alumni Mr. P. N. Bhagwati for setting up a Centre of Excellence in Foundry Technology at the Dept. of Metallurgy and Materials Science, the members suggested that the University should send an acknowledgement and Appreciation letter.

Resolution: The Board **NOTED** the major updates received from Mr. Bharat Gite and **RESOLVED** to send an acknowledgement and appreciation letter to Mr. P. N. Bhagwati.

Supplementary Agenda Item No 6.11: To appraise about the proposal from Dassault Systems for Setting up a Centre of Excellence at COEP Tech on three verticals viz. EV, Virtual manufacturing and Smart Cities with total investment of Rs 237 Cr.

Dr. Sonawane informed the Board that the University has received a proposal from Dassault Systems to establish a Centre of Excellence focusing on three key areas: Electric Vehicles (EV), Virtual Manufacturing, and Smart Cities, with a total proposed investment of ₹237 crore.

After reviewing the prima facie observations made by the committee constituted by the VC to review the said proposals, the Board members recommended the committee to revisit the proposal and make the analysis of the following.

- Usage of the said COE to the University.
- The takers and how many industries would be interested in sending their employees or hire our students.
- The investment to be made by COEP Tech and the returns on the Investment.
- What concrete is the company offering through its investment of Rs. 200 Cr.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** and **APPROVED** the proposal only if the committee finds it feasible and useful to the University.

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Supplementary Agenda Item No 6.12: To approve the write-off of the unauthorized online transaction of Rs. 51 lakhs due to cyber fraud that occurred at COEP in Oct. 2018.

The Board suggested asking justification from all the concern people including the bank and differ the agenda until an investigating report stating the chronological sequence of the entire incidence and justification from all the parties involved in the said incidence including the bank is received.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **DIFFER** the agenda until a detail's investigation report is prepared and presenting it again in the next board meeting for appropriate action.

Supplementary Agenda Item No 6.13: To approve the extension of lien for one more year to Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Associate Professor in Mechanical Engineering.

Extension of lien for one more year to Dr. V. K. Tripathi was not approved in view of the following.

- Dr. Tripathi has already utilized a lien period of 3 years and 3 months at NIT Agartala.
- The University is already having faculty crunch and catering to the academic load by recruiting contractual faculty.

Resolution: The Board **RESOLVED** to **DISAPPROVE** extension of lien for one more year to Dr. V. K. Tripathi.

Supplementary Agenda Item No 6.14: To approve Contractual basis appointments of: Corporate Relations Officer (tenure based for a period of 3 years)

The Training and Placement Officer (TPO) post is sanctioned by the Govt. but currently there is no permission from Govt. to fill the sanctioned posts. University has given an additional charge of TPO to Dr. Raju Ladhve, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Ladhve is retiring in the next 08 months i.e. in May 2025. Looking at the current scenario, placement is a big concern across the globe. The NIRF analysis shows that the placement and average package per year is declining from year to year.

We need to come up with some aggressive measures to improve the placement, average salary of both UG and PG students, visibility of the University in market etc.


To achieve this, it is proposed to create a dying cadre post of Corporate Relations Officer (CRO) for a period of a minimum of 03 years duration. The salary of the CRO may be fixed based on the experience, the track record, and qualifications which would be around the salary of the Associate Professor. This CRO post created at the University level shall be seized at the end of the specified duration (i.e. 03 years).

Also, given the increasing importance of international collaboration in academia and the growing need to strategically manage these relationships, having a dedicated individual focused on international relations will significantly benefit COEP Tech. It is pivotal to ensure streamlined communication, effective management of international programs, and the establishment of new global partnerships. In alignment with COEP Technological University's commitment to enhancing its global presence and fostering international collaborations, it is proposed to appoint an Officer on Special Duty (OSD) on a contractual basis to manage and oversee international relations.

The Board members expressed the view that, as enhancing COEP Tech's international relations is also part of the agenda being addressed by the KPMG team working on the university's transformative initiatives, it would be prudent for the university to await KPMG's recommendations on how to improve international relations. Based on these recommendations,

the appointment of a qualified officer should be made. The recommendations to attain the mid-term and long-term vision to be presented to the BOG

Resolution: The Board discussed, deliberated and **RESOLVED** to **DIFFER** the agenda until the receipt of recommendation from KPMG in context to the said recruitments.



(Dr. D. N. Sonawane)
Registrar, Member Secretary

(Dr. Pramod Chaudhari)
BOG-Chairman