



43  
3

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU**  
(Established by an Act of Parliament)  
**THIRUVAVUR**

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Executive Council of the Central University of Tamil Nadu held on 18.09.2010 at Chennai.**

The Third meeting of the Executive Council of the Central University of Tamil Nadu was held on 18th September 2010 at Chennai. The following members attended the meeting.

1. Prof.B.P.Sanjay, Vice Chancellor, CUTN, Chairman.
2. Prof.U.R.Ananthamurthy
3. Prof.E.D.Jemmis
4. Prof.(Dr)M.S.Jayati Ghosh
5. Mr.R.D.Sahay
6. Mr.V.K.Sridhar, Registrar & Secretary

**Leave of absence was granted to the following members.**

1. Prof.J.A.K.Tareen
2. Shri.M.Chidambaram
3. Dr.M.Annamalai
4. Prof.Javeed Alam
5. Prof.N.Periaswamy
6. Thiru.K.Ganesan,I.A.S

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed all the Members for the third meeting of the Executive Council and particularly those members who attended the meeting for the first time. At the outset, he informed the members that Prof.U.R.Ananthamurthy has been honoured with Tagore Medal for excellence in Literature, awarded the first time by the Kolkata University. The Executive Council placed on record its deep appreciation for the honour conferred on Prof.U.R.Ananthamurthy. The Vice-Chancellor also shared with the members that a book titled "Moral Ground-Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril" contained an article written by Dr.Nirmal Selvamony, who is the Faculty in the CUTN's English Department. This Book is published by Trinity Publications. Amongst different visionaries who have joined in contributing articles to this book include Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Kathleen Dear Moore, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University and Mr.Barack Obama, President of United States of America. Members appreciated the contribution of Dr.Nirmal Selvamony to this book which has brought a pride moment to the Central University of Tamil Nadu.



Vice-Chancellor, then briefed the members about the formation of new Central Universities. He mentioned that Central University of Tamil Nadu, part of the new Central Universities notified by the Government of India, is a Greenfield venture, located in Thiruvarur in the Chola heartland. He said that substantial ground work has been done since its inception in September, 2009. Land was identified by an expert team and over 504 of the 520 acres of land allotted by the State Government, has already been taken over. He also acknowledged the munificence of the State Government which gave a G+2 storey structure with 146 rooms (55,000sq.ft) spread over 5.5 acres as a temporary campus. The University, with the help of Central Public Works Department (CPWD), modified and adapted the building to suit its accommodation requirements. The Executive Council and Academic Council were formulated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and since then, 3 meetings of the Academic Council & 2 meetings of the Executive Council were also held. He added that with the help of 3 to 4 subject groups, the University was able to identify the subjects and formulate academic programs. This has resulted in the launch of 5 year Integrated M.Sc programs in Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics. The University has factored an exit clause to provide a B.S. degree at the end of 4 years, if approved by University Grants Commission (UGC). He further added that an M.A. programme in English Studies was launched within 2 months of the inception of the University. Using the summer vacation, the academic calendar of this program has been harmonized with other programmes of the University.

The Chairman stated that 7 programmes were thought of initially including an M.A. program in Regional Studies, M.A. program in Tamil and a Post Graduate Diploma program in Eco-criticism. The Chairman explained the rationale of the Academic Council in suggesting the Regional Studies program and the subsequent reservation of the Executive Council. He said that the views of the Executive Council have resulted in the Academic Council discussing the issue afresh and amplifying the Committee. The deliberations of this committee will be presented before the Executive Council in its next meeting.

As regards M.A. Tamil program, the Chairman stated that the response to the program, in the Central University Common Entrance Test (CUCET) was not encouraging. Considering the importance given to the Language by the State Government and its pre-eminent position as a Classical Language, the University thought it fit to relook at the original package. The efforts of the University has resulted in forging an alliance with Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), an organization established by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and chaired by no less than the Chief Minister himself. A committee is working on formulating a M.A programme in Classical Tamil Studies.



Vice-Chancellor explained that Post Graduate Diploma in Eco-criticism is an interdisciplinary area of study involving the application of ecological and deep ecological principles to all kinds of texts, verbal as well as non-verbal. The course will introduce the learner to (a) some of the major eco-critical approaches such as deep ecology, tinai, and oikopoetics, which will help interpret different kinds of texts (b) some of the crucial concepts such as interdependence, symbiosis, eco-centrism, bioregion and so on and (c) also some important branches of eco-criticism – eco-semiotics, eco-linguistics, ecological ethics, green politics, ecological economics and so on.

The Chairman said that since the response received earlier was not satisfactory, the University decided that it would re-launch the programme if better quality response is received.

The Chairman also informed the members that the temporary campus has been well equipped with 3 laboratories, work stations, Library, Conference Hall & Class rooms. Dormitory for boys & girls and transit accommodation for visiting Faculty, have also been created.

The Chairman made a presentation covering various aspects. On the topic of on going construction works, while he briefed the members on the major highlights, he mentioned that a detailed presentation will be made by the Architect when agenda item 5 is taken up.

After the Chairman's presentation, agenda for the meeting was taken up.

**Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the second meeting of the Executive Council held on 08.05.2010.**

The Executive Council considered the minutes of the second meeting. The committee noted that no comments were received on the minutes earlier circulated among the members of the council. However, the Chairman referred to the receipt of Dr. Annamalai's comments and endorsement of Executive Council Agenda. During the meeting, Mr. Sahay advised the University to ensure that the composition of the Building committee is as per the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (UGC). This point was noted.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council resolved that the minutes of the second meeting of the Executive Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 be confirmed.

**Agenda Item 2: Action taken on the minutes of the previous meetings of the Executive Council.**

The Academic Council, in its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 03.04.2010, discussed an item relating to launch of M.A program in Regional Studies and recommended approval of the same. The recommendation of the Academic Council was placed before the Executive Council in its second meeting held on 08.05.2010. The Executive Council had some reservation with regard to



employment potential and other issues. Therefore, the Executive Council directed the Academic Council to re examine the issue.

The Comments of the Executive Council were placed before the Academic Council and the same was discussed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2010. The Academic Council, after taking into account the views of the Executive Council, amplified the scope and membership of the committee. The recommendations of the Academic Council, when finalized, will be placed before the Executive Council for approval.

The Executive Council also suggested that, in future, agenda on action taken may be presented in a tabular form containing gist of the item and action taken for the benefit of the members.

**Decision:**

The information was noted by the Executive Council.

**Agenda Item 3: Introductory remarks of the Chairman.**

The introductory remarks of the Chairman were noted by the Council members.

**Agenda Item 4: Details of major Administrative and financial decisions taken by the University since the last meeting.**

The Executive Council perused the details presented before it. The Committee suggested that in future, items under this head may be grouped under three major heads, namely, items for approval, ratification and information and presented accordingly. As regards expenditure for Central University Common Entrance Test (CUCET), the Chairman explained that the expenditure will be shared uniformly by all seven Central Universities. This point was noted by the Executive Council.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council accorded its approval for all majors expenditure item and noted other items of information.

**Agenda item 5: Report on the progress of Construction works.**

Mr.S.Nagendra & Mr.Deepak from M/s Space Matrix, Architect's for the Central University of Tamil Nadu project, made a presentation on the on going works and the underlying hypothesis followed by them in developing the Master Plan. The Architects explained that the land is located in the Cauvery Delta Region. Though urbanism of such serene land is important for any sustainable development, interactive components of a campus are the major drivers. The project, according to them, concentrates on assembling the right ingredients for a vibrant learning environment and thus create spaces of associative memories in the students life during the process of carving them into responsible social citizens. The design direction of the campus is based on the following 5 hypothesis:



1. Delta urbanism
2. Collaborative spaces
3. Identity
4. Environmental sustainability
5. Campus Agriculture

The Architects ran through the entire project explaining how these hypotheses are interwoven in the formulation of the Master Plan. They explained the salient features of the buildings already being constructed and proposed to be constructed in the coming phases like Hostel & mess block for boys & girls, Lecturer's Quarters, Administrative block, Lab based schools, Library, Lecturer Hall complex etc. The planning is such that it will improve the existing Ecology and not deplete it. The climatological factors have been taken into account in designing the lighting load. For water, recycling and rain water harvesting technologies have been incorporated. While air-conditioning has been kept to a minimum, wherever it is provided, VRV system is proposed to be used in place of centralized air-conditioning. Lighting takes into account night sky pollution and LED lighting is being used to the maximum. Solar light panels are proposed for street lighting. The Architects also explained that Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) norms are being strictly followed in the campus. The project is aiming at GRIHA 4 star rating and keeping this in view, greening of the campus has been planned with species native to Thiruvavur. The Architects also explained that the GRIHA norms are currently available only for individual buildings and not for a whole campus. Therefore, The Central University of Tamil Nadu project is being considered as a pilot.

The members greatly appreciated the details and aesthetics that have gone into the planning process. During the course of discussions, the members gave the following suggestions:

- \* Make a request with the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidhyalaya right at this stage for a School, which will benefit not only the faculty and non teaching staff of the University but also the community in and around Thiruvavur.
- \* Make a provision for separate set of housing for teachers of the Central School/Campus School.
- \* Make a provision for a multi-purpose student's facility, which will be a covered space to accommodate 300-500 students and which will be connected to the existing recreation room.
- \* Locate the convention centre in the incubation area to serve as a common facility to all.
- \* The present accommodation planned for Lecturer's Quarters does not provide adequate open spaces. Residential accommodation should be used as an USP to attract Faculty and therefore while designing Associate Professor's Quarters and



Professor's Quarters, University should consider stand alone buildings, if cost and other considerations permit or incorporate design modifications to make the buildings look more open & inviting.

**Decision:**

The Council members noted the information presented to them.

**Agenda item 6: Approval of the Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010.**

The Executive Council perused the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council approved the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Academic Council was held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010.

**Agenda Item 7: Approval of plans for recruitment of faculty and non-teaching staff.**

The Executive Council appreciated the efforts of the Vice-Chancellor in running the University effectively with virtually no support staff. The Council felt that filling the Faculty positions are of paramount importance and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to offer permanent Faculty positions to candidates of repute, by inviting them. The Chairman explained the impediments faced in attracting talented Faculty in a small town like Thiruvavur. He said, efforts will be made to attract the best talent.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council approved filling of the following Faculty and Non Faculty positions.

**Teaching positions:**

- a) 1 post of professor in Mathematics.
- b) 7 posts of Associate Professors – one each in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Language studies, Computer Science and two in English.
- c) 7 posts of Assistant Professors – one each in Physics, Chemistry, Life Science, Mathematics, Computer Science, English and English Language Teaching (ELT).



**Non-Teaching positions:**

- a) One post of Deputy Registrar
- b) One post of Assistant Registrar
- c) Two posts of Section Officers
- d) Two posts of Assistant
- e) One post of private secretary
- f) Two posts of UDC
- g) Two posts of LDC
- h) One post of personal Assistant
- i) One post of Jr.Prof.Assistant
- j) One post of Library Assistant
- k) Two posts of Lab. Assistant
- l) One post of Technical Assistant
- m) One post of Assistant Librarian

**Agenda Item 8: Approval for the first Annual Report of the University for the period from 08/03/2009 to 31/03/2010.**

The Executive Council perused the Annual Report for the period from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2009 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. The Chairman explained that though the University's activities started in the financial year 2008-2009, it was only for a very short period and hence it was felt prudent to combine this period with the financial year 2009-2010. The Executive Council, while agreeing to this, suggested that the period of start may be synchronized with the date of assumption of charge of the Vice-Chancellor. The Council also sought inclusion of more photographs and combining the Hindi version with English and publishing it as a single report.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council approved the first Annual Report of the University for the financial year ending 31.03.2010

**Agenda Item 09: Consideration of the request received from the Registrar with regard to his pay.**

The Executive Council perused the representation and the various options. The Council discussed in detail and after careful consideration agreed to advance increments while declining the request for pay protection and non deduction of pension.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council approved grant of 5 increments in the scale of pay of Rs. 37400 – 67000 & pay to be fixed after deduction of pension as per rules.

**Agenda Item 10: Any other item with the permission of the chair.**

**Agenda Item 11: Logo for Central University of Tamil Nadu**

The members perused the logo and the explanatory details. The members appreciated the design. The Chairman mentioned that the logo and explanatory details will be carried in the inside cover of the Annual Report under publication.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council approved the logo of the University.

**Agenda Item 12: Visit of Prof.B.P.Sanjay, Vice-Chancellor to Russia & China.**

The Executive Council perused the item on the above subject. The members noted that the Vice-Chancellor has accepted an invitation from the journalism faculty to participate at the Far eastern Media Festival from 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2010 being convened at Russia and China.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council noted the information.

**Agenda Item 13: Medical Reimbursement to the University Employees:**

The Executive Council noted that no provision currently exist in the University for medical reimbursement and considered the request made by the Vice-Chancellor in this context.

**Decision:**

The Executive Council authorized the Vice-Chancellor to entertain and reimburse medical claims in emergencies/exigencies till alternate arrangements are made by the University.