



# **RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB**

(Established under Punjab Act No. 12 of 2006)

(Accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC)

## **MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 15-06-2021 AT 11:00 A.M. THROUGH ONLINE MODE AT RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB, PATIALA.**

### **Members were present :**

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| 1. | <b>Professor (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai</b><br>Vice-Chancellor,<br>Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab  | <b>In Chair</b>  |
| 2. | <b>Professor (Dr.) Ranbir Singh</b><br>Former Vice-Chancellor,<br>National University of Law, New Delhi  | <b>Member</b>    |
| 3. | <b>Professor (Dr.) Veer Singh</b><br>Former Director (Academics),<br>Chandigarh Judicial Academy, Chandigarh.  | <b>Member</b>    |
| 4. | <b>Ms. Surinder Kaur Warraich, IRS</b><br>Additional Secretary Finance-cum-Income Tax Advisor,<br>Representing the Principal Secretary Finance, (Pb),<br>Chandigarh. | <b>Member</b>    |
| 5. | <b>Professor (Dr.) Anand Pawar</b><br>Professor of Law,<br>Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab   | <b>Member</b>    |
| 6. | <b>Professor (Dr.) Naresh Kumar Vats</b><br>Professor & Registrar,<br>Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab  | <b>Secretary</b> |

Professor (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor (Chairperson) welcomed the Members of the Finance Committee and thanked them for taking out valuable time from their busy schedule for joining online meeting.

At the outset, the Members of the Finance Committee welcomed and conveyed best wishes to new Vice-Chancellor, Prof (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai.

Prof (Dr.) Naresh Kumar Vats, Registrar (Secretary) presented the agenda of the meeting. The following decisions were taken by the Finance Committee :

- ITEM (1) To confirm of the proceedings of the previous meeting of the Finance Committee which was held on 25.03.2021 (Annexure-1).**

Note	Decision
<p>The previous meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 25.03.2021. As such, the Proceedings and Action Taken Report of the said meeting are placed before the Hon'ble Members of the Finance Committee for kind perusal and approval please.</p>	<p><b>The Finance Committee confirmed the Minutes and Action Taken Report of the previous meeting of the Finance Committee held on 25.03.2021 (Annexre-1).</b></p> <p><b>With regard to Item No. 4, the Finance Committee unanimously decided to review its decision taken in the previous meeting held on 25.03.2021, subject to its approval by Executive Council. Considering the recommendations of Hostel Maintenance Assessment Committee and Fee Rationalization Committee and to bring a parity in relief to all students, the Finance Committee resolved that the proposed waiver is ascertained to be Rs. 12,09,560/- to LL.M. Students which is as under :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(i) The LL.M. Students be allowed the relief total Rs. 6,54,368/- which comes out of Rs. 14,872/- per head.</b></li> <li><b>(ii) As worked out by Hostel Maintenance Assessment Committee the maintenance cost of Hostel i.e., Rs. 4,23,192 will be set-off against waiver by the University.</b></li> <li><b>(iii) Amounting Rs. 1,32,000/- i.e., Rs. 3000/- per head has already been waived by Finance Committee / Executive Council in its meeting held in 20.06.2020 (Para-2) for LL.M. students batch 2020.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>The above relief/waiver are allowed subject to the approval of Executive Council.</b></p>





**ITEM (2)** To consider the request of the Appellant(s) Mr. Aditya Kashyap and Others on behalf of rest of batches in the Writ Petition No. 9682 of 2020, filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana and Students of the B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) 1<sup>st</sup> year for Amicable Resolution of Fee Relief (Annexure-2).

Note	Decision
<p>Firstly, the students of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) 2<sup>nd</sup> Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year, 4<sup>th</sup> Year and 5<sup>th</sup> Year have filed the Writ Petition No. 9682 of 2020, in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana for seeking fee relief during the Covid-19 Pandemic, which is Sub-Judice in the Hon'ble High Court.</p> <p>On the request of the student's appellant in the above said Petition the Vice-Chancellor constituted the FEE RATIONALIZATION COMMITTEE to work out the possible waiver, keeping in view of University Financial positions and Fee receipt which was discussed with Mr. Aditya Kashyap on June 4, 2021.</p> <p>(A) <b>Demanded Waiver by the Students/ Petitioner</b></p> <p>Mr. Aditya Kashyap a student of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) Final Year who is one of the Main Plaintiffs in the above case has communicated the following to the University Authorities (Annexure-3):-</p> <p><i>"--in light of our discussion earlier today and after wide consultation, we have decided to forego two of our demands namely - "(b) Waiver of Campus Development fee amounting to Rs. 10000; and (d) Adjustment of balance for the unutilized portion of fee of summer semester Feb-May, 2020."</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>The students stated that "... thus, we arrive at the following calculation and are willing to pay the undisputed amount i.e. Amount Rs. 1,28,000/- Rs.128000×900 = Rs. 11.52 crores..."</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>The students further state that "... the relief granted to the LL.M. Batch of 2021 worth Rs. 58,000/- is applicable to the students of B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) as well by virtue of being similarly situated. We thus request that a relief of Rs. 53,000 [Rs.30,000 or Rs. 35,000 (as applicable for double/single occupancy as Hostel Fee) + Rs. 23,000 (Amenities Fee)] be granted to the students."</i></p> <p>(B) <b>Assessment of Maintenance Committee</b></p> <p>The University has constituted the Hostel Maintenance Assessment Committee to assess</p>	<p>The Finance Committee considered the recommendations of Hostel Maintenance Assessment Committee, Fee Rationalization Committee, the Saving of University Expenditure, as well as the relief given by various National Law Universities and discussed the same at length in the meeting. After thoughtful discussion, the Finance Committee resolved that the proposed waiver would be Rs. 2,68,36,229/- to all the students of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) which is as under :</p> <p>(i) All the students of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) be allowed the relief of total Rs. 1,35,33,546 which comes out to be Rs. 14,872/- per head.</p> <p>(ii) As worked out by the Maintenance Assessment Committee the maintenance cost of Hostel i.e., Rs. 87,52,709/- will be set-off against waiver by the University.</p> <p>(iii) Amounting Rs. 45,50,000/- i.e., Rs. 5000/- per head has already been waived by the Finance Committee/Executive Council in its meeting held on in 20.06.2020 (Para-2) for all batches of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.).</p> <p>The above relief /waiver are allowed with the expectation that petitioner may withdraw writ petition 9682 of 2020 which</p>

<p>the running cost of the Hostels and the infrastructure created for the students for convenience of the Members of the Finance Committee to consider the request of the students which will be further subject to the withdrawal of the petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana High Court Chandigarh. The estimate cost worked out by the Committee has been recommended as per <b>Annexure-4</b>.</p> <p><b>(C) Comparative Statement</b></p> <p>Meanwhile, the University has also requested certain National Law Universities to provide the waiver that they have granted to the students in the semester or Annual Fee. The tabulated statement of fee waiver of various National Law School/ Universities is placed as per <b>Annexure-5</b>.</p> <p>In view of the above 'A', 'B' &amp; 'C' the Hon'ble Members of the Finance Committee are requested to kindly consider the appropriate relief to all the students of B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) as Annexure '1' &amp; '2'.</p>	<p><b>is sub-judice in the Hon'ble Punjab &amp; Haryana High Court, Chandigarh.</b></p> <p><b>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</b></p>
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**ITEM (3) To consider the University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines for promotion of digital payment and enabling convenient digital payment modes throughout the country vide letter D.O. 14-15/2017 (CPP-II) dated 09 June, 2020 (Annexure-6).**

Note	Decision
<p>It is submitted that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been issued the new guidelines vide above said DO letter, for promotion of digital payment and enabling convenient digital payment modes throughout the country.</p> <p>Bharat Bill Payment System is a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conceptualized system driven by National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) which offers integrated, accessible and interoperable recurring payment services to consumers. Bharat Bill Payment System is the simplest method for all billers for enabling digital payment. It will help to reduce cash handling charges and will help in easy and timely reconciliation, leading to operational efficiencies.</p> <p>RBI has decided to expand the scope and coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System to include more categories of billers who raise recurring bills (except prepaid recharges) as eligible participants. This will enable new recurring payment categories to be on-boarded on Bharat Bill Payment System.</p> <p>All Universities are requested to encourage digital payment of recurring bill through Bharat Bill Payment</p>	<p><b>The Finance Committee deliberated on the adoption of Guidelines of the UGC for promotion of digital payment, reducing cash handling charges and enabling convenient digital payment modes and approved the same.</b></p> <p><b>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</b></p>





System in their institutions.  The Matter is placed before the Hon'ble members of the Finance Committee to adopt the digital payment mode as per Guidelines of the UGC D.O. 14-15/2017 (CPP-II) dated 09 June, 2020, please.	
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**ITEM (4) To proposed the amendment in the Regulation approved in the AC/EC Meeting, in its meeting held on 20.01.2018, Para-2(10) respectively, with respect to the Research Associate and Research Assistant in the RGNUL, Research Centre(s) :**

Existing Regulation	Proposed Regulation
(i) <b>Research Associate:</b> Doctoral Degree in Law or related area of research, as per requirement of the respective Research Centre on the fixed salary of Rs. 40,000/-.	(i) <b>Research Associate:</b> LL.M./Post Graduate in respective subject (55%) in Law or related area of research, on the fixed salary of Rs. 50,000/-. The Past Research/Project experience will be a desirable qualification and will carry weightage.
(ii) <b>Research Assistant:</b> LL.M. with 55% marks or Post-Graduate degree with 55% marks in the related area of research, as per requirement of the respective Research Centers on the fixed salary of Rs. 30,000/-.	(ii) <b>Research Assistant:</b> LL.M. with 55% marks or Post-Graduate degree with 55% marks in the related area of research on the fixed salary of Rs. 40,000/-

Note	Decision
<p>The University has presently 14 Advanced Researcher Centre and each of the Centre has been allotted the two (02) or more Research Associate and Two (02) or more Research Assistants. The University Academic Council and Executive Council in its meeting 20.1.2018 decided the qualifications and remunerations.</p> <p>Keeping in view of the UGC pay scale and need of researchers there is a need to revise the remunerations and their qualifications as above proposed.</p> <p>The proposed matter is placed before the Hon'ble members of Finance Committee for kind consideration, please.</p>	<p><b>The Finance Committee discussed the proposed Regulation relating to Salary and Qualifications of the Research Associate and Assistant and approved them as given below :</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Research Associate:</b> LL.M. / Post Graduate in concerned subject (55%), on the fixed salary of Rs. 50,000/- per month. At least One Year of Research/Project Experience will be essential.</p> <p>(ii) <b>Research Assistant:</b> LL.M. / Post-Graduate degree in concerned</p>



	<p>subject with 55% marks on the fixed salary of Rs. 40,000/- per month.</p> <p>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</p>
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**ITEM (5) To propose for procuring multipurpose Credit Card for RGNUL, Punjab from any Bank to be used in India and abroad.**

Note	Decision
<p>It is submitted that there is a need to procure a University Credit Card from any Bank for use of University Authorities to meet expenditure of Tour and Travel payment, Hotel payments, Hospitality and purchase of books including any other contingency expenditure <i>etc.</i> This would be used in India and abroad. This will be in line with the practice adopted by many NLU's and other sister organizations.</p> <p>The proposal for University Credit Card to meet contingent expenses is placed before the Hon'ble Members of the Finance Committee for approval, please.</p>	<p>After thoughtful discussion and considering the UGC guidelines for digital payment and reducing cash handing charges, the Finance Committee approved the multipurpose Credit Card for RGNUL from any Bank.</p> <p>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</p>

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**ITEM (6) Approval to allow RGNUL for investment of Funds in FDRs in Banks attracting competitive Higher Rates of Interest.**

Note	Decision
<p>It is submitted that RGNUL has investment in different funds in FDRs in SBI to the tune of Rs. 67 crores approximately lying in Corpus Fund, Fee A/c, Gold Medal A/c etc.</p> <p>RGNUL has been keeping its all FDRs in the State Bank of India. Finance Committee in its meeting on 09/02/2017 has permitted the relaxation to invest in SBI even if its rate of interest is little less by 0.5% from other banks. It has been observed that University is losing interest income to sizeable amount. The Principal Accountant General in its Audit Report for the period 04-2018 to 03-2020 has also shown concern over the loss of interest by ignoring banks offering higher rates. They have observed that the financial benefit of the University should be taken up on top priority. It is, therefore, proposed that University be permitted to</p>	<p>After thoughtful discussion the Finance Committee in principle allowed the RGNUL for investment of Funds in FDRs in reputed Banks, which are offering higher rates of interest.</p> <p>However, Finance Committee suggested that note of caution must be exercised in selecting the Bank for this purpose.</p> <p>And also recommended it to the Executive</p>





invest its funds at competitive rates in any public sector/private banks.	<b>Council for its approval.</b>
The matter is placed before the Hon'ble Members of the Finance Committee for kind approval please.	

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### TABLE ITEM

- ITEM (7) For waiving off 25% of rent for Vendor of Verka Booth, Shop No. 4 & Mess Contractors of Boys & Girls Hostel of the RGNUL Campus, Patiala, till the classes resume.**

Note	Decision
<p>Finance Committee in its meeting of June 2020 approved to get 25% of the rent from the Shops and other Mess/Canteen establishments due to Covid-19. It was expected at that time that situation would improve by August 2020 and normal functioning would resume but it did not happen. All the vendors did not enter into any agreement with the University.</p> <p>However, the Verka Booth vendor and one Mr. Prabhjot Singh of Shop No. 4, were asked by the University Authorities to supply essentials to the residents in the University which they have been doing. Also, the mess contractors have run the messes of boys and girls hostel with less than 10% of the capacity from 01/03/2021 to 17/04/2021. Therefore, it is proposed that running cost of the shop may be charged in place of 25% till the classes resume.</p> <p>The matter is placed before the Hon'ble Members of the Finance Committee for kind consideration please.</p>	<p><b>After thoughtful discussion the Finance Committee authorized the Vice-Chancellor to take appropriate action into this matter.</b></p> <p><b>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</b></p>

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### ANY OTHER ITEM

- ITEM (8) Any other item with permission to the Chair the representation of the Professor (Dr.) Anand Pawar, Professor of Law, for paying the Honorarium to Officiating Vice-Chancellor.**

Note	Decision
<p>Prof. Anand Pawar, has performed the duties, as officiating Vice-Chancellor of RGNUL Punjab, w.e.f. 01.12.2020 to 20.05.2020 by the orders of the Hon'ble Chancellor of RGNUL, Punjab.</p> <p>Further, he stated that the Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur and NLIU Bhopal and some other NLUs have made the payment of Honorarium to Officiating Vice-Chancellor as decided by the Finance Committee previously.</p>	<p><b>The Members of the Finance Committee appreciated the work of Prof (Dr) Anand Pawar, carried out as Officiating Vice-Chancellor at this University.</b></p> <p><b>The Finance Committee resolved that the</b></p>



<p>In this regard, he requested on 15.06.2021 through email to Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor that the matter to be placed before the Members of the FC to deliberate and decide the item.</p>	<p><b>present matter on the Agenda must be decided as per the Rules/Regulations of RGNUL, Punjab, including the practice in other University in Punjab.</b></p> <p><b>The Finance Committee also recommended it to the Executive Council for its approval.</b></p>
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The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
VICE-CHANCELLOR

  
REGISTRAR