

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KARNATAKA, SURATHKAL

P.O. SRINIVASNAGAR, MANGALURU-575025



MINUTES FOR THE 79th MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Date : Thursday, 20th February 2025

Time : 04:00 PM

Venue: CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/
Through Google Meet.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KARNATAKA, SURATHKAL

Proceedings of the 79th Meeting of the Board of Governors [BoG] of National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, held on Thursday, 20th February 2025 at 04:00PM in the CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/ Through Google Meet.

Members Present:

	Name		Mode of participation
1	Prof. B. Ravi Director, N.I.T.K, Surathkal.	Chairperson in-charge & Member	In-person
2	Ms. Saumya Gupta , IAS (TR:2004) Joint Secretary (TE) Govt. of India, Dept. of Higher Education Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) Room No.429A-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001. Represented by: Ms. Veena Dunga Deputy Secretary (NITs) Govt. of India, Dept. of Higher Education Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) Room No.107-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.	Member	Online mode-Google meet
3	Sh. Sanjog Kapoor Office of JS&FA, Integrated Finance Bureau Govt. of India, Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) Room No.120-C, Shastri Bhawan New Delhi - 110 001. Represented by: Sh. N.S. Bisht Deputy Secretary (IFD) Govt. of India, Dept. of Higher Education Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya) Room No.220-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.	Member	Online mode-Google meet
4	Shri K. Ajith Kumar Rai Founder and Chairman, Suprajit Group of Companies Tara, 144/1, 4 th Main, Defence Colony Indiranagar, Bengaluru – 560038.	Member	Online mode-Google meet
5	Dr. H. N. Jagannatha Reddy Professor, Civil Engineering Branch, Bangalore Institute of Technology, K.R. Road, V.V. Puram, Bengaluru – 560004.	Member	Online mode-Google meet
6	Prof. Dwarakish G. S. Professor, Department of Water Resources & Ocean Engg. NITK, Surathkal.	Member	In-person
7	Dr. Vasudeva Madav Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engg. NITK, Surathkal.	Member	In-person
8	Shri K. Ravindranath Registrar, NITK, Surathkal.	Secretary	In-person

Members who expressed their inability to attend the meeting:

1	Prof. K. V. Krishna Rao Deputy Director (FEA) & Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering Indian Institute of Technology Bombay P.O. IIT Powai, Mumbai – 400076. [Nominee of the Director, IIT – Bombay].	Member
---	--	--------

Prof. B. Ravi, in the capacity of Chairperson In-charge welcomed all the members to the 79th meeting of the Board of Governors.

After a brief discussion, and with the permission of the Chair, the Board began its deliberations on Agenda items.

79 BoG Item No. 79.1	Reading and confirmation of the Minutes of the 78th Meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) held on Thursday, 21st November 2024 at 04:30PM in CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/ Through Google Meet - Reg.
	The Minutes of 78 th meeting of the Board of Governors held on Thursday, 21 st November 2024 were read. Since no comments have been received, the BoG resolved to confirm the Minutes.

79 BoG Item No. 79.2	To consider the Report on Action Taken on the resolutions of the 78th Meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) held on Thursday, 21st November 2024 at 04:30PM in the CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/ Through Google Sheet - Reg.
	The Action Taken on the resolution of the 78 th Meeting of the BoG was noted as follows.

78 BoG Item No. 78.3.1	To consider the recommendations of 61 st Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 21 st November 2024 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No. 78.3.2	To consider the 'Draft Annual Report' of the Institute for the Academic year 2023-24 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No. 78.3.3	To consider the Final Convocation List of eligible candidates for the award of B.Tech / M.Tech / M.Tech (Research) / M.C.A / M.B.A / M.Sc/ Ph.D degree during the 22 nd Annual Convocation - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No. 78.3.4	To consider the Recommendations of the Selection Committees for regular faculty positions - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No. 78.3.5	To consider the recommendations of the Selection Committee for Higher Administrative Grade (HAG) Scale for serving eligible Professors of the Institute – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.6	To consider the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meeting held on 1 st October 2024 to promote the Ministerial Cadre and Technical Cadre of Non-Teaching employees - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.7	To consider the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meeting held on 4 th October, 2024 to promote the Officer Cadre of Non-Teaching employees – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.8	To consider and approve to advertise the vacancies for various Non-Teaching positions including the backlog vacancies under the Mission Mode recruitment in NITK, Surathkal – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.

78 BoG Item No.78.3.9	To consider the tenure of Dr. Maneesh Kumar Poddar, Assistant Professor (On contract)/ (Grade-II), Department of Chemical Engineering, appointed on a contractual basis under a 4-tier Flexible Faculty Cadre Structure and to grant Extraordinary Leave as requested by him – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.10	To consider the request of Dr. Ajay Kumar Yadav, Assistant Professor Grade-I (On-lien), Department of Mechanical Engineering for extension of lien period – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.11	To consider the request of Dr. N. Gnanasekaran, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering to grant lien for a period of two (02) years to take up the responsibility of Associate Professor at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Tirupati – Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.12	To consider the ratification of grant of lien to Shri Gaurav Chowdhury, Assistant Registrar, NITK, Surathkal for a period of one (01) year to take up the responsibility of Deputy Registrar at the National Institute of Technology Warangal - Relieved from the Institute on the afternoon of 23 rd August, 2024 – Reg.	The matter is placed again in the present meeting under item 79.3.11
78 BoG Item No.78.3.13	To consider the ratification of Mode of Recruitment of a single sanctioned post of Senior SAS Officer (Pay Level - 12) on a Promotion basis as per NITs Non-teaching Recruitment Rules - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.14	To note the submission of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be executed between Autonomous Bodies and Administrative Ministries/ Department for the year 2024-2025 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.15	To note the Minutes of 54 th meeting of the Building and works Committee held on Tuesday, 1 st October 2024 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.16	To note the nomination of Dr. Dwarakish G. S., Professor, Department of Water Resources & Ocean Engineering (WR&OE) as Internal Member to the BoG, NITK amongst the Professor Cadre selected unanimously from the Members of Senate - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.17	To note the appointment of Prof. Subhash C. Yaragal, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering as Deputy Director at the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal - Reported on 01 st August, 2024 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.18	To note the Minutes of 69 th meeting of the Senate held on Monday, 21 st October 2024 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.19	To note the New and renewed MoUs with Industries/ Academia/ Research Organizations during the period from 28-02-2024 to 31-05-2024 - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.
78 BoG Item No.78.3.20	To note the status of Public Grievances and Parliamentary Assurances from the last BoG (77 th) meeting to as on date - Reg.	BoG noted the report on action taken.

There was some discussion regarding 78 BoG Item No. 78.3.5, when a BoG member enquired if the procedure for HAG Professor selection was based solely on RR points. The Director clarified that in addition to the RR points, other credentials including the quality of research outputs, administration, student interaction, outreach activities, honors & awards received, etc. were also considered by the Selection Committee, and that their decisions were unanimous. The MoE Representative mentioned that one of the Selection Committee members, who was a member in a similar committee for another NIT was highly appreciative of the systematic process followed at NITK, and recommended adopting it in other NITs. Other members also appreciated the selection process and reiterated that the recommendations of the duly constituted Selection Committee have to be honoured.

79 BoG Item No. 79.3	To consider the items placed before the present (79th) Meeting of Board of Governors [Meeting dated 20th February 2025] – Reg.
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL:	

79 BoG Item No. 79.3.1	<p>To consider the recommendations of 62nd Meeting of the Finance Committee held on Thursday, 20th February 2025 at 03:00PM in the CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/ Google Meet - Reg.</p> <p>The Board of Governors resolved to approve the recommendations under Items 62.3.1 to 62.3.22 of the 62nd meeting of the Finance Committee held on Thursday, 20th February 2025 at 03:00 PM in the CCMT Hall, NITK, Surathkal/ Through Google Meet.</p> <p>[Action owner: Joint Registrar/ Registrar Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.2	<p>To consider the extension of the joining date for the candidates selected for faculty positions during the faculty recruitment 2024 - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG was pleased to note that out of 31 newly selected faculty members who accepted the offer (dated 30th November 2024), 26 have already joined NITK and 5 have requested for an extension. One of the BoG members enquired about the future plan of filling the remaining posts, to which the Director replied that multiple strategies are being employed to attract good candidates. The immediate focus would be on filling non-teaching staff vacancies, followed by the next round of faculty selection. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>“The BoG resolved to approve the request of the five faculty members to extend their joining date up to 31st May 2025 (that is, 6 months from the date of offer).”</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.3	<p>To consider the response of Dr. Arumuga Perumal to show cause notice issued - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The Registrar was requested to recuse himself owing to a conflict of interest. The BoG members deliberated on the case, including the resolutions in the previous FC/BoG meetings in this matter (FC Item 57.3.2, FC Item 58.3.4 and FC Item 59.3.8). The members went through the reply of Dr. Arumuga Perumal for the show cause notice issued to him (as per the decision of 76 BoG on 16.04.2024). After detailed discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “The BoG resolved to direct the Institute to provide further clarifications regarding the eligibility of Dr. Arumuga Perumal in applying for the post of Associate Professor, and to place the matter in the next BoG. 2. “The BoG reiterated its earlier directive of 59th FC (Item 59.3.8) and 76th BoG on 16.04.2024 to fix the accountability and issue show cause notice to the official responsible for the administrative lapses in this case.” <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes].</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.4	<p>To consider the Delegation of Powers to various statutory posts of the Institute - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG noted that the roles and responsibilities for each statutory post (Deputy Director, Deans, HoDs and Registrar) as well as the reporting functionaries were clearly demarcated in the proposed document, and are broadly in line with the NIT Act, Statutes and prevailing practices in other NITs. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>“The BoG resolved to approve the Delegation of Powers, as listed in the Agenda Notes.”</p> <p>[Action owner: Director Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>

79 BoG Item No. 79.3.5	<p>To consider the Guidelines for Faculty Roles and Responsibilities - Reg.</p> <p>BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG noted that the proposed guidelines define the roadmap for faculty joining at Assistant Professor level, for moving to Associate Professor, Full Professor and HAG Professor levels, along with a description of the respective contributions expected at each position. The guidelines are meant to complement the RRs. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>“The BoG resolved to approve the guidelines for faculty roles and responsibilities, as listed in the Agenda Notes.”</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.6	<p>To rename the position of Dean (Faculty Welfare) as Dean (Faculty and Staff Welfare) - Reg.</p> <p>BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The MoE Representative clarified that the renaming the position of Dean (Faculty Welfare) by adding the responsibility of staff welfare, followed by its approval by BoG is in line with NIT Act and Statutes. The BoG noted that there are precedents for renaming Dean's positions at NITK itself. The proposed position and responsibility will send a positive message to the non-teaching staff. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>“The BoG resolved to rename the position of Dean (Faculty Welfare) as Dean (Faculty and Staff Welfare).”</p> <p>[Action owner: Director Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.7	<p>To assign additional responsibilities for two faculty members as “Officer on Special Duty (Finance & Accounts)” and “Officer on Special Duty (Administration & Establishment)”, both reporting to Director or Deputy Director.</p> <p>BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG noted the delay in recruitment process of Group-A Officers (now underway), one Assistant Registrar on lien, and the impending retirement of the Jt. Registrar. This makes it necessary to bring faculty to assist in administration till regular Assistant/ Deputy Registrars are appointed through direct recruitment or deputation. The designation as 'Officer on Special Duty' is unsuitable for such time gap arrangement. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>“The BoG resolved to permit the Director to assign additional responsibilities to two suitable faculty members, as: (1) Deputy Registrar (in-charge) - Finance & Accounts, and (2) Deputy Registrar (in-charge) - Administration & Establishment” for a period of 6 months or till the appointment of regular Assistant/ Deputy Registrars, whichever is earlier.”</p> <p>[Action owner: Director Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.8	<p>To consider to seek the services of Joint Registrar who is retiring on 31st March 2025 for handling the Finance and Accounts - Reg.</p> <p>BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG noted that the Shri Y. Rammohan has been heading the Accounts Office for over 28 years, as Assistant Registrar (from 1996), Deputy Registrar (2009), and Joint Registrar (from 2018). The Board appreciated his service to the Institute, but expressed its displeasure that the Institute allowed the same person to head the Accounts Office for such a long period, and a suitable succession plan has not been implemented. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p>

	<p>"The BoG resolved to permit the Director to hire the services of Shri Y. Rammohan (after handing over his responsibilities to Deputy Registrar i/c Finance & Accounts, as per BoG Item 79.3.7), as an external consultant in accordance with DoPT Rules, for advising the Institute in accounts related matters, including preparation and submission of the annual accounts report, and maintaining the current workflow in Accounts Office."</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) and Registrar Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.9	<p>To consider and approve the initiation of the process for the promotion of Non-Teaching employees - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>"The BoG resolved to approve the process of promotion of non-teaching employees who are due for promotion, through suitable Departmental Promotion Committee(s)."</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) and Registrar Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.10	<p>To consider the Policy for Media Advocacy & Public Relations - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG appreciated the need for wider publication of relevant news about Institute activities and achievements through various media and channels, in a professional and responsible manner. The proposed Policy augments, clarifies and summarizes the prevailing C-PRIME Policy of NITK. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>"The BoG resolved to approve the Policy for Media Advocacy & Public Relations as detailed in the Agenda Note."</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (ACR) Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>

ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION:

79 BoG Item No. 79.3.11	<p>To consider the ratification of grant of lien to Shri Gaurav Chowdhury, Assistant Registrar, NITK, Surathkal for a period of one (01) year to take up the responsibility of Deputy Registrar at the National Institute of Technology Warangal - Relieved from the Institute on the afternoon of 23rd August, 2024 - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Agenda Notes.</p> <p>The BoG noted that Shri Gaurav Chowdhury had previously availed a lien of 10 months, and had served the Institute for about 22 months before applying for another lien to take up the position at NIT Warangal. It expressed its displeasure that his application was forwarded in spite of shortage of senior administrative staff. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:</p> <p>"1. The BoG resolved to approve the grant of lien to Shri Gaurav Chowdhury, from 23rd August 2024, for a period of one year."</p> <p>"2. The BoG directed the Institute to evolve a suitable policy for forwarding any application for employment outside, in terms of Statute 24 (vii) read with Schedule D and grant of lien for non-teaching staff, and ensure that Institute's functioning is not hampered."</p> <p>[Action owner: Dean (FW) and Registrar Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]</p>
--------------------------------	---

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

79 BoG Item No. 79.3.12	<p>To note the status of Public Grievances and Parliamentary Assurances from the last BoG (78th) meeting to as on date - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted that there is no pending Public Grievances and Parliamentary Assurances in the Institute.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.13	<p>To note the appeal filed in High Court of Karnataka in the Contempt of Court cases of Dr. Shrikantha S. Rao and Dr. Mervin A. Herbert - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted that the Institute has filed the Review Petition in the High Court of Karnataka on 05.02.2025 and that the matter is before the Court.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.14	<p>To note the Minutes of 55th meeting of the Building and works Committee held on Thursday, 29th January, 2025 placed before the BoG for information - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted that the resolution of the 55th meeting of the Building and works Committee held on Thursday, 29th January, 2025.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.15	<p>To note the Minutes of 70th meeting of the Senate held on Monday, 18th November 2024 - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the resolution of the 70th meeting of the Senate held on Monday, 18th November 2024.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.16	<p>To note the Minutes of 71st meeting of the Senate held on Thursday, 06th February, 2025 - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the resolution of the 71st meeting of the Senate held on Thursday, 06th February, 2025.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.17	<p>To note the Statutes of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal (Amendment) Statute, 2025 - Reg.</p> <p>The BoG noted the Amendment, and approved its adaptation and implementation.</p> <p>[Action owner: Registrar Timeframe: NA]</p>
79 BoG Item No. 79.3.18	<p>Any other item with the permission of the Chair.</p> <p>The Director brought the following items to the attention of BoG for information and advice, if any.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. B.D. Prasanna, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, has been appointed as the Dean of Alumni & Corporate Relations (ACR). 2. As mentioned in ATR for BoG Item No. 78.3.9, recruitment notification has been issued for Group 'A' positions vide No.5213-NITK-NTR/ Admn-Estt./ 2025/B1 dt.07.01.2025. The BoG is requested to recommend BoG nominee and MoE nominee for the Selection Committee.

“The BoG resolved to empower the Director to nominate a Board nominee (preferably a Director of another NIT/ CFTI) and MoE nominee (as per MoE letter F.No.35-1/2020-TS.III dated 12.11.2024)”

[Action owner: Director | Timeframe: On confirmation of the minutes]

3. Letters received from the Ministry of Education, GoI, regarding the tenure of Shri K. Ravindranath to the post of Registrar in NITK Surathkal.

The Registrar was requested to recuse himself owing to conflict of interest. BoG members noted that in a letter dated 10.01.2024, MoE had asked for certain clarifications regarding the Registrar's appointment, including the advertisement of the post, BoG decisions, and any litigation on the issue.

The second letter of MoE dated 17.02.2025 (Reminder-1) observes that NITK Surathkal is the only NIT wherein Registrar is continuing for the past 10 years, and to inform the status on the constitution of a committee to look into the matter which led to the appointment of Registrar on regular basis.

After a detailed discussion, the following resolution was passed:

“The BoG resolved to direct the Institute to constitute a High Power Committee comprising three Directors (two from IIT and one from NIT), Registrar (from another NIT) and Senior Advocate, to examine the matter related to the appointment of Shri K. Ravindranath as the Registrar of NITK, Surathkal and report to MoE, if the recruitment process and appointment are in accordance with NIT Act, Statutes and DoPT guidelines. The Committee shall have the power to decide on the procedure. The BoG further directs NITK to provide all necessary facilities to the Committee and ensure full cooperation from all the officials of NITK.”

[Action Owner: Board of Governors. | Time frame: 6 months, extendable if circumstances require.

With the above, the meeting concluded by giving thanks to the Chair.



(B. Ravi)
Director and
Member – BoG
NITK, Surathkal.



(B. Ravi)
Chairperson In-charge
Board of Governors
NITK, Surathkal