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Minutes of 11th meeting of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Minutes of 11th meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), HBNI held at Council Hall, HBNI, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai in hybrid mode on 15th July, 2022 is as follows:

Present

1.	Prof. P. R. Vasudeva Rao	Vice Chancellor, HBNI	Chairman	In person
2.	Prof. P.D. Naik	Dean, HBNI	Member	In person
3.	Prof. A.K. Bhattacharjee	Senior Professor, BARC	Member	In person
4.	Prof. Arup Banerjee	Professor, RRCAT	Member	On Video
5.	Dr. P.C. Selvin	Registrar, HBNI	Member	In person
6.	Prof. S. Laskar	Associate Professor and Nodal Officer, Tata Memorial Centre	Member	On Video
7.	Shri K. Swaminathan	Chief Administrative Officer, Heavy Water Board	Member	In person
8.	Prof. S. Mukhopadhyay	Senior Professor & Dean Academics (Engg. Sc.-II), BARC	Member	In person
9.	Prof. D.K. Maity	Professor & Associate Dean, HBNI	Member	In person
10.	Prof. R. Thangadurai	Professor & Dean (Students' Affairs), HRI	Member	On Video
11.	Prof. Harapriya	Associate Professor, NISER	Member	On Video
12.	Smt. K.S. Lakshmi	Head, Training School, NFC, Hyderabad	Member	On Video

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13.	Dr. T.S. Sunil Kumar	Head, AMD Training School, Hyderabad	Member	On Video
14.	Shri Akash Dileep Gandhi,	PhD Student, Engineering Sciences, BARC	Member	In person
15.	Prof. A.K. Dureja	Professor and Associate Dean, HBNI	Coordinator	In person

Members who could not attend:

1.	Dr. G. Ravikumar	Former Head, SIRD, BARC & Former Professor, HBNI	Member
2.	Prof. Parnika Das	Professor & Dean Academics (Physical Sciences), VECC	Member

Prof. A.K. Dureja greeted all the members and requested Vice Chancellor, HBNI to have welcome address and opening remark.

M.1: Welcome address and opening remarks by Dr. P.R. Vasudeva Rao, VC, HBNI

Vice Chancellor welcomed all the participants to the meeting and emphasized the importance of IQAC in improving the academic and administrative processes of a University. He expressed that the very purpose of the meeting is to have a very critical outlook from each one of the members and suggestions on what we have to do in the coming years. IQAC is a fully empowered, independent body for providing directions to the university about where improvements need to be done. IQAC will deliberate on specific shortcomings that the members or other stakeholders bring out, or improvements which have to be done. He emphasized that the IQAC is the statutory body which is supposed to provide directions for improvement in quality.

M.2: New academic programmes from session 2022-23 by Dr. P.D. Naik, Dean, HBNI

Dean, HBNI presented the various academic programmes approved by the academic council. He emphasized that while conducting any program we need to think about what is the goal of the programme. The academic programme needs to be more goal oriented rather than just a knowledge base.

There are in total 48 academic programmes. He informed the Cell about the various academic programmes which are planned to be introduced from the academic year 2022-23. IQAC members welcomed the proposal of adding new programmes.

M.3: Discussion on creating more avenues for better interaction among faculty members in CIs/OCC.

Prof. D.K.Maity, Associate Dean, HBNI briefed the IQAC about the initiatives to enhance interactions and collaborations between HBNI faculty, towards realizing resource sharing, student mobility, co-guidance of programs, joint courses etc.



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HBNI had conducted a Discussion Meeting on Basic Sciences (DiMBS-2022) in the month of April, 2022. The basic idea of conducting a meeting of this kind was to enhance the collaboration among various CIs/OCC of HBNI. All the CIs/OCC participated in this three days' meeting in Mumbai. There were CIs/OCC specific presentations so that students and faculty members can understand the lab/research facilities available in that CI/OCC. Prof. Maity presented the outcome of the meeting. This will really help in having more avenues for collaboration among students and faculty members in different CIs/OCC. In view of this, discipline specific meetings are planned. He informed the cell that one of such meeting has already happened in SINP regarding Physical Sciences. The upcoming meeting in RRCAT is regarding life sciences. Such meeting would also be helpful in having inter disciplinary research.

M.4: Discussion on implementation of NEP-2020

VC informed the cell regarding implementation of National Education Policy (NEP). UGC has issued guidelines for implementation of NEP-2020 and a Gazette notification in July 2021. It was mentioned that NEP-2020 has provision for student to take academic break and having academic bank of credit. The other key features of NEP-2020 were also discussed.

M.5: Topics for HBNI webinars: In addition to scientific webinars, HBNI had started a series on Swasthya Vidya. Inviting suggestions for future webinar series

Prof. Dureja informed the cell about the webinars being conducted by HBNI since the pandemic started in March 2020. HBNI started conducting webinars from the Foundation Day of 2020. Since then we had around 50 webinars and programs, conducted sometimes in fully online mode or in hybrid mode at times. Most of the webinars which have been conducted are either scientific webinars or some research student webinars or some webinars addressing health related issues. He requested IQAC members to suggest new areas for conducting webinars in future in addition to the domains already being covered. The other domains also need to be considered so that we can have webinars in various other domains for the benefit of faculty members, student and other stake holders. IQAC members suggested that if we can cover some of the general topics like economics, financial aspects, administrative aspects, rules and regulations, constitution of India etc., this will be beneficial for all.

M.6: Discussion on collection of data from CIs/OCC for preparation of Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR): Dr. P.C. Selvin, Registrar, HBNI

Dr. Selvin discussed about the data being collected by Central Office, HBNI for reporting to various statutory bodies of Government of India e.g. UGC, DAE, NIRF, AISHE, NAAC etc. All these bodies require data in various formats with different time frames as well. He emphasized that we need to harmonize the way of collecting data from various CIs/OCC so that we can collect data once or twice in a year and fulfill the requirements.

M.7: Faculty induction programme, June-2022

Prof. Dureja informed the cell regarding faculty induction programme conducted by HBNI. HBNI inducts faculty members twice in a year. i.e. from 1st of January and 1st of July every year. This faculty induction program is mandated by UGC. In this faculty induction program, we generally give them introduction about HBNI, various academic programmes being conducted by HBNI, linkages of Central Office with CIs/OCC, role of various functionaries of HBNI in central office as well as CIs/OCC. Brief outline of the HBNI ordinances is also explained. Suggestions were sought from IQAC members to conduct this programme in more effective way.



M.8: Uploading of certificates on Digi locker

Prof. Dureja informed the Cell that HBNI has started uploading all the awards on Digi locker portal of Ministry of Electronics, Government of India as per the directives of UGC. Government of India has necessitated that whatever degree or diploma universities are awarding, should be uploaded on Digi locker. We have uploaded the awards given by HBNI in the year 2020 as well as 2019. Now students can download and they can give links to their Verifiers also so that their employer can also verify their records. All degree and diploma certificates need to be separately uploaded calendar year wise. VC, HBNI emphasized that it should be a time bound exercise and we should finish with a target of uploading all the awards in coming six months.

M.9: Patents and Intellectual Property Rights

Vice Chancellor informed the Cell that regarding India ranking by NIRF last year, we could not show any patents by HBNI faculty members or students as affiliation of HBNI was not shown in the patent proposal. As discussed in the last meeting of IQAC, HBNI approached the DAE, IPR Cell that at least the scholars and faculty members who are affiliated to HBNI should be allowed to show affiliation of HBNI when they are filing patents. Accordingly, scholars and faculty members have been allowed to show the affiliation of HBNI.

Dean, HBNI also opined that this is a very good initiative and we are thankful to DAE for giving very favorable consideration. Regarding DAE Circular, he emphasized that it should be widely disseminated and informed to all the students that if they have any innovation that may result in a patent, they have a right to put to their name.

M.10: India Ranking-2022 by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) by Dr. A.K. Dureja, Associate Dean, HBNI

Prof. Dureja presented about the participation of HBNI in NIRF-2022. HBNI is participating in this endeavor since its inception in the year 2015. He informed the cell that HBNI was placed at 18th rank in the University category as compared to 14th rank in the year 2020. In Year 2021, Research Institution had been introduced as a new category. HBNI had been ranked at 13th place in this Research Institution category. In the Overall category, HBNI was placed at 36th place as compared to 30th place in the 2020 year's ranking. The cell also opined that faculty members should put more and more online courses on Swayam platform with their HBNI affiliation to increase the visibility of HBNI in the public domain. With all the inputs from various CIs/OCC, HBNI had submitted data for NIRF-2022 and the Cell was confident that HBNI would do better this year. Prof. Dureja informed the cell that the Rankings will be announced today.

M.11: Value Added Courses

Prof Dureja informed the Cell about the various value-added course being conducted by HBNI. Some of these are as follows.

1. HBNI entered into an MoU with Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA) for training of senior executives of DAE to enable them to efficiently execute their management functions. Till date, three batches have completed this programme. In this, Sarabhai Management Development Programme (SMDP) for senior executives of DAE Organizations, around 100 senior executives have been trained so far and fourth batch of around 30 participants would be attending at IIMA in the month of August, 2022. The first two batches were mostly trained on leadership Development program and last two batches are on Project Management.



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2. Regarding HBNI and INSTN, France collaboration: HBNI had entered into an implementing agreement with National Institute for Nuclear Science and Technology in France. We had entered into this agreement in year 2018 which has been further extended after 2021 onwards for three more years. With this MoU, we had conducted one course on Severe Accident Phenomenology in 2019. It was a fully online course for Indian participants. Three participants from DAE participated in person as well. Around 43 participants participated through Video Conferencing in India. This was a very successful course. Deriving the benefit of this collaboration, we had gone ahead and conducted another course in 2021 on Corrosion Degradation of Light Water Reactor Materials.
3. We had conducted a foundation course on project management of nuclear facilities. This course had around 45 hours lectures running from December, 2021 to February 2022. Around 191 participants attended this course in hybrid mode from various DAE units. Because of the hybrid mode of this course, many of the NPCIL power plants personnel also participated in this course.

M.12: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Vice Chancellor informed the cell that from this year's Foundation Day programme, we have introduced a new feature of formally facilitating our faculty members who have received national / international honors. It was earlier only awards for the students. This year we found that almost 50 faculty members of HBNI family, had received various awards starting from Infosys Award, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, Recognitions by various national/international bodies etc.

Regarding MoU with INSTN, France, he informed the cell that there are several other domains where joint program can be conducted between India and France because we have complementary strengths in many directions and two of them, we have identified. One is related to the medical imaging to take into account the expertise which we have with radiation medicine and application of various techniques for treatment and the high quality and state of the art imaging and other facilities available in France and India. We had a discussion with them and they have given a lot of encouragement and they are very keenly interested. In addition, we can a course addressing structural integrity issues in nuclear reactor systems. INSTN has also shown interest in having this course.

As there were no more items, the meeting concluded with thanks to the chair and all the members.

