



Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board

Held on : 16.02.2021 (Tuesday)
Time : 11 a.m.
Venue : Board Room, 6th Floor, Founder's Block, HITS

The following Members were present:

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|-----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Prof. K.V. Thomas, Former Union Minister. | Patron |
| 2. | Dr. S.N. Sridhara, Vice Chancellor | Chairperson |
| 3. | Dr. R.W. Alexander Jesudasan, Pro Vice Chancellor | Member |
| 4. | Mr. Ashok Verghese, Director | Member |
| 5. | Dr. Aby Sam, Director | Member |
| 6. | Dr. A.M. Moorthy, Former Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Chennai. | External Member |
| 7. | Dr. N. Vasudevan, Dean (Engg. & Tech.) | Member |
| 8. | Dr. V.L. Mony, Dean (Law) | Member |
| 9. | Dr. SheebaChander, Dean (SPADE) | Member |
| 10. | Mr. Isaac Samala Gerard, CHRO | Member |
| 11. | Mr. C. Robin, Legal Consultant | Special Invitee |
| 12. | Mr. C. Sundaraj, Senior Finance Officer | Special Invitee |
| 13. | Dr. Pon. Ramalingam, Registrar | Member Secretary |

Dr. M.P. Poonia, Vice Chairman, AICTE, UGC Nominee attended the meeting through online.

Dr. Anand Jacob Verghese, Pro Chancellor, Wg. Cdr. K.R. Srikanth, Chief Admin Officer and Mr. S. Vivek, Deputy Financial Controller were granted leave of absence.

1. The Registrar welcomed Prof. K.V. Thomas, Former Union Minister, Dr. M.P. Poonia, Vice Chairman, AICTE and all other members physically present in the meeting. The Registrar further introduced the new Vice Chancellor, Dr. S.N. Sridhara and new Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. R.W. Alexander Jesudasan to the Board.

2. Address by the Vice Chancellor:

The Vice Chancellor after welcoming Prof. K.V. Thomas, Former Union Minister, Dr. M.P. Poonia, Vice Chairman, AICTE, Dr. A.M. Moorthy, Former VC of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University and other members, presented a power point presentation on the following:

- HITS Ranked 601+ QS World University Rankings – ASIA 2021
- HITS ranked 107th position in Engineering and 20th rank in Architecture in the NIRF.
- HITS emerged as one of the top Universities in India in Times Higher Education (THE) Impact rankings in Sustainable Development Goals SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).
- HITS emerged as one of the premier institutions in India during the pandemic which adopted technology enabled services for online teaching and was recognised with QS e-LEAD (Learning Excellence for Academic Digitisation) certification.
- HITS awarded with 5 STARS by MHRD Institution Innovation Cell 2020, for promoting culture of innovation in university for undertaking various activities.
- Bestowed with Best University Award under Universities category for achievement in NIRF ranking within 100 at the ThinkEdu Conclave, an initiative of New Indian Express group.
- “Best Private University for Research & Innovation of the Year” award at the Asia Education Summit on 27th February 2020.
- HITS Ranked under Band A (Rank between 6th to 25th) in ARIIA Ranking 2020.

- “The Institute of the Year for Higher Education – South” conferred to HITS by ASSOCHAM during 13th Higher Education Skill and Livelihood Conclave.
- Digital Learning. Due to pandemic COVID 19, HITS has adopted online teaching learning procedure online since April 2020. HITS was the first institution started online classes in this region. The even semester examinations 2019-20 and odd semester examinations 2020-21 were also conducted online.
- LAUNCH of KCG-Satellite: Hindustan Group of Institutions is proposing to build and launch a student satellite named KCG-Sat in honour of our beloved founder. The nano-satellite will be designed, fabricated by our staff and students with Scientists from ISRO.
- 11th Convocation was conducted on 11th January 2021. Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO presided over the Convocation. A total of 1688 graduands comprising U.G., P.G., Ph.D. and Diploma have received their degrees.
- SEVILI (CARETAKER ROBOT). The research team of the Centre for Automation and Robotics (ANRO) developed SEVILI (Caretaker) a service robot to assist the medical frontline handling COVID19 patients and was deployed at major hospitals in Tamil Nadu and it has achieved due recognition across the nation.
- DRISHYAM 4.0 MOVEMENT. The Department of Aeronautical Sciences has developed the drone “Drishyam 4.0” and was used to support the Police Department for crowd monitoring and control during the COVID-19 lockdown period.
- SUZHALI. Another invention, just at the right time, from ANRO is the launch of Suzhali – a Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) like Face Mask. Providing an affordable protection from harmful viral and bacterial infections.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board held on 7th September 2019.

Dr. Aby Sam, Director enquired about the status of NBA, NIRF and IET accreditation and ranking process.

Dean (Engg. & Tech.) stated that HITS has applied for 5 more programs for NBA accreditation. The Inspection Team from NBA is expected soon. With regard to IET accreditation, almost 95% of the work is over. Virtual inspection is expected during April 2021.

The Minutes of the 11th meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board held on 7th September 2019 was confirmed.

4. Action Taken Report on the 11th Meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board held on 7th September 2019.

Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 11th meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board held on 7th September 2019 was discussed and approved.

5. Faculty Exchange Programme.

Under Faculty Exchange Program, 27 (Twenty-Seven) teaching staff members from the University have participated in various activities with foreign universities during academic year 2019-20. The details are as follows:

Activity	Number of Teaching staff
Research Collaborations	18
Paper presentation	04
Conference	02
Education Fair	02
Post-doctoral Fellowship	01
Total	27

Similarly, 26 (Twenty-six) teaching staff members from foreign universities visited HITS during 2019-20. The details are as follows:

Activity	Number of Teaching staff
Guest Lectures	14
Seminars	10
Conference	01
Workshop	01
Total	26

It has been planned to depute 25 teaching staff of HITS to foreign universities and to invite 15 teachers from foreign universities during 2020-21.

Noted by the members.

6. Students Exchange Programme.

Under Students Exchange Program, 27 (Twenty-seven) students from the University have participated in various activities with foreign universities (Germany, USA, Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, France, Italy and Russia) during academic year 2019-20. The details are as follows:

Activity	Number of Students
Competition	04
BRICS Meet	06
Volley Ball Tournament	12
Aero Design Competition	05
Total	27

Similarly, 68 (Sixty-eight) students from foreign universities (Germany and Japan) visited HITS during 2019-20 for various activities. The details are as follows:

Activity	Number of Students
Projects	13
Internship	01
Virtual Social Business Students' Forum (VSBSF)	06
Summer Programs	10
Semester Exchange Programs	25
Project Internships	10
6 th Global Leadership Program	01
AIIESEC International Conference on Leadership	02
Total	68

It has been planned to depute 70 students from HITS to foreign universities and to invite students from foreign universities for Summer Programs during 2020-21.

The students are motivated to participate in the exchange programs by International Affairs Office / Student Affairs Office / concerned Departments.

Noted by the members.

7. Students Study Tours / Internship / Competitions.

International:

Due to Covid-19 threat, international study tour was not conducted during 2019-20.

However, HITS has planned study tour for students to Singapore, Malaysia, Dubai, Latvia and USA during the academic year 2020-21.

National:

During the academic year 2019-20, 182 (**One hundred and eighty-two**) students from HITS participated in various National level competitions, conference, symposium.

Further, it has been planned to depute 160 students to participate in National level competitions during the academic year 2020-21 in view of Covid pandemic.

Dr. Aby Sam, Director enquired about the status of internship for prefinal / final year students in the context of COVID 19.

Dean (Engg&Tech) informed that many students have registered in the AICTE portal Internshala to do internship in the online mode.

Dr. M.P. Poonia, Vice Chairman AICTE suggested the University can nominate a Coordinator for Internshala to motivate the student to take up online internship.

Noted by the members.

8. Research Publications

Publications during the academic year 2018-19, 2019-20 and target for 2020-21 are as follows.

S.No	Details	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Actual)	2020-21 (Target)
1	Number of journal publications	283	366	450
2	Number of Conferences publications	93	118	150
Total		376	484	600

Detailed plan of action by Research Department for 2020-21

- Each department has given target based on number of faculty to achieve overall target with respect to publication of research papers.
- Faculty members are encouraged and motivated for publishing in high quality indexed peer reviewed journals.

Mr. Ashok Verghese, Director suggested that a target of Two Research Publications in WOS / SeI Journals per year to be given to each staff member to improve the publications.

Dr. Aby Sam, Director stated that from the academic year 2021-22, we have amended the PG Regulations that every PG student shall compulsorily publish one paper minimum in indexed journal / Conference paper (Scopus Indexed) / WOS / SAE based on project work.

We should give training to students of both UG and PG, as to how they should publish papers.

Noted by the members.

9. International /National level Conferences / Seminars /Workshops / Symposia / FDPs conducted during 2018-19, 2019-20 and plan for 2020-21:

(a) International:

Details	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Actual)	2020-21 (Plan)
Number of Conferences / Seminars / Workshops / Symposia / Guest Lectures / FDPs	37	145	150

(b) National:

Details	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Actual)	2020-21 (Plan)
Number of Conferences / Seminars / Workshops / Symposia / Guest Lectures / FDPs	102	189	180

The members suggested break up details in respect to the Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Symposia to be presented in the Planning and Monitoring Board meeting.

Noted by the members.

10. Buildings Constructed, Under Construction and Proposed Construction:

Building		Planned for 2019-20		Executed during 2019-20	
S.No.	Description	Area (Sq. Ft.)	Expenditure in Crores	Area (Sq. Ft.)	Expenditure in Crores
A	Academic Block				
	Jubilee Block(5 th Floor)	33,607	08.08	25,000	03.70
B	Facilities				
	Jupiter Boys Hostel (Phase-II)	36,500	11.00	36,500	11.00
	Total		19.08		14.70
Building		Planned for 2020-21		Executed during 2020-21	
S.No.	Description	Area (Sq. Ft.)	Expenditure in Crores	Area (Sq. Ft.)	Expenditure in Crores
A	Academic Block				
	Jubilee Block (6 th Floor)	30,123	9.66	15,000	1.60
	Total		9.66		1.60

Proposed Infrastructure development during 2020-21:

S.No.	Name	Area (Sq. Ft)	Budget (Rs. In Crores)	Remarks
1	Academic Related			
a	New Academic Block	1,50,000	37.50	
b	Interior for food technology lab in Mess Block.(Jupiter Hostel)	8,500	0.25	Integrated food testing lab facility.
2	Facilities Related			
a	Staff Quarters (G+3 – 24 units)	25,720	6.60	----
b	Indoor Sports Stadium	40,000	6.00	Multipurpose
c	New STP with enhanced capacity (450 KLD) -80' x 50'	4,000	2.10	Necessitated due to TNRDC Bye-Pass
d	New ladies Hostel Block including kitchen & dining hall.	10,000	2.50	----
e	Vehicle parking along TNRDC Bye-Pass.	20,000	0.25	----
f	Front Compound wall Arch	-	0.60	----

	including formation of Road			
g	Compound wall along TNRDC Bye-Pass & Arch	-	0.80	----
h	Guest House (Jupiter Hostel) (G+3)	20,000	5.00	----
i	Bio Gas Plant waste unit (1000sq Ft.)		0.12	----
j	Storm water drainage	-	1.00	Ground water re-charge
k	Re-routing of sewage line.	-	0.25	As per revised infrastructure needs.
		Total	62.97	

It was reported that all the Building Plans of HITS in Padur campus have been approved by the Competent Authorities.

Dr. Aby Sam, Director said that Study in India is giving a matching grant of Rs. 10 Crores to the partner institutions to construct hostel for international students. The partner universities are to provide the land and provide equal share of the cost of construction and requested the Registrar to take necessary steps to apply for the same so that the pending C Block (Jupiter) and proposed ladies hostel can be taken up.

Dr. Aby Sam, Director presented a PPT of the proposed Multipurpose Auditorium for 45,000 sq. ft. at a cost of Rs. 22.00 Crores. This Auditorium will have Three Basketball courts, Cafeteria, VIP Rooms, players' rooms.

Dr. A.M. Moorthy suggested to use the new Auditorium for Yoga also, as we get funds from the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.

Noted by the members.

11. Memorandums of Understanding:

International:

A total of **17 (Seventeen)** MoUs with International Countries and Industries have been signed during the academic year 2019-20.

During the academic year 2020-21, it has been planned to sign 10 MoUs with International Industries.

National:

A total of **12 (Twelve)** MoUs with various Industries have been signed during the academic year 2019-20.

During the year 2020-21, the University has planned to sign 20 MoUs with various industries.

Noted by the members.

12. Placement Activities:

A. Below are the placement activities held during the academic year 2018-19, 2019-20 and plan for the academic year 2020-21:

Details	2018-19	2019-20	Plan for 2020-21
No. of Companies	72	113	120
No. of Students Placed	408	254	450
No. of Eligible Students during the academic year	591	414	597
Total Strength	1264	1041	1380
% Placed Vs Eligible	69.30	61.35	75.37

2019-20

- Industry experts and HR executives were invited to deliver guest lectures to the students.
- Partnered with 15 core companies recently for recruitments.

The Board observed that the students should be trained effectively in Technical, Soft skills besides training in aptitude capabilities. The onus for training lies with the HoDs and Training Department.

B. PLAN FOR 2020-21 & subsequent batches

The Placement Department has planned to invite **120** Companies across India for recruitment of students during the year 2020-2021 to achieve the target of 80% placement for the eligible students.

The Board observed the following:

The Head, Training should focus on improving the mean and median salary of the students which is an important parameter in the NIRF Rankings.

The concerned Head of the Department must be present during the entire placement drive to encourage and motivate the students of a particular department.

Aeronautical and Aerospace students' placement to be improved.

The pre-placement training can start from second year to enhance the skills and capabilities to improve the placement.

Noted by the members.

13. U.G. and P.G. admissions for the academic year 2020-21

U.G. admissions for the academic year 2020-21

S.No	Branch	Dept.	2020-21
			I Year
			I Sem
1.	Aeronautical Engg	Aeronautical	151
2.	Aerospace Engg		104
3.	Automobile Engg	Auto	18
4.	Civil Engg	Civil	06
5.	Computer Science &Engg	CSE	141
6.	Computer Science &Engg (Data Science)		17
7.	Computer Science &Engg (AI & ML- IBM)		54
8.	Electrical & Electronics Engg	EEE	05
9.	Electronics &CommEngg	ECE	53
10.	Mechanical Engg	Mechanical	17
11.	Mechatronics		35
12.	Information Technology	IT	28
13.	Information Technology (Cyber Security)		45

14.	B.Arch.	SPADE	78
15.	B.Des. Fashion and Apparel Design		26
16.	B.Des. Interior Design		08
17.	B.Des. Communication Design		04
18.	Chemical Engg	Chemical	17
19.	Bio-Tech	Bio-Tech	29
20.	B.A.,LL.B. (Honours)	Law	12
21.	B.B.A.,LL.B. (Honours)		11
22.	LL.B.		11
23.	B.B.A.	SOM	47
24.	B.B.A. (Hospital and Health Management)		06
25.	B.B.A. (Logistics)		12
26.	B.B.A. Aviation		82
27.	B.B.A. (Automobile Management)		02
28.	B.Com.		55
29.	B.Com. (Banking Management)		04
30.	B.M.S.		01
31.	B.C.A.	MCA	91
32.	B.C.A. (Industry Integrated)		10
33.	B.Sc. (Fashion Design)	Fashion Design	21
34.	B.Sc. Optometry	AHS	06
35.	B.Sc. Visual Communication	Visual Communication	21
36.	B.Sc. Food Technology	S & H	36
37.	B.Sc. Physical Education, Health Education and Sports	PED	12

38.	B.A. Political Science	SLAAS	20
39.	B.A. Psychology		18
40.	B.A. Economics		01
41.	B.A. Sociology		05
42.	B.A. English		06
43.	B.A. Triple Major: Psychology, English and Political Science		07
44.	B.A. Triple Major: Law, Economics and Political Science		02
45.	Professional Diploma in Cyber Investigation and Laws	CSE	05
46.	Professional Diploma in Cyber Security Management		05
Total			1345

P.G. admissions for the academic year 2020-21

S.No.	Branch		2020-21
1.	M.B.A.	SOM	59
2.	M.B.A. (Aviation Management)		20
3.	M.B.A. (Media and Entertainment)		05
4.	M.B.A. Logistics and Supply Chain Mgmt		08
5.	M.B.A. – Business Analytics (IBM)		02
6.	M.B.A. Hosp. &Mgmt		03
7.	M.B.A. (Hospital & Healthcare)		06
8.	M.B.A. (Hotel and Tourism Management)		02
9.	M.B.A. (Sports Management)		09
10.	M.C.A.	MCA	04
11.	M.C.A. (Big Data Analysis)		37
12.	M.Tech. Comp Sc&Engg.	CSE	01
13.	M.Tech. CSE – Cyber Security		01
14.	M.Tech. CSE – Artificial Intelligence		03
15.	M.Tech. EEE – Smart Grid & Electric Vehicle Tech.	EEE	05
16.	M.Tech. Embedded and Real Time Systems	ECE	01

17.	M.Arch. (General) Part Time	SPADE	07
18.	M.Arch. (Housing) Part Time		07
19.	M. Plan.		22
20.	M.Tech. (Aero)	Aero	04
21.	M.Tech. (Avionics)		04
22.	M.Tech (AME)		06
23.	M.Tech (Auto)	Auto	07
24.	M.Tech (Robotics & Mechatronics)	MECH	03
25.	M.Tech. (Environmental Engg.)	CIVIL	01
26.	M.Tech. (Structural Engineering)		04
27.	M.Tech. (Structural & Construction MGM)		08
28.	LL.M.	LAW	01
29.	M.Sc. Chemistry	S & H	01
30.	M.A. English Language and Communication		03
Total			244
U G Programme 1345 + PG Programme 244 (Grand Total = 1589)			

The following Table provides the number of students admitted during 2018-19; 2019-20; and 2020-21 and the plan for 2021-22.

Details	2018-19 (Admitted)	2019-20 (Admitted)	2020-21 (Admitted)	2021-22 (Planned)
Number of students admitted in U.G. courses	1844	1321	1345	2000
Number of students admitted in P.G. courses	255	192	244	250
Total	2099	1513	1589	2250

Noted by the members.

14. New Faculty members appointed during 2020-21.

37 (Thirty-seven) faculty members have already been appointed and joined the Institution during the academic year 2020-21.

For the information of the Board, the number of new faculty members appointed during the academic years 2018-19; 2019-20 and plan to recruit during 2020-21 are given in the following Table:

Year	No. of New Faculty Recruited
2018-19	52
2019-20	36
2020-21	75

Noted by the members.

15. Sponsored Research Projects.

Sponsored Research Projects sanctioned during 2018-19, 2019-20 and plan for 2020-21 are given below:

Projects	2018-2019 (Actual)		2019-2020 (Actual)		2020-2021 (Plan)	
	Number	Amount in lakhs	Number	Amount in lakhs	Number	Amount in lakhs
Number of Projects Sanctioned	6	94.08	6	179.41	7	200.00

Plan of action 2020-2021

- A major project on Green Hydrogen in collaboration with Trier University of Applied Sciences, Germany is awaiting sanction from the concerned funding agency.
- Project from ICMR: The First project proposal has been conditionally approved. A second project from ICMR is under process for sanction to HITS.

Dr. M.P. Poonia, Vice Chairman, AICTE informed that private universities are also given due consideration for allocation of funds by the various Government funding agencies for research. Research proposals which are with merit will get sanctioned from the funding agencies.

The Member opined that the funded research projects in the University are not up to the expected level of the Management. The Research Department has to raise to their level in guiding and grooming more number of staff with Ph.D. to apply continuously for research projects to the funding agencies.

Noted by the members.

16. Accreditation status of NBA / IET.

A. NBA Accreditation:

I. The Member Secretary, National Board of Accreditation, New Delhi in his letter (file) No. 33-305 / 2014-NBA dated 28-03-2019 has communicated their grant of accreditation under **Tier-I**, to the following five programmes for **Three years** (from 2019-2020 to 2021-22, i.e. up to 30.06.2022):

1. B.Tech. (Automobile Engineering)
2. B.Tech. (Mechanical Engineering)
3. B.Tech. (Civil Engineering)
4. B.Tech. (Computer Science Engineering)
5. B.Tech. (Aeronautical Engineering)

II. Further the University is awaiting NBA expert committee visit for the following programmes:

1. B.Tech. (Information Technology)
2. B.Tech. (Aerospace)
3. B.Tech. (Mechatronics)
4. B.Tech. (Electronics and Communication Engineering)
5. B.Tech. (Electrical and Electronics Engineering)

The Vice Chancellor said that NBA has started organizing expert committee visit for inspection to the institution after the pandemic. The University will be completing the inspections for the pending five B.Tech. Programmes as soon as possible.

B. I.E.T. Accreditation:

The University has applied for IET Accreditation for the following nine programs in July 2017. The Advisory Committee visit from IET has been completed. The report and

documents as per IET prescribed format have been submitted. The Expert Committee visit for evaluation and assessment of the nine programs by IET is awaited.

1. B.Tech.Aeronautical Engineering
2. B.Tech. Aerospace Engineering
3. B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering
4. B.Tech. Mechatronics
5. B.Tech. Automobile Engineering
6. B.Tech. Computer Science and Engineering
7. B.Tech. Information Technology
8. B.Tech. Electronics and Communication Engineering
9. B.Tech. Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Dr. N. Vasudevan, Dean (Engg. & Tech.) said that the Expert Committee from IET will be visiting the University in April 2021.

Noted by the members.

17. Details of New courses, planned and offered:

The following new programs have been introduced from the academic year 2020-21:

1. B.B.A. Engineering Management (Mech)
2. B.B.A. Automobile Management
3. B.Sc. Automobile Maintenance
4. B.Sc. Optometry
5. B.Sc. Physician Assistant
6. B.A. Triple Major: Political Science, Psychology and Economics
7. B.A. Triple Major: Law, Economics and Political Science
8. B.M.S. (Aviation Services and Air Cargo)
9. B.Des. Communication Design
10. M.Sc. User Experience Design

Noted by the members.

The following programs are planned to be offered in the University from 2021-2022:

1. Ph.D. in Law (Full time, Part-time – External and Internal)

2. LL.M. (Two Year Program)
3. B.Com. (Internship Embedded Programme)
4. B.Com., B.C.A. and B.B.A. under OL/ODL D.E.B. - UGC
5. B.Tech. (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
6. B.Optom. (4 years)
7. B.Sc. Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics (3 years)
8. Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) 4 years
9. Diploma in Optometry (2 years)
10. Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (2 years)
11. Diploma in Language and Speech Therapy (1 year)
12. Diploma in Geriatric Care and Management (1 year)
13. Diploma in General Duty Assistant (1 year)

Noted by the members.

18. Any other business with permission of the Chair:

The University to explore the option of introducing new programs where girl students will be interested to pursue the programs. In addition, some Special Scholarships to be offered girl students.

Prof. K.V. Thomas suggested 'Admission Campaign' can be conducted in major cities in Kerala including Ernakulum where there is high potential for HITS to admit students in various programs.

Dr. A.M. Moorthy advised to apply for funds under Khelo India Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs.

Dr. M.P. Poonia stated that AICTE is considering to bring some changes in the eligibility conditions for admission into Engineering and Technology programs, as per the National Education Policy. Dr. M.P. Poonia also clarified that the intake as per AICTE approval alone shall be taken for SFR calculation in NIRF.

19. The Registrar thanked all the members for their valuable inputs.

REGISTRAR.