

डॉक्टर हरीसिंह गौर विश्वविद्यालय, सागर (म.प्र.)
DOCTOR HARISINGH GOUR VISHWAVIDYALAYA, SAGAR (M.P.)

(केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय / A Central University)

कुलसचिव (प्र.)
REGISTRAR (Offg.)



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No/Comm./EC/2023/524

01 December, 2023

To,

All Esteemed Members
Executive Council
Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya
Sagar (MP) 470 003

Subject:- Minutes of Meeting of the Executive Council (EC) held on 01 December 2023 at 11:00 AM of the Vishwavidyalaya in Blended Mode.

Respected Sir/Madam,

1. This is to inform that the Meeting of the Executive Council (EC) was held on 01 December 2023 at 11:00 AM in Gour Samiti Kaksh, New Administrative Building of the Vishwavidyalaya in Blended Mode.
2. The approved copy of the Minutes of the EC Meeting is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: As per above.

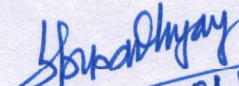

01.12.2023
Registrar (Offg.)

Copy for information and necessary to:-

(I/c) University website cell - for uploading it on the University website.

Copy to:

1. PS to VC - for information of Hon'ble VC please,
2. PA to Registrar.
3. Guard File.


01.12.2023
Registrar (Offg.)

DOCTOR HARISINGH GOUR VISHWAVIDYALAYA, SAGAR (M.P.)
(A Central University)



MINUTES OF SINGLE POINT AGENDA MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (EC)

- **Date** : 01 December 2023
- **Time** : 11:00 AM
- **Venue** : Gour Samiti Kaksh, New Administrative Building of the Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.)

The following attended the Meeting:

1. Prof. Neelima Gupta, Vice Chancellor - Chairperson
2. Prof. Atul M. Gonsai, Saurashtra University, Rajkot (Online) - Member
(Nominee of Chairman, UGC)
3. Prof. (Dr.) Shailendra Singh, (Visitor's Nominee) (Online) - Member
Dean (Research), IIM, Lucknow, (U.P.)
4. Prof. G.P. Choudhary, Additional Director, Dept. of Higher Education, (Online) - Member
Govt. of M.P. (Nominee of Chief Secretary, Govt. of M.P. Bhopal)
5. Dr. Sharad K. Pradhan, (Visitor's Nominee) (Online) - Member
Director of THDC, Institute of Hydropower Engineering and Technology,
Tehri, Govt. of Uttarakhand, Tehri
6. Dr. Chandrashekhar Vasantrao Bhusari, (Visitor's Nominee) (Online) - Member
Former Dean, RTM Nagpur University, Former Pro Vice-Chancellor,
Godwana University, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra
7. Prof. Devika P. Madalli, (Visitor's Nominee) (Online) - Member
Documentation Research and Training Centre,
Indian Statistical Institute, Bangaluru, Karnataka, Bangalore
8. Prof. Chanda Bain, Dean, School of Languages (Online) - Member
9. Prof. B.I. Guru, Dean, School of Educational Studies - Member
10. Prof. Vandana Soni, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Member
11. Dr. Kalinath Jha, Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology and Social Work - Member
12. Dr. Deepali Jat, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Zoology (Online) - Member
13. Dr. S.P. Upadhyay, Registrar (Offg.) - Secretary

Leave of Absence:

Secretary or his Nominee, Ministry of Education, Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of India, New Delhi

AGENDA ITEM NO.	PARTICULAR
ITEM :1	Eligibility issue of Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan, for the post of Registrar of the Vishwavidyalaya. As per the verification report received from his parent organization i.e. NITI Aayog, the information furnished by Dr. R.K. Pradhan regarding his

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	experience and eligibility to the post of Registrar was found false and misleading. A show cause notice was served to him on 13.11.2023 and he has been restrained from performing his official duties till a final decision is taken by the Executive Council, till then Joint Registrar, Establishment, Dr. S.P. Upadhyay has been given the (Offg.) charge of Registrar. The relevant documents pertaining to the matter were put up before the EC for final decision in its 33rd Meeting held on 28-11-2023. The EC after considering all the materials placed before them and after due deliberations resolved to convene the Meeting of EC again on 1st of December 2023 at 11:00 AM for this issue and till then, the status quo will be maintained. All the relevant documents pertaining to the appointment of Dr. Ranjan Pradhan, his duly filled-in application form, verification reports received from his previous organizations, Legal Opinion, and replies submitted by Dr. Pradhan to the Show Cause Notices were presented before the Council. The details of this case in seriatim have been presented as under: Whereas the University vide its Recruitment Notice Advt.No.R/NT/2022/02 dated 02 February 2022 had invited applications for the post of Registrar of the University from the eligible candidates enumerating the eligibility criteria in detail as contained herein below: i. Master's Degree with at least 55% of the marks or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. ii. At least fifteen years of experience as an Assistant Professor in Academic Level 11 and above or with eight years of service in Academic level 12 and above including as an Associate Professor along with experience in educational administration. OR Comparable experience in a research establishment and/ or other institutions of higher education. OR Fifteen years of administrative experience, of which eight years shall be as Deputy Registrar or an equivalent post. And whereas in response to the aforesaid advertisement Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan, had filled his application vide Application Form dated 15.03.2022 giving requisite details as to his academic qualifications as also the requisite work experience, mentioning therein that he has served as Deputy Advisor (Pay Level-12) on regular basis in the NITI Aayog/Planning Commission from 11-02-2013 to 01-11-2019 (6 Years 8 Months), as a Senior Research Officer (Pay Level-11) in NITI Aayog/ Planning Commission from 21-11-2006 to 10-02-2013 (6 Years & 2 Months), as a Research Officer (Pay Level-10) in NITI Aayog/Planning Commission from 07-03-2001 to 20-11-2006 (5 Years & 8 Months) and as Registrar (Pay Level-12) in Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT), Guwahati from 02-11-2019 to 14-03-2022 (2 Years & 4 Months) on regular basis. And whereas on the basis of claims, as made by Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan

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	in his application, he was shortlisted for the interview scheduled on 19-12-2022 subject to submission of NoC from the employer along with vigilance clearance at the time of the interview. However, he could not submit NoC with vigilance clearance from his parent organization i.e., NITI Aayog at the time of the interview. Instead, he had submitted NoC with vigilance clearance from his then organization i.e., DRT, Guwahati dated 26.11.2021 (which was much before the issuance of advertisement for the said post by DHSGSU, Sagar) as also his Experience details dated 12-03-2022 issued by himself. And whereas based upon the representations, warranties, and undertaking as made by Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan in his application, he was shortlisted and recommended for the post of Registrar by a duly constituted Selection Committee on 19-12-2022. The said recommendation of the Selection Committee was approved by the Executive Council in its 29th Meeting held on 20-12-2022 vide item No.EC-XXIX-(III)-(i)(a) and pursuant to the same, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan was issued an Appointment Order vide No. R/Estt./2022/7970 dated 29-12-2022 and subsequently, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan was allowed to join his services on 17-03-2023, subject to the terms and conditions as contained in the Office Order dated 29-12-2022 that his appointment is subject to verification of documents submitted by him in support of his qualifications experience, age, etc., and in future, if it is detected that such documents are not genuine, the Vishwavidyalaya shall take appropriate action as per rules. And whereas pursuant to aforesaid clause-5 contained in appointment order, verification of the documents and details was carried out, vide Vishwavidyalaya Letter No. R/Estt./8346 & 8347 dated 01-08-2023, as submitted by Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan in support of his qualifications, experience, etc. in his application form dated 15.03.2022 from his previous organizations i.e., DRT, Guwahati and NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, New Delhi and obtained following Verification Reports: - The Service Verification Report received from DRT, Guwahati vide letter No. DRTG/P-88/2019/2443 dated 11-09-2023. - The Service Verification Report received from NITI Aayog, Govt. of India, New Delhi vide letter No.A.19(2)2001-Adm.3 dated 25-10-2023. And whereas the Service Verification Report received from NITI Aayog revealed that Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan had never held the post of Deputy Advisor (Pay Level-12) on a regular basis in NITI Aayog. However, while applying for the Post of Registrar (Application Dated 15/03/2022) in response to Advt.No. R/NT/2022/02 dated 02 February 2022, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan had mentioned and claimed that he has served as Deputy Advisor on regular basis in the NITI Aayog/Planning Commission from 11-02-2013 to 01-11-2019 (6 Years 8 Months). In fact, the service verification report from NITI Aayog revealed that he worked as Senior Research Officer (Pay Level-11) on regular basis from 19-11-2007 and as Deputy Advisor (Pay Level-12) on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis during 2013-2019 in the following manner:

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	Service Period		
	From	To	Years/Months
	11-02-2013	10-02-2014	1 Year
	26-02-2014	26-02-2015	1 Year & 1 day
	25-03-2015	24-03-2016	1 Year
	18-12-2017	01-11-2019	1 Year 10 Month & 13 Days
		Total Service Period	4 Years 10 Months & 14 Days
	Further, on the basis of the Service Verification Report as received from DRT Guwahati, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan had served as Registrar in Debts Recovery Tribunal, Guwahati on a deputation basis in pay level-12 from 02-11-2019 till 14-03-2022 and as such his experience while serving as Registrar of DRT, Guwahati reckons to 2 years 4 months & 12 days only. Even if both the experiences of pay level-12 as Deputy Advisor on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis and Registrar in DRT on a deputation basis are counted together, the total years of Experience reckons to 7 years 3 months only which clearly falls short of the required minimum 8 Years of Administrative Experience as Deputy Registrar or equivalent post in Pay Level-12 which was to be fulfilled on the last date of Application i.e., 19/03/2022. The following table depicts the essential experience requirements as per the advertisement and his total experience with regard to his eligibility:- Essential Experience required for the post of Registrar as per the Advertisement.		
	S. No.	Essential Experience	Actual Experience
	1	At least 15 years of experience as Asst. Professor in the academic level 11 and above	Not applicable as he did not serve as Asst. Professor
	2	Eight years of service in academic level 12 and above including as Associate Professor alongwith experience in educational administration	Not applicable as he did not serve as Associate Professor
	3	Comparable experience in a research establishment and/or other institutions of higher education	Not applicable as he did not serve in a research establishment or other institute of higher education at Academic Level 11 for 15 years (1) or at Academic Level 12 and above for 8 years (2)
	4	Fifteen years of administrative experience, of which 8 years shall be as Deputy Registrar or/an equivalent post	1. Ad hoc Deputy Advisor Pay Level 12: 4 Years 10 Months & 14 Days 2. Registrar, Pay Level 12: 2 years 4 months & 12 days. Total: 7 years 3 months only which clearly falls short of the required minimum 8 Years of Administrative Experience as

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		Deputy Registrar or equivalent post in Pay Level-12 which was to be fulfilled on the last date of Application i.e., 19/03/2022
	And whereas from the aforesaid records, it is evident that Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan did not possess 8 years of Administrative experience as Deputy Registrar or an equivalent post at Pay Level 12. Therefore, Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan did not fulfil the required experience as per requirement of the advertisement and as such he was not qualified or eligible for the post of Registrar in terms of the qualification prescribed by the Advertisement and UGC/ Govt. of India and he had furnished false information in order to secure an appointment to the post of Registrar. After perusal of the entire documents submitted by Dr. Pradhan, verification reports of his parent organizations, the following facts emerge: 1. Dr. Pradhan showed Regular appointment as Deputy Advisor with effect from 11.02.2013 while he has never held the post of Deputy Advisor on Regular basis as per verification letter dated 25.10.2023 of NITI Aayog. 2. Dr. Pradhan claimed that there was no option of ad hoc at the time of filling of the application form, while the attached screen shot clearly shows that there was an option of adhoc/contractual/regular/temporary and intentionally he has misguided and misled the facts in his application form and mentioned Regular instead of ad hoc. 3. In the application form Dr. Pradhan mentioned that he worked as Senior Research Officer on Regular basis from 21.11.2006 to 10.02.2013 whereas as per service book of Dr. Pradhan, provided by NITI Aayog he was promoted on 19.11.2007 to the post of Senior Research Officer as per Planning Commission Notification No. A-12025/05/2006-Adm.II dated 19.11.2007 again providing a false date misleading the facts. 4. In his application form, Dr. Pradhan has mentioned: (i) The date of SRO on Regular basis from 21.11.2006 to 10.2.2013 (ii) In his reply dated 22.11.2023 of Show cause notice dated 13.11.2023 he mentioned the date of SRO as on Regular basis 19.11.2007 to 1.11.2019 (iii) In the letter sent to all esteemed members of Executive Council, he has mentioned working on pay level 11 and above, again w.e.f. 20.11.2006 to 15.3.2022 just to misguide, mislead and provide false information to esteemed members of the Executive Council. 5. Dr. Pradhan vide letter no. DRTG/P-88/2019 dated 12.03.2022 he issued a certificate by himself stating that, "As per record, his detail working experience is as per the following:"	



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	(ii) Senior Research Officer (Chemical) permanent Gr A Gazetted post in pay scale 67700-208700, level 11: 21.11.2006 (whereas it should be 19.11.2007 as per copy of his service book provided by NITI Aayog) to 10.02.2013: Looking after Industry & Mineral (I&M) sector in Planning Commission with sector specific Economic & Financial Research/ Analysis activities and related administrative work within I&M Division. (iii) Deputy Advisor permanent Gr A Gazetted post in pay scale 78800-209200, level 12: 11.02.2013 to 01.11.2019 (whereas he worked intermittently on ad hoc position only for 4 years 10 months, and 14 days as per NITI Aayog verification) : Looking after Industry & Mineral (I&M) sector and Power and Energy sector in Planning Commission/ NITI Aayog with sector specific Economic & Financial Research/Analysis activities and related administrative work within I&M Division. Therefore, it is amply clear that Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan has secured his appointment as Registrar of the Vishwavidyalaya on 17-03-2023 vide Appointment Order No. R/Estt./2022/7970 dated 29-12-2022 based upon false information and representations as made in his Application form. The clause 9 of the advertisement dated 02-02-2022 clearly mentions that: <i>“It shall be the responsibility of the candidate to ascertain his/her own eligibility for the post for which he/she is applying in accordance with the prescribed qualifications, experience, etc., and submit his application duly filled-in, along with the desired information and documents as per the advertisement. Suppression of factual information, supply of fake documents, providing false or misleading information or canvassing in any manner on the part of the candidates shall lead to his disqualification. In case, it is detected at any point of time in future, even after appointment, that the candidate was not eligible, his appointment shall be liable to be terminated forth with as per this clause.”</i> And whereas Competent Authority of the University after carefully considering the relevant Records, Application Form, declaration made in the Application Form including the Service Verification Reports, constituted a Committee consisting of a former Vice-Chancellor and a Director-Professor to examine the case and also referred the matter to the Chief Vigilance Officer of the Vishwavidyalaya. The Committee and the Chief Vigilance Officer are both of the view that Dr. Pradhan had deliberately and wilfully provided false and misleading information to the University Authority, in order to secure an appointment to the post of Registrar of the University in clear violation of extant Rules, DoPT memorandum OM No. 11012/7/91-Estt.(A) dated 19th May 1993, clause-5 of the Appointment Order, and Declaration in the application and has thus suppressed the material information as regards to his eligibility. And whereas the Competent Authority, based upon the said findings, issued

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	a Show Cause Notice dated 13.11.2023 vide Notice No. VC/2023/532 directing Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan to furnish his reply and explanation in this regard and further proposed as to why his services should not be terminated in pursuance of the provisions contained in Clauses of the appointment order dated 29-12-2022 and advertisement dated 02-02-2022 of the Vishwavidyalaya. And whereas Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan in response to the said Show Cause Notice dated 13.11.2023 furnished his interim reply dated 16.11.2023 to the University, wherein Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan rather than explaining his years of past work experience, has sought to raise certain grievances in respect of other officials of the University and has rather sought an explanation from the University itself on such frivolous, baseless and extraneous issues, which do not fall within the ambit of the present proceedings. Further, the Competent Authority of the Vishwavidyalaya vide email dated 19-11-2023 provided another opportunity and advised Dr. Pradhan to submit the relevant documents that he has worked as Deputy Registrar or an equivalent post (i.e. Pay Level-12 as per the eligibility requirement for appointment to the post of Registrar) for the following periods within the given time i.e. 23-11-2023. 11-02-2014 to 25-02-2014 27-02-2015 to 24-03-2015 25-03-2016 to 17-12-2017 And whereas Dr. Pradhan submitted his final reply on 22-11-2023 stating inter-alia that to the best of his knowledge and understanding, he fulfills all the eligibility norms for being appointed as Registrar of the University as advertised in the Advt. dated 02-02-2022. In the said reply Dr. Pradhan did not submit any explanation or relevant documents that he worked as Deputy Advisor in Pay Level-12 for the aforesaid intermittent period. Further, he submitted a reply on 23-11-2023 in response to email dated 19-11-2023 that his final reply submitted on 22-11-2023 may be treated as reply to instant application. And whereas the explanation provided by Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan is completely ambiguous, vague, and evasive as he has failed to specifically explain that he possessed 8 years of administrative experience as a Deputy Registrar or an equivalent post on the date of applying for the post of Registrar of the University. And whereas, it is settled position of law that once a case of misrepresentation/fraud on the employee is detected, the appointment order itself becomes tainted and vitiated by act of fraud/cheating on the part of the employee, and is therefore liable to be recalled. Further, as per the provisions of DoPT OM No. 11012/7/91-Estt.(A) dated 19th May 1993 if a Government Servant who was not qualified or eligible in terms of the Recruitment Rules, etc., for initial recruitment in service or had furnished false information or produced a false certificate in order to secure an appointment, he should not be retained in service. Therefore, in light of these legal provisions, the appointment order No. R/Esst./



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	2022/7970 dated 29-12-2022 got vitiated by act of fraudulent practice/suppression of factual information/providing misleading information on the part of Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan and is liable to be recalled immediately.
Resolution:	The Executive Council after considering all the materials placed before them and after due deliberations resolve to recall the appointment order issued to Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pradhan and to remove him from the post of Registrar with immediate effect as he does not fulfill the eligibility criteria for the post of Registrar in terms of qualifications and experience prescribed in the Advt.No.R.NT/2022/02 dated 02 February 2022 and Notification No.1-7/2015-U.II(2) Govt. of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Now Ministry of Education), Dept. of Higher Education, New Delhi dated 02-11-2017.

Harisingh Gour
01.12.2023

Registrar (Offg.) & Secretary EC
Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.)