

RAM LAL ANAND COLLEGE

(UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)

Benito Juarez Road, New Delhi-110021

MINUTES OF 196TH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY **HELD ON 14TH JUNE 2024**

A meeting of the Governing Body was held on 14th June 2024 at 3.30 pm (online/offline mode) in the Committee Room of the College.

The following members attended the meeting:

1.	Shri Santosh Taneja	Chairperson
2.	Shri Nawal Kishore	Treasurer, DU (Ex-officio Member) (Online)
3.	Prof. Rajbir Sharma	Member
4.	Prof. Y. P. Khasa	Member
5.	Prof. Tapasya Srivastava	Member
6.	Prof. Dinesh Kumar	Member
7.	Prof. Anil Rai	Member
8.	Prof. Vipul Singh	Member
9.	Dr. K. G. Tyagi	Teachers' Representative
10.	Shri Sunil Datt	Special Invitee (Non-Teaching)
11.	Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta	Principal & Secretary

Leave of absence was granted to Dr. Nitin Malik and Prof. Perna Diwan who could not attend the meeting.

1. Welcome of the members by the Chairman, Governing Body.

The Chairman, Governing Body, Shri Santosh Taneja welcomed all the members present in the meeting. He introduced and welcomed the new members, Prof. Y. P. Khasa, Professor, Department of Microbiology, University of Delhi South Campus, Prof. Tapasya Srivastava, Professor, Department of Genetics, University of Delhi South Campus and Dr. K. G. Tyagi, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Ram Lal Anand College (Teacher Representative with less than 10 years of service) nominated on the Governing Body of the College. He also welcomed Prof. Anil Rai, Prof. Vipul Singh and Prof. Dinesh Kumar for another term of one year on the Governing Body of Ram Lal Anand College. The Chairman appreciated the contributions of the outgoing members Prof. Gajendra Singh, Prof. Manisha Goel and Mrs. Pragya Deshmukh in the development of the College.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on 15.04.2024.

The Minutes were confirmed.

3. To consider and approve the Annual Accounts of the College for the financial year 2023-24.



The Annual Accounts of the College for the financial year 2023-24 were considered and approved. The Principal informed the Governing Body that the Audit observations on the Annual Accounts of Ram Lal Anand College for the year ending on 31.03.2023 as mentioned in the SAR No. Director AMG- I/2023-2024/DIS-1206106 dated 17.10.2023 has been considered and rectifications have been made in the Annual Accounts of the College for the year ending on 31.03.2024.

4. **To consider and approve the confirmation of service of the following faculty members who were appointed as Assistant Professor in various departments after successful completion of probation period of one year.**

Department of Microbiology

S. No.	Name	Date of Confirmation
1	Dr. M. Salome John	11.04.2023
2	Dr. Sunila	11.04.2023
3	Dr. Nidhi S. Chandra	11.04.2023
4	Dr. Shalini Swami	11.04.2023
5	Dr. Nidhi Verma	09.05.2023

Department of Political Science

S. No.	Name	Date of Confirmation
1	Dr. Alankar	20.04.2023
2	Dr. Vijay Kumar Bhatia	20.04.2023
3	Dr. Nidhi Yadav	20.04.2023
4	Dr. Jatin Kumar	20.04.2023
5	Dr. Soma Patnaik	20.04.2023
6	Mr. Kaptan	20.04.2023
7	Mr. Gandharv Koushiy	20.04.2023
8	Mr. Deepak Setia	20.04.2023

Department of Economics

S. No.	Name	Date of Confirmation
1	Dr. Suneyana Sharma	04.05.2023
2	Dr. Debashree Das	04.05.2023
3	Ms. Megha Yadav	04.05.2023
4	Mr. Manoj Kumar	04.05.2023

The services of the above Assistant Professors appointed in various departments were confirmed.

- 4(a). **To consider and approve the budget estimate of Rs. 52 lakh for air-conditioning of all the classrooms.**

The feasibility of air-conditioning of class rooms as recommended by the college infrastructure committee was discussed in detail. It was suggested that a

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consultant specializing in the field of air-conditioning of buildings/Institutions may be appointed who will explore different possibilities/ways of air-conditioning the College building and submit a report based on the efficiency of air-conditioning and power saving, ease of future maintenance and the installation cost. The report received from the consultant may be placed before the Building Committee of the Governing Body for consideration and further necessary action.

5. To consider and approve the appointment of Vice Principal for a period of two years w.e.f. 01.07.2024.

Prof. Prerna Diwan, Professor, Department of Microbiology, one among the senior faculty and fulfilling the eligibility criteria for the post of Principal, was designated as Vice Principal of the College, on the recommendation of the Principal, for a term of two years w.e.f. 01.07.2024 subject to the approval from the University of Delhi.

6. To consider and approve the appointment of Bursar for a period of two years w.e.f. 01.07.2024.

Prof. Mukta D. Mazumder, Department of Statistics was appointed as Bursar of the College, on the recommendation of the Principal, for a term of two years w.e.f. 01.07.2024.

7. To reconstitute the following sub-committees of the Governing Body:

The **Building Committee** of the Governing Body was re-constituted comprising the following members:

Dr. Rajbir Sharma	Chairperson
Prof. Anil Rai	Member
Prof. Tapasya Srivastava	Member
Prof. Prerna Diwan	Teacher Representative with more than 10 years of services
Dr. Rajesh Sachdev	Convener, High Power Purchase & Infrastructure Committee, Staff Council as Special Invitee
Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta	Principal

The **Study/Extra Ordinary Leave Committee** was constituted comprising the following members:

Prof. Vipul Singh	Chairperson
Prof. Dinesh Kumar	Member
Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta	Principal

The **Screening Committee for screening of applications for promotion to the post of Professor** was constituted comprising the following members:

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Prof. Y. P. Khasa	Chairperson
Prof. Vipul Singh	Member
Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta	Principal

8. **To take necessary action on the observations to be submitted by a three member team of Governing Body Members, constituted in the last meeting of GB, after studying and interpreting the findings/ recommendations of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the college in the matter of a complaint received from a student against a teacher in the college and the review petition/appeal submitted by the respondent in reply to the findings/ recommendations of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the College.**

The 3-member team of the Governing Body, comprising Prof. Rajvir Sharma, Prof. Vipul Singh, Prof Dinesh Kumar, submitted its observations (Annexure 1) to the Chairman, Governing Body in this meeting. After considering these observations and a detailed discussion, the Governing Body found it difficult to establish the complaint submitted by the girl student to the ICC under the category of sexual harassment. Rather it appeared to be a case of unwarranted altercation between the student and the teacher.

As it is important that a mutual respect and a conducive teaching-learning atmosphere is maintained in the class, the Governing Body requested the Principal to issue an advisory to Dr. Arvind Patel that he should be polite and respectful towards the sentiments of the students without compromising the discipline within the class or campus.

9. **To discuss and take appropriate action on the communication (Letter number CS-SDC/124/2024/RLAC/1257 dated 25.04.2024) received from The Deputy Registrar, University of Delhi South Campus addressed to the Chairman, Governing Body, Ram Lal Anand College.**

A communication (letter number CS-SDC/124/2024/RLAC/1257 dated 25.04.2024) from the Deputy Registrar, University of Delhi South Campus, addressed to the Chairman GB, RLAC was received by the college to take disciplinary action against Prof Seema Gupta, Professor at the Department of Statistics, Ram Lal Anand College for denying to supervise a PhD student Mr Anand Kumar Rai. Prof. Seema Gupta was served a show cause notice (Letter Number EPF/RLAC/2024/71 dated 08.05.2024) to clarify her position in this regard along with all relevant evidences/proofs in support of any genuine reason for denying to supervise the said PhD scholar. The response of Prof Seema Gupta received by the college was placed before the Governing Body for necessary discussion and action thereto. After studying the response of Prof. Seema Gupta and the submitted documents in support of her reply/clarification, it was observed that Prof. Seema Gupta had serious health issues during this period in the academic session 2022-23. At the same time she had to execute a number of important time consuming administrative responsibilities assigned by the college. She was Bursar of the College since 01.07.2022, Nodal Officer for Government E-Procurement Cell (GeM and e-tendering), Presiding Officer ICC, Nodal Officer for UGCF-2022 implementation, Nodal Officer South Campus UGCF cluster colleges, Convener Entrepreneurship and Technology Development Cell

Rajvir Sharma

(under her guidance, Five start-ups are being incubated in the College and one was selected for funding from the Shark Tanks). Prof. Seema Gupta was PI of a research project of Rs. 2 Crores funded by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change during this period.

In addition to the above, from the documents submitted, it was observed that she did not give her consent to supervise any new PhD student during the session 2022-23 citing her continued health issues which is even documented in the Honorable High Court judgment/order in the case W.P. (C) 316/2023 & CM APPL. 1275/2023, Anand Kumar Rai versus University of Delhi & Ors. at point no. 16 *"It is seen that, apart from one or two cases in which the faculty who were requested to supervise the petitioner claimed to be suffering from health issues or being in charge of other important unavoidable professional assignments, such as the charge of Vice-Principal of LSR College, which would not give them time to supervise the petitioner, in most cases, it may be arguable as to whether the grounds for refusing to supervise the petitioner were sufficient."*

In light of the above, the Governing Body felt that the ground/reasons for her denial to supervise the PhD scholar, such as serious health issues, responsibility as Bursar, Nodal officer and Convenership of many important committees requiring lots of her time in the college, were sufficient and genuine to its satisfaction. Hence, the Governing Body did not find any cause of action to initiate/take any disciplinary action against Prof. Seema Gupta.

10. To ratify the actions taken by the Chairman, Governing Body.

The following actions taken by the Chairman, Governing Body were noted and ratified:

1. Approved, on 15.04.2024, request to give offer of appointment to the following candidates as Laboratory Attendants on permanent basis in place of the candidates who have not joined the services even after giving three-month extension:

S. No.	Name	Category	Roll No.
1.	Mr. Sanjay Yadav	OBC	61483
2.	Mr. Manish Mehra	EWS	61313

2. Approved, on 19.04.2024, request to give offer of appointment to the following candidate as Laboratory Attendants on permanent basis in place of the candidate who has not joined the services even after giving three-month extension:

S. No.	Name	Category	Roll No.
1.	Ms. Babita Rawal	EWS	60089

3. Approved, on 24.04.2024, re-appointment of the following employees as MTS staff on purely contractual basis for a period of six months as per dates given below:

S. No.	Name	Date of last Appointment	Date of Break	Date of Re-appointment
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1	Mr. Shyam Lal	31.10.2023	26.04.2024	27.04.2024
2	Mr. Bipin	31.10.2023	26.04.2024	27.04.2024
3	Ms. Kimi Sharma	31.10.2023	26.04.2024	27.04.2024

4. Approved, on 03.05.2024, the extension of contract period to M/s Diamond Security Personnel for a period of six months i.e. from 01.06.2024 to 31.12.2024 on the same terms and conditions.
5. Approved, on 07.05.2024, request to fill up the vacant position of one Laboratory Attendant in the Statistics Department through an agency against the sanctioned post.
6. Approved, on 16.05.2024, recommendations of the Fee Review Committee to revise the fees for the UG and PG courses w.e.f. the academic session 2024-25.
7. Approved, on 04.06.2024, request to give offer of appointment to the following candidate as Laboratory Attendants on permanent basis in place of the candidate who has not joined the services within the stipulated time period:

S. No.	Name	Category	Roll No.
1.	Mr. Dinesh	OBC	60014

11. Other reporting matters.

1. The following members were nominated/re-nominated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi on the College Governing Body for another term of one year as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Member	Nominated/ Renominated	Term
1	Prof. Anil Rai	Re-nominated	17.06.2024 to 16.06.2025
2	Prof. Dinesh Kumar	Re-nominated	17.06.2024 to 16.06.2025
3	Prof. Y. P. Khasa	Nominated	11.06.2024 to 10.06.2025
4	Prof. Vipul Singh	Re-nominated	11.06.2024 to 10.06.2025
5	Prof. Tapasya Srivastava	Nominated	11.06.2024 to 10.06.2025

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

The Principal apprised the members about the sufficient accumulation of reserve funds in the Student Society Account, College Development Fund Account and Lapsed Caution Money account over the previous years. He suggested that Rs 20 Lakh these funds may be utilized to support the needy and meritorious students in the form of scholarships and fee concession in addition to the support being extended at present. It was decided that Rs. 10 Lakh may be utilized to support the needy and meritorious students in the form of scholarship/ fee concession and the other 10 Lakh may be utilized for competence building of students like conducting specific skill development

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programs, knowledge/language improvement programs through special lectures/workshops under the guidance of GB members, Prof. Tapasya Srivastava and Dr Rajvir Sharma.

At the end, the Chairman thanked all the members for evincing keen interest in the proceedings.

The members also thanked the Chair.



(Santosh Taneja)
Chairman,
Governing Body



(Rakesh Kumar Gupta)
Principal &
Member Secretary,
Governing Body

Three meetings were held dated 03.06.24, 12.06.24, and 14.06.24. After detailed deliberations, the Committee reached to the following Observations

Annexure 1

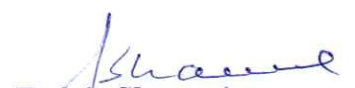
Observations

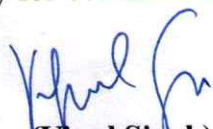
Subject: Observation of the Committee appointed by the GB on the representation of Dr. Arvind (Respondent) on the findings of ICC

As per the documents provided and after carefully going through the written statements, questionnaire transcripts of complainant, respondent, and their witnesses, ICC report, and the response to the final minutes of the meeting of ICC submitted by Dr. Arvind, the observations of the Committee are as under.

1. The incident occurred on September 19, 2022 whereas the complaint was made on September 22, 2022. Later, two more written complaints were made by the complainant dated September 28, 2022 and September 29, 2022. One of the two copies of the complaint dated 22.09.2022, as communicated to the respondent, has signature of the complainant only while the other (same complaint), besides the signature of the complainant, has signatures of other students also. The respondent is considering it as tempering of documents.
2. The witnesses' statements, at many instances, were not found in sync with each other.
3. The complaint regarding the use of rather harsh words, rude language, and inappropriate behaviour may not be ruled out. However, this (behaviour) may, at times, be attributed to the situation under which the person behaves.
4. Convincing evidence was not found regarding the use of repeated abusive language.
5. Most of the girl students (witnesses) reported the teacher's inappropriate way of looking at them, while teaching and/or talking with the students.
6. The documents hardly contain the proofs that amount to sexual harassment regarding incidents related to (i) expert guidance from an alumnus (ii) conference scheduled in Nigeria, Africa and (iii) respondent's political power.
7. Regarding the phone calls at odd hours (as per the documents):
 - (i) Though there were phone calls but, the complainant never ever talked to the respondent over phone.
 - (ii) In another incident, the girl students showed their interest in the field of Law, that made him (respondent) call to the students to inform (regarding the meeting/ postponement of the meeting) them the same.
 - (iii) Though the unnecessary conversation initiated by the respondent, as pointed out by the students, such as asking about their whereabouts etc. is totally uncalled for, however, the proofs (attached in the report) in the form of contents of phone calls and Whatsapp messages did not depict any sexually coloured remarks.
8. The composition of the ICC, as reported by the respondent, is in violation of the POSH Regulations, 2015, needs to be ascertained.

Submitted to the Governing Body for consideration.


(Rajvir Sharma)
14.6.24


(Vipul Singh)


(Dinesh Kumar)
14.6.24