

MINUTES

A meeting of the committee constituted for looking into the hosting of records in National Academic Depository (NAD) for digitalization and further process/issues was held on 31.08.2020 at 12:00 noon in the Office of Dean (Examinations), University of Delhi, Delhi – 110007.

2. The following members were present.

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| 1. Dean, Exam                                | Chairperson                  |
| 2. Dr. Sanjeev Singh, CIC                    | Through Zoom                 |
| 3. Joint Registrar, Finance                  |                              |
| 4. Joint Registrar, Legal                    |                              |
| 5. Joint Registrar, Council                  |                              |
| 6. Dy. Registrar, Academic                   |                              |
| 7. Dy. Registrar, (Secrecy)                  | Nodal Officer                |
| 8. Sh. Hem Chand Pandey, Assistant Registrar | Member Secretary             |
| 9. Sh. Durga Prasad Das, Addl. GM, NeGD      | Special Invitee through Zoom |

3. The following was brought to the notice of the Committee:

- a. The Hon'ble Delhi High Court in the matter of WPC 4444/2020 titled Dr. Akshita Khosla VS University of Delhi on dated 23.07.2020 inter alia passed the order as para 12(i) that DU shall immediately take steps to draw the mechanism/protocol for issuance of digital degree certificates and other documents, including mark sheets and transcripts alongwith digital signatures and security features. p-301k
- b. Vide e-mail dated 07 August 2020, Sh. Durga Prasad Das, Addl. General Manager, National e-Governance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) intimated that the main objective of NAD is to provide online store house and ensure a credible and convenient mechanism for online verification and authentication of the Academic Awards issued by various Educational Institutions. NAD in coordination with UGC has developed prescribed standard fields, formats and certificate templates for uploading and publishing academic awards and to be uploaded on NAD. He has also stated that an amendment to the Information Technology Rules 2016 p-311k

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were notified on 08.02.2017 which mention that issuing certificate or document in Digilocker system and accepting certificates or documents shared from the Digilocker Accounts shall be deemed to be at par with Physical documents. He has also provided sample degree certificates generated by using our sample data.

c. UGC vide letter dated June 2020 enclosing therewith letter issued by MHRD dated 18.03.2020 with the following guidelines/features.

- (i) NAD shall not be implemented through NDML and CVL.
- (ii) NAD to be implemented as a permanent scheme without levying of any user charge, by Digilocker through MEITY as a single entity;
- (iii) To undertake necessary action for delinking all applications currently using NAD portal through NDML and CVL and linking them through Digilocker.
- (iv) UGC has also informed that they have written letters to both depositories to transfer the data to Digilocker and to take charge henceforth as the sole depository of NAD. UGC has requested all the Academic Institutions to upload data of Academic Awards of their institutions with Digilocker.

d. Previously, the University has signed an agreement with NSDL Database Management Limited (NDML) on dated 24.09.2019 for Digital Depositories in NAD. As per the clause 12.1 of the agreement, it is valid for a period of two years from the date of signing the agreement. In the event of termination/revocation/withdrawal of the appointment of the other part as depository by UGC, the agreement shall be deemed to have automatically terminated on the date on which such termination/revocation/withdrawal comes into effect. NSDL vide letter dated 26.02.2020 has requested for uploading of the academic awards on NAD through NDML.

4. After detailed discussion/deliberations, the committee is of the following opinion.

- a) Since it is the directions from UGC/MHRD, the university may have no objection to transfer the data to NeGD for the purpose of verification and authentication of the Academic Awards. For the first instance, the University may provide the final year data of the students passed in year 2017 onwards.

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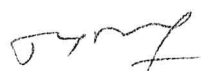
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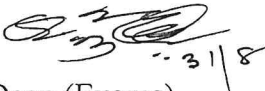
- b) The Hon'ble Delhi High Court in its order dated 23 July 2020 has directed to draw a mechanism for issuance of digital degree certificates, mark sheets and transcripts. It may be mentioned that issuance of transcript is not mandatory for every student. It is issued as per the request received from individual and on deposit of requisite fees. Therefore, we will provide the data to NeGD for degree certificate and mark sheets.
- c) Since the University has already made agreement with NDML which is also co-terminus of termination/revocation/withdrawal of the appointment of the other part as depository by UGC, the University may also intimate the same to NDML for termination with agreement.
- d) The Committee has perused the sample certificate generated by NeGD. It is observed that the template does not have the signatures of the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar. It is also not in bilingual. It mentions Registration Number in place of Enrollment Number. The Committee is of the opinion that the University shall continue to issue degree certificates and mark sheets to its students as per the practice. The University may accept the format of the sample certificate generated by NeGD. However, NeGD may be requested to modify the field from Registration Number to Enrollment Number.
- e) The University charges prescribed fee for the verification of the mark sheets and the degree certificates. The average revenue collection on this account is about Rs. 1.50 Crore per annum. Accordingly, the provision is required to be built through Gateway for payment of requisite fee for verification of the mark sheets and the degree certificates. The UGC letter dated June 2020 and MHRD letter dated 18.03.2020 is silent about prescribing any fee for the verification. The issue was discussed with the Representatives of NeGD. NeGD is seeking the direction on this matter from the Ministry of Education. As and when, the instructions/guidelines issued by Ministry of Education, action shall be initiated on this issue accordingly in due course.
5. Considering the above, the committee recommends the following for the consideration by the competent authority.
- a. Data of the Academic Awards of the students passed in the year 2017 onwards may be transferred to NeGD as directed by MHRD/UGC.



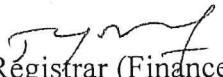


- b. NDML may be intimated for termination of the agreement in view of MHRD letter dated 18.03.2020 and UGC letter dated June 2020.
- c. NeGD may be requested to modify the field from Registration Number to Enrolment Number.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

  
Dean (Exams)

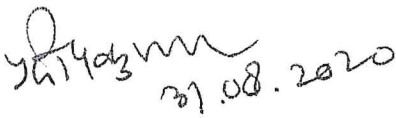
Dr. Sanjeev Singh, CIC

  
Joint Registrar (Finance)

  
Joint Registrar (Legal)

  
Joint Registrar (Council)

  
Deputy Registrar (Academic)

  
Deputy Registrar (Secrecy)

  
Assistant Registrar (Exams)