

ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

Fourteenth Meeting of the Senate

8th May 2015; 11:00hrs

Venue: Conference Room, CSIR-CRRI, Mathura Road, New Delhi 110025

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Mode of Participation
1.	Prof. Ram Rajasekharan	In person
2.	Prof. Kunal Ray	In person
3.	Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay	In person
4.	Prof. A. Ajayaghosh	In person
5.	Prof. K. S. Krishna	In person
6.	Prof. G. Parthasarthy	In person
7.	Dr. Souvik Maiti	In person
8.	Dr. Manmohan Dass Goel	In person
9.	Prof. A.K. Tripathi	In person
10.	Prof. Suman Kumari Mishra	In person
11.	Dr. Shantanu Sengupta	In person
12.	Dr. Ramanuj Narayan	Video Conference
13.	Prof. B. D. Kulkarni	Video Conference
14.	Prof. Raj Singh	Video Conference
15.	Prof. Rakesh Mohan Jha	Video Conference
16.	Prof. D. Ramaiah	Video Conference
17.	Dr. Rajender Singh	Skype
18.	Ms. Arpita Sengupta, Non-member Secretary	In person

The quorum requirement, as per Statute No. 3.3 (d), of 'One-third of the total strength of the Senate' (i.e. presence of minimum 9 members) to conduct the meeting was fulfilled.

The members participating through Video Conferencing or Skype, could follow the proceedings of the meeting with complete clarity.

Prof. S.K. Bhattacharyya, Dr. Anurag Agrawal, Prof. K.V. Raghavan, Prof. Raj Hirwani, Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, Prof. Partha Banerjee, Prof. D.D. Sarma and Prof. S. Parasuraman could not attend the meeting due to prior commitments. They were granted leave of absence. Prof. T.S. Balganes and Prof. R. Nagaraj have superannuated from their respective positions. The Chairman, Senate informed that the process of identification of members to replace them will be shortly initiated.

INITIATION OF THE MEETING

Item No. 1: Welcome address by the Chairman of the Senate and Acting Director, AcSIR:

Prof. Ram Rajasekharan, Acting Director, AcSIR welcomed the members of the Senate and updated them about the current activities of AcSIR.

During the course of the discussion Prof. Ray updated the Senate that the DG, CSIR has expressed his apprehension regarding the quality of student intake for IMP Program in August 2015 session. In this context, the DG, CSIR suggested that it would be better that AcSIR aligns

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its admission for IMP program, from the August 2016 session onwards, around the date of result declaration for GATE examination such that the fresh pool of qualifying GATE students are available for admission to AcSIR along with their other options.

Item No. 2: Confirmation of the minutes of the 13th meeting of the Senate: The minutes of the 13th meeting of the Senate held on January 23, 2015 was circulated by e-mail on 25th March 2015. No comment was received from any of the members. The minutes were accepted by the members of the Senate.

Item No. 3: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the 13th Meeting of the Senate: With respect to ATR the following discussion took place:

- I. Board of Studies: Senate was appraised about the current status of formation of Board of Studies for different faculties.
- II. Visiting Faculty of AcSIR: The recommendation of the last meeting is kept on hold till the financial implications are resolved.
- III. Establishment of a Summer Training program: The Senate was updated that its Subcommittee is currently working out the modalities and once formalized its recommendation will be circulated to the members by e-mail for their comments.
- IV. Proposal for Online Thesis submission: Senate was appraised on the current status by Ms. Arpita Sengupta. Currently a professional agency is being identified to make the process a part of Academy Management System. Dr. Shantanu Sengupta suggested to float an EOI (expression of interest) to hire professional agency for the same. Dr. Souvik Maiti expressed the need of having an exclusive and independent server handling online thesis submission, and not as a part of any other ERP system, which could be similar to the manuscript submission portal. In general all the Senate members agreed to have an independent server for this purpose. To this, Prof. Rajasekharan suggested to utilize one of the servers available with CSIR-CFTRI for immediate use.
- V. Course related items: Senate was informed about the latest status of coursework which are being appropriately modified by the Associate Deans of respective faculties. It will be presented in the next Senate meeting in a compiled manner. Prof. Raj Singh enquired about modification of IMP coursework nomenclature and emphasized the need to have input from the Lab Coordinators. In that context, Senate suggested that the courses with modified nomenclature, submitted by Associate Deans, should first be sent to the Lab Coordinators for any major input, and then Senate Chairman can approve the document with modified nomenclature. It should be reported at the next Senate meeting.
- VI. To revisit the guidelines for Direct PhD and Sponsored PhD programs in Engineering Sciences: Senate was appraised about the current status of the issue. The senate sub- committee will submit its report to the Chairman Senate shortly for his approval.
- VII. Research Orientation program for MTech students of IMP program: Senate was informed that the proposed format for certificate to be issued to the students has been

created and vetted by Prof. Raj Singh and Prof. Kunal Ray. The information has been sent to HRDC for necessary action and issuing the certificates to the students.

- VIII. Creation of Online repository of Thesis: Senate members were informed that formulation of the policy is in process for activation of the Institutional Repository which has been already created by URDIP.
- IX. Engagement of Dr. Abdul Jaleel for online teaching: The Senate was informed that the Dean of Biological Science did not find rationale for hiring Dr. Jaleel at this time and the Dean of Chemical Science, though did not send any communication, mentioned during the Senate meeting that he concurs with the Dean of Biological Sciences. The opinion of Associate Dean, MIS (currently there is no Dean for MIS) is still awaited and expected to be received soon..
- X. Status of Joint PhD program with RMIT, Australia: Senate was appraised about the specific comments received from RMIT, mostly related to IPR, to which AcSIR has sought legal opinion and the revised document has been sent to RMIT. Response from RMIT is currently awaited.
- XI. Status of application for membership in academic bodies and recognition: Senate members were appraised on the membership of AcSIR with Association of Indian Universities (AIU), Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and being enlisted in MHRD website as an Institutions of National Importance. Prof. Kunal Ray informed the Senate members that UGC also has been approached again with a fresh application in April 2015.
- XII. Modification of Various forms and certificates used by AcSIR: Senate members were informed that forms and formats for (i) issue of semester grade cards, (ii) cumulative grade cards, (iii) DAC/Comprehensive exam, (iv) introduction of new courses, and (v) modification of existing courses, have been modified and circulated to all the CSIR-Laboratories. Prof. Ajayaghosh enquired about the security measures adopted by AcSIR on the Certificates and Grade cards issued by AcSIR. He volunteered sharing of a special fluorescence ink developed and patented by CSIR-NIIST with AcSIR. Prof. Rajasekharan suggested that as an immediate measure at least a few security features should be adopted such as:
- (i) A hard pressed feature similar to notary seal can be imprinted
 - (ii) Holograms of AcSIR with pre-defined specifications and patterns which can be changed every year.
 - (iii) Additionally option of imprinting seal with two different signing authorities can be explored.
- Also, Dr. Shantanu Sengupta suggested that all the provisional certificates issued by AcSIR office should also have inscribed "Institution of National Importance created by an Act of Parliament".
- XIII. AcSIR Workshop for CSIR Laboratories: Senate was informed about the Workshops conducted by AcSIR for the CSIR Lab-coordinators at three different locations (i.e. Delhi, Kolkata and Hyderabad) and its outcome. Recommendations received from different coordinators were noted and presented in the agenda #10.

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- XIV. MS by Research: The Senate decided to defer any discussion on this issue until a report is submitted by the senate subcommittee created for this purpose.
- XV. Proposal for change in admission procedure in the integrated MTech-PhD program: Recommendation of Senate for removing TS and QHF positions from the advertisement was duly acknowledged and advertisement abiding by these recommendations will be released.
- XVI. Status of the PhD program at CSIR-NISCAIR: Senate was appraised on the current status of students at CSIR-NISCAIR following discontinuation of PhD programs there.
- XVII. Discussion on AcSIR policy on issuance of Merit Certificate to topper of MTech program: Senate was appraised on the current status of the recommendations made by Prof. Raj Singh for issue of merit certificate to the topper of each of the program. Senate members however felt that AcSIR is still in its formative stage and so it should not issue any such certificate till a critical number of students in each specialization of the M. Tech program is achieved. Hence this issue was deferred for discussion at a later stage.
- XVIII. Eligibility of MTech students for short term academic leaves for attending highly competitive career programs: Prof. K. V. Raghavan had volunteered in the 13th meeting of the Senate to formulate the modalities for the process. He did not attend this Senate meeting but informed that he would forward his recommendations shortly.
- XIX. Mandatory requirement of Tuition fees submission to AcSIR Bank account by students: Senate recommended implementation of mandatory deposition of tuition fees directly to AcSIR and Finance committee to consider ways to collect tuition fees for students for entire semester in advance instead of monthly collection. Both issues are to be discussed in Finance committee meeting and decision will be placed in next senate meeting.
- XX. Modification of Thesis submission process: The modifications related to submission of thesis (as detailed in the proceedings of 13th Senate meeting) has been communicated to all the CSIR-Lab Coordinators for their attention and implementation. This should be effective for all PhD thesis submitted in future.
- XXI. Adherence to any requirement for award of PhD degree: Senate members were appraised on the efforts made by AcSIR to have it listed in the UGC website as an Institute of National Importance and for notification of the AcSIR degrees.
- XXII. Proposal for modification in the format for PhD and MTech certificates and Grade cards: Senate members were informed about the input regarding design, format and security features received from Dr. Souvik Maiti and Dr. Ramanuj Narayan. AcSIR will compile the inputs received from various sources for formalization of the security features and design. To avoid further delay the Senate empowered its Chairman to examine and approve the design and security features for the Grade cards and Certificates which may be reported to the Senate at its next meeting.

ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION

Item No. 4: Course Related Items:

- (i) The Senate retrospectively ratified the change of name and credit structure of a course at **CSIR-IGIB in Biological Sciences** from 'Basic Matlab for Biologists' (BIO-IGIB-3-285) to "**Basic Programing for Biologists**" with a credit distribution of **0-0-4-2** effective from 2013.
- (ii) The Senate retrospectively ratified the modification in course content and the credit structure for the **CSIR-NCL** course in Biological Sciences "**Advanced Techniques in Biology**" (BIO-NCL-2-521) as a 3-credit course.
- (iii) The Senate ratified the proposed modification in the courses offered by PHFI for its program in Clinical Research under the faculty of Biological Sciences as follows: (i) modification of Title of Course MD108 "**Medicinal and Natural Product Chemistry**" to "**Drug Discovery**", and (ii) change in course content for MD207 "**Advanced epidemiology**".

In this context, Dr. Shantanu Sengupta suggested that AcSIR office should ensure that compliance to the changes made would be effective from the date of its implementation, and not for students who have already taken the course to allay any confusion and delay resulting from it.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Item No. 5: Report on transfer of students from one CSIR Lab to other

The Senate noted the relocation of two students, **Ms. Tina Sharma** from CSIR-NISCAIR to CSIR-OSDD and that of **Mr. Anurag Kanaujia** from CSIR-NISCAIR to CSIR-NISTADS on recommendation of the Senate due to discontinuation of the PhD program at CSIR-NISCAIR. Relocation of Tina Sharma is still contingent on approval of transfer of DST fellowship.

Item No. 6: Report on students changing their faculty of studies

The Senate noted the transfer of faculty for the following students, duly approved by the concerned authorities:

- Ms. Richa Pahuja (CSIR-IGIB) from Biological Sciences to Chemical Sciences
- Ms. Archana Panyala (CSIR-IIT) from Chemical Sciences to Biological Sciences
- Mr. P. Dhandapani (CSIR-CECRI) from Chemical Sciences to Biological Sciences
- Ms. Sandhhya Shewale (CSIR-CFTRI) from Biological Sciences to Engineering Sciences.

Item No. 7: Initiation of Integrated Masters-PhD program in Nutritional Biology at CSIR-CFTRI

The members of the Senate were happy to note that the Integrated MSc-PhD program in Nutrition Biology at CSIR-CFTRI received all necessary approvals and is ready to be launched from the August 2015 session with a plan for intake of 10 students.

Item No. 8: Update on Senate's recommendation for discontinuation of PhD program at CSIR-NISCAIR

The Senate members were updated on the current activities with respect to the discontinuation of the PhD programs in *Computational Biology and Bioinformatics (CBB)* and *Database Systems & Climate Change Informatics (DBS & CCI)* at CSIR-NISCAIR. The Senate noted with the mediation of Prof. Kunal Ray, Associate Director as per direction of the Senate, two of the six students have moved to other CSIR Labs of their choice. Another student is willing to move to other CSIR Labs but still waiting for issuance of No Objection Certificate (NoC) from the Supervisor/Lab. Fourth student is currently working at CSIR-NISCAIR. Status of the remaining two students could not be verified since the Lab Coordinator has no information about their current status.

Item No. 9: Updates on Faculty status of AcSIR:

Members were informed on the updates on faculty status of AcSIR received since 13th Senate Meeting at the following Labs which was approved by the Chairman, Senate:
CSIR-AMPRI; CSIR-CBRI; CSIR-CECRI; CSIR-CFTRI; CSIR-CGCRI; CSIR-CLRI; CSIR-IHBT; CSIR-IICT; CSIR-IITR; CSIR-NCL; CSIR-SERC and CSIR-NEERI.

Item No. 10: Report on Workshop for AcSIR Lab Coordinators:

The members of the Senate appreciated the efforts taken by AcSIR to update the CSIR Lab Coordinators about the various changes in academic and administrative processes and for getting feedback for further improvement of the academic programs. The Senate noted that the presentations made for the local faculty and the students were very effective and were well participated. The Senate suggested that this Workshop should be conducted on yearly basis, with innovative format designed for each year.

The Senate also advised to take appropriate action for maintenance of correct student database and tuition fee payment/recoupment status for each lab individually.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

Item No. 11: Admissions for the PhD January 2015 session

The Senate noted the admissions of total 147 students for the January 2015 session at **CSIR-CMERI**, **CSIR-IICT** and **CSIR-IIIM** (10 in Engineering Sciences, 91 in Chemical Sciences and 46 in Biological Sciences) duly approved by the concerned Deans of the faculty. The Senate also took a note that the proceedings from CSIR-CDRI, CSIR-CCMB and CSIR-NCL were yet to be received and recorded that Labs should take care to forward the approved proceedings to AcSIR within a reasonable time for approval of the Senate.

Item No. 12: Students' Fellowship related items

The Senate noted the deputation request from two students of CSIR-CSMCRI, **Mr. Tonmoy Ghosh** and **Mr. Chetan Paliwal** to Brazil for one month for carrying out experiments under collaborative DST project.

The Senate also noted and accorded approval on the request received from **Ms. Neha Dhasmana** of CSIR-IGIB, recipient of Nehru Fulbright Fellowship, to work at NIH, USA for nine months starting from July 2015.

The Senate however also felt that such items need not be placed for approval of Senate. The approval may be sought from the Dean of respective faculty and Senate be only informed for all similar cases in future.

Item No. 13: Initiation of proposed AcSIR Engineering Sciences program on "Computational Biology and Bioengineering" at CSIR-NCL

The Senate noted and accorded its approval for introduction of an Engineering Sciences course (and not a program) on "*Computational Biology and Bioengineering*" in inter-disciplinary areas of Engineering and Biological Sciences with due approval from the Director of the Lab. Details of the credit requirements and course details have also been submitted to the Deans of both Engineering and Biological Sciences due to the inter-disciplinary nature of the coursework.

The Senate, however, recommended that since the MS by Research program is yet to be initiated, for now this course on "*Computational Biology and Bioengineering*" should be restricted to PhD program only.

Senate members also opined that the word program is confusing and to this Prof. BD Kulkarni, Dean Engineering Sciences clarified that the word "program" may be read as "course". The graduating students will be awarded a 'PhD in Engineering Sciences' degree.

Item No. 14: Proposal to review/ process-modification for Integrated MTech-PhD (IMP) program:

- (i) **Admission criteria at the entry level:** The members of the Senate had a detailed discussion on the proposal received from Prof. Raj Singh for modification of entry level CGPA/percentage eligibility criteria. Finally, the members agreed to modify the eligibility criteria as: BE/BTech with a valid GATE or NET (Engineering) fellowships to be made mandatory for admission.
- (ii) **Eligibility criteria for admission to PhD after MTech**

The Senate deliberated on the proposal raised by Prof. Raj Singh to re-look into the eligibility criteria of ≥ 8.0 CGPA in MTech examination for continuation in its PhD program in the context of the Senate's recommendation (13th meeting) for discontinuation of intake of students through the TS/QHF route. The members deliberated in details on the issue and agreed that students taking admission in IMP program would be allowed a seamless transfer from MTech to PhD program irrespective of grades earned but based on qualifying in a selection interview.
- (iii) **Whether current practice of reapplication of existing IMP students for PhD program can be discontinued**

The Senate reexamined the issue and recommended that (a) the students graduating at the level of MTech do not need to again fill up the online form for PhD program; (b) they would be interviewed at the Lab level for being accepted to PhD program; and (c) their enrollment numbers allotted during entry at MTech level would remain valid. Current practice of issuing fresh enrollment for PhD should be discontinued.

(iv) Whether TS candidates could continue their PhD program in self-financing mode?

Senate discussed the proposal received from Prof. Raj Singh, Senate member and Coordinator of CSIR-CEERI, to consider continuation of the PhD program to those students (e.g. TS and QHF of 2011 & 2012 batch) who are willing to continue the study in self-financing mode. Senate approved the proposal received and agreed in principle the self-financing mode to support the studentship at AcSIR for the specific batches of students on recommendation of the concerned Dean.

(v) Whether student quitting the IMP program after completion of MTech could be allowed to be readmitted to PhD program?

Senate discussed and deliberated on the issue of such IMP students who left the program after completion of MTech program despite having eligibility to continue in PhD but are willing later to join the program all over again for any change in circumstances with full credits earned. The Proposal was disapproved by the Senate. However, it was suggested that the interested student may apply again for regular PhD program as a fresh candidate.

Item No. 15: Issues related to PhD program

(i) Continuance of research program after resignation and revalidation of registration after a long gap

Senate deliberated on the proposal received from the Associate Dean, Chemical Sciences for revalidation of registration after a long gap (*case in point*: Mr. Victor Premasagar Miriyalao of CSIR-IICT and similar other cases). Senate member opined that such cases will not be approved and willing candidates could apply for PhD program through regular mode.

However, the Senate suggested that case where the gap resulted due to prolonged illness, marriage, child care or unforeseen circumstances, decision on appeal will be made on case to case basis.

(ii) Proposal for modification in thesis submission and examination process

Senate discussed in details on the current process of thesis submission and examination at AcSIR and recommended the following modifications:

(a) Director may delegate the responsibility of selection of thesis examiner and approval of the Oral Examination Board (OEB) to the Deans/Associate Deans of respective faculties. The job would be primarily done by Associate Dean with final approval from the Dean;

(b) As suggested by Dr. Souvik Maiti and Prof. Kunal Ray, DACs may also be requested to vet the list of potential examiners upon specific request put up by the Associate Dean/Dean; and

(c) Final endorsement of the result of viva-voce exam will be done by the Director/Chairman, Senate.

(iii) Modification of open colloquium and open viva process

Dr. Shantanu Sengupta, Associate Dean, Biological Sciences, mentioned that currently both the Open Colloquium and Viva-Voce exam are mandatorily conducted in open forum. He argued that this process is overkill when these two exams are conducted on a short period of time (say 3-4 months) since it is the same study results that are presented by the students. He proposed that under such circumstances both the presentations may not be necessarily done through open forums.

The Senate agreed to the proposal and also recommended that Open Colloquium should be conducted in an open forum but Viva-Voce exam could be done either through open forum or just in the presence of the examiners at the discretion of the CSIR Lab. This step would not require any further approval from AcSIR.

(iv) Proposal for suitable modification of PhD certificate to accommodate studies undertaken in interdisciplinary areas

Scientists from two CSIR Labs, Prof. Rajiv Sohony, Coordinator, CSIR-NEERI and Dr. Rajender Singh, Senate member from CSIR-CDRI expressed their concern that current practice of mentioning one of the five faculties as the area in which the students earn the PhD degree does not truly represent the studies conducted in interdisciplinary area which is encouraged by AcSIR. Thus, the students in future have difficulty in convincing their interdisciplinary nature of study when needed.

The Senate discussed the issue in detail and finally recommended that PhD certificates would be suitably modified to include either "PhD in Science" or "PhD in Engineering" along with the title of the thesis. This step appeared to be the best compromise to accommodate divergent needs.

(v) To explore possibility of introducing Teaching Assistantship (TA) for willing and capable Graduate students on the basis of specific needs

Senate members discussed the possibility of introducing Teaching Assistantship (TA) as a part of proposal received from Associate Dean, Biological Sciences. The proposal was well received by the Senate members and the members agreed in principle. However, Chairman, Senate requested Dr. Shantanu Sengupta to work out modalities for its implementation and operation. He also mentioned that such TA-ship would not have any financial implication but the volunteering student would be given a suitable certificate by AcSIR for his/her benefit and encouragement.

(vi) Honorarium payable to foreign examiners of theses

Senate members discussed the rate for payment of honorarium to foreign external examiners based on what is currently offered by a few Institutions of National Importance. The members of the Senate agreed to consider paying an equivalent of USD 200 to the foreign examiners of PhD thesis of students. The Senate also recommended revision of the thesis examination fees for Indian Examiner from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 5000. The proposal will have to be placed to the Finance Committee and subsequently to the Board of Governors for approval.

Item No. 16: Proposal for Creation of Industry Sponsored Chair Professor, AcSIR at CSIR-IICT

Senate members discussed in details the proposal received by Prof. S. Chandrasekhar of CSIR-IICT and member of AcSIR Senate, for creation of Industry Sponsored Chair Professor. The Senate members opined that this creation will be a good beginning in strengthening the

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industry link of AcSIR as well helpful in recognizing and honoring the knowledge, expertise & experience of its vast pool of experienced scientists.

The members of the Senate agreed in principle to the proposal. However, following points were suggested for consideration with respect to the proposal received:

1. A formal agreement needs to be made between the participating industry and AcSIR
2. The concerned scientist need to be recognized as an AcSIR faculty
3. Subcommittee needs to be formed to workout modalities for its initiation and operation.

Item No. 17: Request from Dr. Sudip Roy for extension of his mentorship of PhD students beyond the period of his resignation from CSIR-NCL

Senate members discussed the request for an extension of AcSIR faculty position of Dr. Sudip Roy who has resigned from his CSIR position at CSIR-NCL and made the following recommendations:

1. The faculty relieved from a CSIR Lab who is willing to retain supervisory role for a student has to first get approval from the concerned Lab Director prior to sending such request to AcSIR for consideration.
2. Normally, the concerned CSIR scientists' faculty position at AcSIR is coterminous with his/ her CSIR position. In such circumstances, the supervisory role for the student must be transferred to a suitable faculty of AcSIR.
3. If the research problem of the student (working with another faculty) still requires inputs from the departing CSIR scientist, he/ she may appeal for being a co-guide with appropriate justification.
4. However, if a student has completed all the academic requirements including Open Colloquium for submission of Summary of Work/Thesis prior to the date of resignation of the Supervisor, then for academic consideration the scientist would still be recorded as the guide of the student. In such circumstances, a co-guide needs to be nominated for taking care of future needs regarding completion of the process of award of the degree and other administrative matters.
5. Any exceptions will be considered with approval of the Chairman, BoG on a case to case basis.

Item No. 18: Proposal for short academic break at AcSIR at the end of each semester

The Senate deliberated on the proposal received from Dr. D. Kar Chowdhuri, Coordinator of CSIR-IITR, Lucknow to have an essential short break (at least ten days; yearly twice) between two consecutive sessions. The Senate did not wish to mandate such break to the Coordinating Offices at CSIR Labs but suggested that they make arrangement in the Lab itself as per their needs. However, the AcSIR office(s) may choose to declare a short break between two sessions to organize all activities before start of a new session. During this period no regular request will be entertained from the Labs.

Item No. 19: Proposal for electronic archival of AcSIR related academic documents by CSIR Labs which are two years or older

The proposal for electronic archival from Dr. D. Kar Chowdhuri (Coordinator of CSIR-IITR, Lucknow), to deal with space-crunch at the Labs, was accepted by the Senate. The academic documents related to students' academic activities, which are two years or older, can be saved in electronic format at multiple locations to ensure safe storage and guaranteed retrieval when needed.

Item No. 20: Additional Item with permission of the Chair

- (i) Prof. Suman K. Mishra requested AcSIR to explore the possibility whether AcSIR students are eligible for receiving MHRD Fellowships since the Academy is listed as an Institution of National Importance (INI) at their website. If this effort succeeds it will open up another avenue of fellowships for the students.
- (ii) Prof. Mishra also appreciated the efforts made by AcSIR personnel at its office towards getting recognition by academic bodies like Association of Indian Universities, Association of Commonwealth Universities etc.
- (iii) The Senate members also recommended exploring the possibility of holding Senate Meetings at other CSIR Labs.
- (iv) The members of the Senate also recommended that the Convocation of AcSIR to be held by rotation at various Labs of CSIR. The Chairman, Senate in the capacity of being the Director, CSIR-CFTRI proposed to hold the next AcSIR Convocation ceremony for the year 2015 at CSIR-CFTRI, Mysore. The proposal was well accepted by the Senate which needs to be explored for necessary follow up action.

The Director thanked all the members attending in person and through electronic media for their presence in the meeting and their valuable suggestions to take AcSIR forward.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Rajasekharan 30/6/15', is written over a horizontal line.

(Ram Rajasekharan)

Prof. Ram Rajasekharan

Acting Director

Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR)