NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION
(NIEPA)

MINUTES OF THE
33rd MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

held on
(Wednesday 15th April, 2026 at 11.00 A.M.)
Board Room, 1st Floor, NIEPA

17-B Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi – 110 016

The following members were present:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	**Prof. Shashikala Wanjari** Vice-Chancellor, NIEPA	Chairperson
2.	Prof. Kumar Suresh* Professor Department of Educational Administration NIEPA, New Delhi *Dean (Academic & Research)	Member
3.	Dr. Vishnukant S. Chatpalli, Senior Consultant, National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Bengaluru (NAAC) Former Vice-Chancellor Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Karnataka	Member
4.	Prof. Sanjeev Sonawane Vice Chancellor Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University Nashik - 422 222, Maharashtra	Member
5.	Prof. Ch Ibohal Meitei Professor (Strategic Management) Manipur Institute of Management Studies (MIMS) Manipur University Indo-Myanmar Road, Canchipur – 795 003 Imphal, Manipur	Member
6.	Sh. Ajay Kumar Sinha Under Secretary (PN-I) Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education Government of India Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi Representing Joint Secretary, DoHE, MoE	Member
7.	Prof B.B Mohanty Professor at Department of Sociology Pondicherry University Puducherry 605 014.	Member
8.	Dr. C. N. Patel Principal & Professor Shri Sarvajanik Pharmacy College Nr. Arvind Baug, Mehsana-384001, Gujarat	Member
9.	Prof. K. Biswal Professor Department of Educational Planning NIEPA, New Delhi	Member
10.	Dr. Anshu Srivastava Associate Professor Department of Educational Administration, NIEPA, New Delhi	Member
11.	Shri Surya Narayan Mishra Registrar, NIEPA	Secretary

Wanjari

Prof. Vishnukant S. Chatpalli, Prof. B.B. Mohanty and Dr. C.N. Patel attended the meeting online.

At the outset, Shri Surya Narayan Mishra, Registrar and Secretary of the Board of Management, extended a warm welcome to all the Board Members. He apprised the Board of its current composition, including the introduction of new internal members: Prof. K. Biswal, who joined in place of Prof. Pranati Panda, and Dr. Anshu Srivastava, who replaced Dr. Santwana G. Mishra upon the completion of their tenure.

Professor Shashikala Wanjari, Vice Chancellor, NIEPA and Chairperson of the Board of Management, extended a warm welcome to all members and formally greeted everyone. She also welcomed Shri Ankit Verma, Finance Officer (I/c) and Administrative Officer, NIEPA, who attended the meeting as a special invitee. The Chairperson requested the Registrar & Secretary of the Board of Management to take the items agenda-wise.

Agenda Item No.33.1

(i) Leave of absence

The leave of absence is granted to Prof. Kirti Pandey who has not attended the Meeting due to her pre-occupations.

RESOLUTION: The Board approved the leave of absence.

(ii) Retiring and Joining of Internal Member of the Board of Management

RESOLUTION: The Board congratulated the new members on their induction.

Agenda Item No.33.2

(i) Confirmation of minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Board of Management held on 31st July, 2025.

RESOLUTION: The minutes of the 32nd Meeting of the Board of Management held on 31st July, 2025, be and are hereby confirmed.

(ii) Confirmation of the Minutes of the agendas circulated among the Board Members through circulation

RESOLUTION: The Minutes of the agendas circulated among the Board Members through email be and are hereby confirmed.

(iii) Confirmation to the addendum in the Minutes of 32nd Meeting of the Board of Management held on 31.07.2025

RESOLUTION: The addendum to the Minutes of the 32nd Meeting of the Board of Management held on 31st July, 2025 be and is hereby confirmed by the Board.

Agenda Item No.33.3

Action Taken Report on the previous meetings of the Board of Management

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the status with satisfaction.

ITEMS TO TAKE NOTE

Agenda Item No.33.4.1

(i) **The Status of Court Cases NIEPA as on 15.04.2026**

(ii) **Disposed of Court Cases NIEPA as on March, 2026**

(iii) **Status of two Court Cases related to Ph.D. Admissions 2025-26.**

RESOLUTION: The status of Court Cases of NIEPA as on 15th April, 2026 be and is hereby noted by the Board, and the Board further advised that efforts be made to bring down the number of pending cases.

Agenda Item No.33.4.2

Completion of the term of Chancellor, NIEPA

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the completion of the term of the Chancellor, NIEPA, and places on record its appreciation for the contributions made by Shri Mahesh Chandra Pant.

Agenda Item No.33.4.3

Submission of Annual Report 2024-25 to the Ministry of Education (MoE) & status of laying in both the houses of Parliament

RESOLUTION: The Board congratulated NIEPA for submitting its Annual Report for the year 2024–25 to the Ministry of Education (MoE) on time and for its laying in both the Houses of Parliament.

Agenda Item No.33.4.4

To take note of the appointment of Dean (Academic and Research)

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the appointment of the Dean (Academic and Research) and congratulated Prof. Kumar Suresh on taking up the charge of the said position.

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Agenda Item No.33.4.6

To take note of the grant of the financial upgradations to Smt. Suman Vij, Stenographer Grade-I (Group "B") and Shri Mithilesh Kumar Rai, Programme Attendant (Group "C") under Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS)

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the grant of financial upgradations to Smt. Suman Vij, Stenographer Grade-I (Group "B"), and Shri Mithilesh Kumar Rai, Programme Attendant (Group "C"), under the Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS).

Agenda Item No.33.4.7

To take note of the Current Status of recruitment for the post of LDC

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the current status of recruitment for the post of LDC, including the joining of LDCs in NIEPA.

Agenda Item No.33.4.8

To take note of the payment of interest on delayed payment of retiral benefits in r/o Sh. P.P. Saxena, Ex- Section Officer

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the same.

Agenda Item No.33.4.9

To report the Cancellation of the recruitment process of one post of Assistant Professor advertised under Advertisement No. 2/2025-NIEPA and re-advertising the post of Assistant Professor

RESOLUTION: The Board, after due deliberations, decided that in accordance with the Memorandum of Association (MoA) of NIEPA, till the appointment of the Hon'ble Chancellor by the Nodal Ministry, interviews for regular posts shall remain on hold in view of the requirement of the Chancellor's nominee on the Selection Committee for faculty positions.

In the interim, NIEPA may proceed with the recruitment of contractual faculty, as a special case, to streamline the day-to-day functioning of the Institute, without the requirement of the Chancellor's nominee.

The request received from the J&K region for extension of the last date for online submission of application forms be and is hereby rejected.

The Board resolved to note the matter and advised the Institute to expedite the process of filling up all vacant posts in accordance with the prescribed norms.

Agenda Item No.33.4.10

To report the successful completion of initial period of one year as Registrar, NIEPA in respect of CS Surya Narayan Mishra, Registrar

RESOLUTION: The Board congratulated CS Surya Narayan Mishra and places on record its appreciation for his notable contributions as Registrar, NIEPA.

Agenda Item No.33.4.11

To report the resignation of Prof. Santosh Panda, National Fellow

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the resignation of Prof. Santosh Panda and placed on record its appreciation for his outstanding contributions to NIEPA.

Further, the Board advised that the process of filling up the consequent vacancy along with other vacant positions of National Fellows, as well as the post of the Maulana Azad Chair, be expedited.

The Board recommended that eminent individuals be nominated for the role of National Fellow.

Agenda Item No.33.4.12

To report the successful completion of initial period of one year in respect of Dr. Nidhi Sadana Sabharwal, National Fellow

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the successful completion of the initial period of one year in respect of Dr. Nidhi Sadana Sabharwal, National Fellow, and congratulated her while placing on record its appreciation for the efforts, she put in during her completed tenure.

Agenda Item No.33.4.13

To take note of the Retirement of Prof. Pranati Panda, Professor and Sh. Rajbir Singh, LDC

RESOLUTION: The Board took note of the retirement of Dr. Pranati Panda, Professor, and Shri Rajbir Singh, LDC.

Agenda Item No.33.4.14

To take note of the Resignation of Shri Mayank, LDC

RESOLUTION: The Board took note of the resignation of Shri Mayank, LDC.

Agenda Item No.33.4.15

Status report on construction, statutory clearances and operationalization of the New Multi-Storied Academic Building at NIEPA Campus

RESOLUTION: The Board noted the same and suggested that the process of obtaining the requisite No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the concerned authorities be expedited to optimize the utilization of NIEPA's infrastructure facilities.

[redacted]

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ APPROVAL

<u>Agenda Item No.33.5</u>
To Consider confirmation of Minutes of the 16th Meeting of the Board of Studies held on 10th March, 2026.

RESOLUTION: The Board confirmed the Minutes of the Board of Studies (BoS) of NIEPA.

<u>Agenda Item No.33.6</u>
To consider confirmation of Minutes of the 34th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 25.03.2026

RESOLUTION: The Board confirmed the Minutes of the Academic Council of NIEPA.

The Board considered the proposal regarding the introduction of two new Master's programmes from the coming academic session, namely:

(i) MA in Artificial Intelligence in Education (MA-AIE)
(ii) MA in School Leadership and Management (MA-SLM)

The matter relating to the financial implications and the requirement of a studio set-up for launching the MA-AIE programme was also discussed in the 39th Finance Committee Meeting held on 7th April, 2026.

The Board appreciated the efforts made by NIEPA in initiating the process for introduction of the above-mentioned Master's programmes.

The Board approved the same.

(i) An amount of Rs. 1.50 crore per programme for appointment of contractual/guest faculty and technical staff for MA-AIE & MA-SLM per annum; and
The Board noted that, for new programmes, the following approvals are required from the Board of Management:

1. Approval of the degree
2. Approval of the curriculum
3. Approval of posts
4. Approval of infrastructure

Accordingly, the Board resolved to approve the introduction of the above programmes. It was further decided that the programmes shall be run by a programme coordinator who is a NIEPA faculty. The final curriculum may be circulated to the Hon'ble Members of the Board for information.

The Board further resolved to approve the NIEPA's above proposed Degree, Curriculum Framework, Faculty posts and infrastructure and incidentals if any.

Agenda Item No.33.7

To consider confirmation of Minutes of the 39th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 07.04.2026

RESOLUTION: The Board confirmed the Minutes of the 39th Finance Committee of NIEPA.

A few agendas of the 39th Finance Committee were forwarded for further approval of the Board of Management, which are placed below:

1. **(Ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/11)**
To update the status of proceedings and actions taken regarding the Arbitration Claim filed by M/s ADS Softek Private Limited vs NIEPA (Case No. 420/IFC/Mdl-Mig/2024 | IAMC-ARB/0022/2025)

The matter was briefed by Prof. K. Biswal to the Board.

RESOLUTION: The Board directed that updated information on the above matter be shared with the Board from time to time.

2. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/12)**
To Consider the proposal of E-Office Implementation.

3. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/13)**
To consider the proposal of the Master Programme of Artificial Intelligence in Education (MAAIE), IT Infrastructure.

RESOLUTION: the Board, after due deliberations, noted that the AI Lab and AI tool subscriptions are immediate requirements for the introduction of the programme and are distinct from the proposed recording studio.

The Board resolved to approve the AI Lab setup and AI tool subscriptions and to treat and process them separately from the recording studio setup

The Board resolved that recording studio set-up be and is hereby approved in principle and as recommended by the 39th Finance Committee, a detailed proposal for the recording studio set-up be submitted to the Nodal Ministry for its perusal.

4. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/14)**
To consider the proposal of Web Hosting Migration to ERNET Cloud.

5. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/15)**
To consider the proposal of Networking Equipment procurement.

6. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/16)**
To consider the proposal of All-in-One PCs and Advanced Printers for New Building.

7. **(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/17)**

To consider the proposal of MS Office LTSC Professional Plus 2024.

8. <u>(ref. FC Agenda Item No. - FC/AGEN/39/18)</u>
To consider the proposal for revision of schedule of rates for Institute's digital printing and bindings jobs.

RESOLUTION: The Board approved the afore-mentioned agenda items along with the suggestions as mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

[redacted]

<u>Agenda Item No.33.9</u>
To consider the Advertisement to the post of Finance Officer, NIEPA

RESOLUTION: The Board approved the initiation of the process for recruitment of the Finance Officer in accordance with the rules of NIEPA.

<u>Agenda Item No.33.10</u>
To consider the revised NIEPA Programme Guidelines 2025

RESOLUTION: The Board suggested that the proposed guidelines along with the previously approved guidelines be shared with the Hon'ble Members of the Board.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Agenda Item No.33.13
Engagement of Consultants for the posts of Public Relation Officer, Internal Auditor, Law Officer and Estate Officer in NIEPA

RESOLUTION: The Board, after due deliberations, observed that NIEPA requires immediate recruitment for the identified positions.

The Board approved the engagement of personnel on a contractual basis for the four posts, with the following modifications:

(i) the positions shall be designated as "Contractual" and not as "Consultant"; and
(ii) the remuneration shall be in the range of ₹80,000 to ₹1,00,000 per month, depending on experience and the pay scale drawn in previous employment.

The contractual positions shall be as follows:
(a) Public Relations Officer – Fresh recruitment;
(b) Internal Auditor – Open to both retired personnel and fresh recruitment;
(c) Law Officer – Open to both retired personnel and fresh recruitment; and
(d) Estate Officer – Fresh recruitment.

The Board advised that the recruitment process for the aforesaid positions be initiated at the earliest.

Agenda Item No.33.14
Appeal of Shri G. Veerabahu under Section 27 (2) of CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 and SR (21) (f) of NIEPA against the dismissal order dated 17.10.2023 from the post of Administrative Officer and request to reinstate as Administrative Officer at NIEPA

RESOLUTION: The Board discussed the brief history of the case and para-wise comments on his appeal along with all supported annexures, original disciplinary file and appeal along with his service book and CR Dossiers and all available

records/documents/ emails relevant to the case.

RESOLVED THAT the appeal of Shri G. Veerabahu is considered, rejected and be hereby disposed of.

Agenda Item No.33.15

To consider adopting of the contents of DoPT OM No. 19/116/2024-Pers.Pol. (Pay)(Pt) dated 14.10.2024 in NIEPA regarding grant of notional increment on 1st July/1st January to the employees retiring on 30th June/31st December, respectively for the purpose of calculating their pensionary benefits

RESOLUTION: The Board approved the proposal regarding grant of notional increment and suggested that the same be forwarded to the Ministry of Education (MoE) for further consideration.

[redacted]

Agenda Item No.33.17
Release of Gratuity to two of the retired employees

RESOLUTION: The Board, after reviewing the matter, decided that NIEPA may release the remaining gratuity amount after deducting the disputed amount, and the same be withheld until the matter remains *sub-judice*.

Agenda Item No.33.18
Any other item with the permission of the Chair

[redacted]

TABLE AGENDA 2
The Board was apprised of the proposal for the procurement of research software packages, such as Grammarly and QuillBot etc., for the Institution, with a view to facilitating and enhancing the research activities of the academic staff.

RESOLUTION: The Board while accorded its approval to the proposal advised that the said software be procured under educational institutional licensing arrangements to avail eligible discounts and ensure cost-effectiveness, while augmenting research productivity and supporting the academic endeavors of the NIEPA faculty.

The minutes/items related to Establishment, Confidential in nature, examination matters and having names of any individual (third party) shall be masked while revealing in website and may not be shared under RTI.

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

(Shashikala Wanjari)
Vice-Chancellor/ Chairperson- BoM

(Surya Narayan Mishra)
Registrar / Secretary – BoM

Dated: 26|05|2026