Minutes of 22nd Governing Body Meeting held on 28th September 2022 at the Apex Block Board Room.

Members Present:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Sri. M. R. Seetharam Hon'ble Vice Chairman, GEF	Chairperson
2.	Sri. M. R. Ramaiah Hon'ble Secretary, GEF	Member
3.	Sri. M. R. Kodandaram Hon'ble Trustee, GEF	Member
4.	Sri. B. S. Ramaprasad Chief Executive, GEF	Member
5.	Dr. V. K. Aatre Management Representative	Member
6.	Dr. H P Khincha Management Representative	Member
7.	Prof. Satish C Sharma UGC Nominee	Member
8.	Dr. H C Nagaraj VTU Nominee	Member
9.	Sri. G. Ramachandra, Chief Finance Officer, GEF	Member
10.	Dr. Anita Kanavalli HoD, AI&DS, RIT	Member
11.	Dr. Archna Registrar (Academic), RIT	Member
12.	Dr. Pradipkumar Dixit Vice-Principal, RIT	Member
13.	Dr. N V R Naidu Principal, RIT	Ex – Officio, Member Secretary

Agenda Item 1

Due to inevitable reasons, Dr. M R Jayaram, Hon'ble Chairman, Governing Body could not able to attend the meeting. Sri. M R Sampangi Ramaiah, Hon'ble Trustee, GEF, Dr. K G Chandrashekar, State Govt. Nominee and Dr. Vinod Kumar Nowal, Deputy Managing Director, JSW also could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupied schedules. Principal welcomed all the Hon'ble members and requested Sri. M R Seetharam, Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, GEF to preside over the meeting and solicited his permission to proceed with the discussions on 'Agenda items' with his valuable opening remarks.

The principal introduced Dr. Pradipkumar Dixit, Vice-Principal, RIT & Head, Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering as the newly inducted member of the Governing Body.

Agenda Item 2 Approval of minutes of 21ˢᵗ Governing Body meeting

The Governing Body approved the minutes of 21ˢᵗ Governing Body meeting held on 3ʳᵈ March 2022.

Agenda Item 3 Action taken/Action Plan Report on minutes of 21ˢᵗ Governing Body meeting held on 3rd March 2022

- The Governing Body members discussed the agenda items suggested by the Hon'ble members during the 21ˢᵗ meeting. Principal, Dr. N V R Naidu presented the action taken report on the suggestions provided by the Hon'ble members in the last meeting.

- Principal briefed the Hon'ble members that the report on the online workshop on "Technologies Transformation of Indian Agriculture" held in January 2022 has been collected from Prof. Y Narahari and a few research areas have been identified where collaborative work can be initiated with GKVK.

  Prof. Aatre suggested to contact Dr. Ajay Malshe, School of Mechanical Engineering Purdue University, who will be visiting India shortly and take some input. Create a cluster research group across the college including faculty and students. Also, interact with Prof. Narahari and Dr. K B Umesh so that the issues of precision agriculture and smart agriculture can be pursued seriously and contributions can be in a larger way. In continuation, the Hon'ble Vice-Chairman suggested to create multidisciplinary clusters with 5 to 6 faculty and prepare strategies to work on the problems. Prof. Aatre emphasized that the cluster can consist of younger faculty who will contribute in an effective way. Principal informed that the cluster groups will be formed at the institute level with the interested faculty to take up projects in smart agriculture.

- Prof. Aatre informed that UGC removed the mandatory requirement of Research Publications for the completion of the Ph.D. Prof. Satish Sharma enquired about the VTU rules pertaining to the Publication requirement for Ph.D, Principal informed that at the institute level two SCI publications are mandatory for the Ph.D. Prof. Aatre mentioned that India is the third largest country in the world in publishing papers but they are not innovative, no new methodologies are used and conversion of research to innovative products is very low.

  The faculty are publishing only for the sake of count without sound knowledge of the subjects. He suggested that the faculty can be motivated towards quality and not

quantity. He also said that no comparison between the faculty with and without publications.

Prof. Khincha mentioned that since publications become mandatory for the faculty and institutions strategies have to be worked out to scale up the quality publications. He suggested to find out the reasons for rejection of papers and help the faculty to carry out quality work.

Prof. Aatre added to this suggestion by saying that the Head R&D to review few of the papers led to some product development.

Prof. Sharma suggested including SCI-indexed publications during the next meeting.

Prof. Aatre informed that the flagship IEEE APSCON- Applied Sensing conference is scheduled from January 23rd to 25th 2023 and will be held in India (Bangalore) for the first time. He suggested to contact Prof. Rudra Pratap and Prof. V Ramgopal Rao for more details and depute a few faculty from RIT to participate in the Conference.

- Prof. Aatre suggested to collaborate with Prof. S Asokan, Dept. of Instrumentation and Applied Physics IISc Bangalore who works in the area of Optical Sensors and Photo-optics. The departments of EIE and ECE to collaborate with the Ramaiah Medical College to develop low-cost gadgets: Oximeter, HbA1C monitors, Glucose monitors etc. The UG and PG students can take up projects on such low-cost product development.

Principal updated that currently few projects of the circuit and non-circuit departments do target product development but the number of such projects is low.

- Principal informed the Hon'ble members that the total research grants to RIT from the various funding agencies is 7.5 crores over the last three years. Prof. Aatre suggested to have a vision to scale up the funding from 2.5 crores/year to 5 crores/year.

- Prof. Khincha enquired about the multiple entries and exit policy to be followed for the students admitted under the new scheme NEP-2020. He suggested to plan the multiple entries and exit policy for the 2023-24 batch.

- Prof. Khincha suggested that the student projects can be progressive from the second year to the final year and in some cases the projects can be integrated with the internships to get better outcomes. Prof. Khincha emphasized to improve the quality of UG projects as this will help to improve research.

Hon'ble Vice Chairman appreciated the suggestion and said that implementation can be more effective for the branches of CV, CH, ME, IEM and BT.

- Prof. Khincha suggested to relook into the content of Open Elective Courses which are not opted by the students for three consecutive times. The title can be redefined and the content to be reshaped to make it more attractive for students. Hon'ble Vice Chairman informed that the revision of course content of Open Electives would be taken up by the faculty.

- Prof. Khincha enquired about the details of the seed funding given to the faculty research proposals. Principal informed the Hon'ble members that a budget of Rs.1.15 crore has been allocated for the year 2022-23 out of which 13.9 Lacs has been utilized till date. Prof. Khincha suggested that faculty should be made aware and encouraged to submit the proposal and utilize the seed money to the fullest. This will encourage more and more faculty teams to apply. The selection committee should be careful at selecting the projects.

  Prof. Aatre suggested to be more benevolent during project evaluation and selection process. Otherwise the faculty would be discouraged in future to apply. The Hon'ble members requested to update about the seed fund utilization in the next meeting.

<u>Agenda Item 4</u> Approval of Minutes of 19th Academic Council Meeting held on 23rd June 2022

- Prof. Khincha suggested that the syllabus of the minor degree courses be carefully designed. Principal briefed the guidelines given by VTU to be followed by a student to register for minor degree.

- Prof. Khincha enquired about the roadmap of RIT. Principal clarified that a roadmap for the next 10 years was presented two years back to the Hon'ble members and was approved. Prof. Khincha requested a copy of the same can be shared with him.

- Prof. Aatre enquired about the 3D printing facility at the institute. He suggested that Government sanctioned National Facility in 3D printing is being established in Bangalore, which can be verified by RIT. He mentioned that during his visit to an industry abroad, he saw 3D printed cars & 3D printed bridges are available. He stressed that we can harness such things and utilize the same. Since applications are very wide in prosthetics and bone implants, we can start in a small way and grow. Prof. Aatre also mentioned that Additive Manufacturing is the need of today.

- Prof. Aatre enquired about the social science-related courses for UG students. He suggested to arrange invited lecture series from Experts in the areas of ethics, professional communication and other soft skills for faculty and students.

- Hon'ble Vice Chairman informed that institute has been conducting such lectures and trainings for students with the help of humanities department.

Agenda Item 5   A Brief Report on AICTE/VTU Approval

- Principal briefed the Hon'ble members that the sanction for the ODL courses may be granted by December, 2022.

- Prof Aatre suggested to maintain Student Faculty ratio and do not get carried away with the changes brought in by other institutions. Hon'ble Vice Chairman informed that RIT maintains 1:15 ratio.

- Prof. Sharma pointed out that narrowing down UG programs like AI&ML and AI&DS which make no justice to the engineering studies. Prof. Aatre expressed the importance of some of the core engineering branches and how the start of these new programs is affecting admissions of core branches. Prof. Aatre suggested to review the curriculum of the universities of Georgia Tech, Berkeley and Michigan and improvise the UG curriculum at RIT. These institutions are following STEM in true sense and have fairly good enrollment in the core branches of engineering as their curriculum is attractive for students.

Hon'ble Vice Chairman suggested to form a committee of faculty who will review the curriculum and provide inputs.

Agenda Item 6   Report on NBA Accreditation

The Principal presented the brief report on the accreditation status of various UG & PG programmes.

Prof. Aatre and Prof. Khincha suggested that a separate cell or department can be formed for the data compilation so that the faculty and staff concentrate on the academic and research works.

Agenda Item 7   Report on NIRF Ranking

Principal presented the details to all the Hon'ble members about the NIRF rank obtained by RIT for the year 2022.

Hon'ble members expressed their satisfaction over the rank achieved by RIT in NIRF ranking for the year 2022. Principal informed that the rank has declined as the number of institutions participating has increased from 1143 in 2021 to 1249 in 2022 though the overall score has been increased by around 1.5 in the year 2022.

Hon'ble Vice Chairman suggested that clubbing of stand-alone institutions with Universities can be avoided by NIRF while ranking.

Prof. Khincha expressed satisfaction and said that staying in the same band as the previous year is important. Also, the institute should maintain its rank in the state of Karnataka.

Prof. Aatre suggested to check the information on the number of students who opted RIT as their first choice in CET and COMEDK.

Agenda Item 8 Pradarshana 2022

Principal briefed the members that Open Day Project Exhibition – Pradarshana 2022 was held on 6th & 7th July 2022. 421 UG student projects have been presented during the exhibition and the abstracts of the projects have been consolidated in the book of abstracts. Hon'ble members appreciated the industry connect established through Open Day Project Exhibition – Pradarshana.

Agenda Item 9   Comparison of Academic performance for 3 years- Result Analysis

Hon'ble Members have been briefed about the academic performance for the previous three academic years for UG and the previous two academic years for PG in terms of pass percentage. The results have been appreciated by all the Hon'ble members.

Agenda Item 10 Report on Campus Placement for the Academic Year 2021-22

A report on campus placement and a comparison report for the previous three academic years have been presented and noted. All the students placed have been congratulated by the Hon'ble members.

- Hon'ble members suggested that the placement data should include the total number of students graduating, total number of students registered, total number of students placed and the total number of students opted for higher studies for each batch. Graphical representation along with the Table in percentage is appreciated. Also, the number of IT and non-IT placements to be mentioned.

- Prof. Aatre suggested to collect statistics on Alumni who are placed at top notch positions and have visited campus frequently. Achievements of Alumni to be used for various initiatives at the institute and the alumni be invited to the campus and address the students.
- Prof. Satish Sharma suggested to celebrate the 25 years/ 30 years of passing out of Alumni. The Alumni can be invited to sponsor research, some facilities on the campus or can initiate some chairs. Distinguished alumni awards can be initiated. These can be given in different categories: Corporate, Entrepreneur, Social Contributor, etc.

  Principal informed Hon'ble members that since 2005 'Milana- Annual Alumni Meet' has been conducted and the distinguished alumni nominated by departments are felicitated during the meet.
- Prof. Satish Sharma suggested having positions like Dean Alumni Association and Dean International Relations for better alumni connectivity.

Agenda Item 11 Student Achievements

Principal presented the student's achievements to the Hon'ble members. They congratulated all the students on their achievements.

Agenda Item 12 Research Publications

Details on the faculty research publications for the period January 2022-August 2022 has been presented and noted.

- Prof. Aatre said that India is the third largest country in publishing papers but very few of the publications are converted into innovative products.
- Prof. Sharma suggested that in addition to compulsory paper publication at all levels, the quality and their citations need monitoring. The faculty are publishing for the number sake, but are not having sound knowledge about the subjects. Institute to emphasize on SCI publications.
- Prof. Khincha said that although the publications have become mandatory but at the same time, quality publications need to be scaled up.

Agenda Item 13 List of Faculty provided with incentive for publication

Hon'ble members suggested to encourage faculty aged between 30 to 40 to apply for IEEE / INSA/INAE fellowships as this will bring awards to the Institute. Prof. Khincha

suggested to relook into the criteria for incentive as the number of faculty getting incentive are lesser than the total strength.

Agenda Item 14 **List of RIT Faculty/Research Scholars Who Obtained Ph. D Degree during the period January 2022 – July 2022**

The Faculty members and external candidates who obtained Ph.D. degree have been congratulated by the Hon'ble members. The list has been noted and recorded**.**

Agenda Item 15 **Ongoing Sponsored Research Projects**

Sponsored funded projects ongoing at the institute across various departments were presented and recorded. The hon'ble members appreciated the improvement in the number of funded projects and emphasized improving on funding amount further.

Prof. Khincha enquired whether the institute had FCRA (Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act) account as that is mandatory in case any monetary support was extended by a foreign agency. The approval for the account takes one-year time and must be taken by RIT.

Agenda Item 16 **Ongoing Consultancy Projects**

List of ongoing consultancy projects at the institute across various departments was presented and recorded.

Prof. Satish Sharma suggested to include projects that are above Rs.1.0 Lakh

Agenda Item 17 **List of Faculty provided with seed money for research**

Hon'ble members appreciated the RIT initiative for providing the seed fund for research to faculty. Prof. Khincha suggested to analyze the budget utilization for seed funding and improve the quality of proposals so that rejections are less.

Agenda Item 18 **Patents Information**

Hon'ble members on reviewing the information suggested to verify the published and granted patent information.

Agenda Item 19   Report on R & D Cell

Principal presented the activities of the R&D Cell at RIT. Prof. Khincha enquired about the department research centers affiliated to VTU. He suggested to review the research centers every 6 months and present a report on their work.

Agenda Item 20   Centre for Drone Technologies (CDT)

Hon'ble members expressed satisfaction over the progress made in initiating the establishment of Center for Drone Technologies at the Institute as per the suggestion given by the Governing Body during its 21st meeting held on 3rd March 2022.

Agenda Item 21   Centre for Bio and Energy Materials Innovation

Hon'ble members appreciated the effort of the institute in establishing a multidisciplinary Centre for Bio and Energy Materials Innovation through research funding from DST, VGST, VTU, AICTE worth Rs.150 lakhs.

Agenda Item 22 List of FDP/SDP/Workshops/Webinars organized

Hon'ble Members appreciated the events organized during the year 2022 across all departments at RIT.

Agenda Item 23 Budget Approval for the Financial Year 2022-23

Principal presented the budget allocated for the year 2022-23 for all the departments/ sections. Prof. Khincha appreciated the budget allocated to the departments of Mechanical engineering and Civil engineering even though the demand had declined in the departments. He requested to add a little more amount to the budget of the four new departments (AI&ML, AI&DS, CSE-CS, CSE-AIML). He emphasized that the budget must reflect the total amount of money collected and the total amount spent (both budgeted & non-budgeted expenses) in that financial year.

Hon'ble Vice Chairman said that the institute spends approximately 10% on non-budgeted expenses and every year that has not been reflected in the budget statements.

Agenda Item 24 Interaction with Dr. J N Reddy - Executive Advisory Board Member & Prof. Bellur Prabhakar

Principal presented the details of the visitors from foreign universities to the Hon'ble members. The members appreciated the initiative of the institute in this direction.

Agenda Item 25 Ramaiah SAT - Nano Satellite

Principal briefed the Hon'ble members that RIT & RUAS has signed Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Technology Congress Association (ITCA) on 19th July 2022 to develop and build a 1.6 kg class satellite with a payload of 300gms called **"Ramaiah SAT"** under the monitoring of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). ISRO will help launch the satellite with UHF and VHF links with a satellite ground station at RUAS Peenya Campus. The members appreciated the encouragement provided by the institute to the student team.

Agenda Item 26 Forthcoming events 2022-23

Hon'ble members congratulated the institute for organizing a plethora of technical events to mark the centenary celebrations of ~~our~~ founder Chairman of GEF and the diamond jubilee of RIT.

Suggestions by Hon'ble Members:

1. Prof. Aatre suggested that departments of EIE and ECE can collaborate with the Ramaiah Medical College to develop low-cost gadgets: Oximeter, HbA1C monitors, Glucose monitors, etc. The UG and PG students can take up projects on such low-cost product development.

2. Prof. Aatre expressed the importance of some of the core engineering branches and how the start of these new programs is affecting admissions of core branches. Prof. Aatre suggested reviewing the curriculum of the universities of Georgia Tech, Berkeley and Michigan and improvise the UG curriculum at RIT. These institutions are following STEM in the true sense and have fairly good enrollment in the core branches of engineering as their curriculum is attractive for students.

3. Prof. Aatre and Prof. Khincha expressed their concern that much time is spent by the faculty compiling the data for the presentation to NIRF, NBA, NAAC and other agencies. They suggested that a separate cell or department can be formed for the data compilation so that the faculty and staff concentrate on the academic and research works. ERP database can save time and manhours at the institute.

4. Hon'ble members suggested that the placement data should include the total number of students graduating, the total number of students registered, the total number of students placed and the total number of students who opted for higher studies for each batch.

Also, express percentages. The table and its corresponding graph are to be shown. The number of IT and non-IT placements are to be mentioned.

5. Hon'ble members suggested to encourage faculty between 30 to 40 age to apply for IEEE / INSA/INAE fellowships as this will bring awards to the Institute.

6. Prof. Khincha suggested to encourage more and more faculty for publication incentives.

7. Prof. Khincha suggested that faculty should be made aware and encouraged to submit the proposal and utilize the seed money to the fullest. The selection committee should be careful at selecting the projects.

8. Prof. Khincha emphasized that the budget must reflect the total amount of money collected and the total amount spent (both budgeted & non-budgeted expenses) in that financial year.

Principal