

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SILCHAR

FIFTY FIFTH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

The 55th meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 22nd June, 2021 at 1600 hours via video conferencing. The following members were present in the meeting:

1. Sri Gautam N Mehra, Chairman & Managing Director, Savita Oil Technologies Limited, Ex – Officio Chairman, Finance Committee
2. Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director & Ex - Officio, FC
3. Sri Mrutyunjay Behera, Economic Adviser (HE), MoE
4. Ms. Darshana M Dabral, JS & FA, Integrated Finance Division, MoE
5. Dr. S. K. Kakoty, Professor, IIT Guwahati
6. Prof. P. S Choudhury, NIT Silchar
7. Prof. Nalin Behari Dev Choudhury, Registrar (i/c) & Secretary, FC

Sri Gautam N Mehra presided the meeting of the Finance Committee as Ex – Officio Chairman, Finance Committee in accordance with Statute 10 of First Statute of NITs.

At the outset, Prof. N. B. Dev Choudhury welcomed the Ex – Officio Chairman, Finance Committee and other members who attended the meeting.

Before starting the meeting the committee observed one minute of silence and give condolence to the departed soul of one of the esteemed Member of Finance Committee and Board of Governors of NIT Silchar, Late Madan Mohan, ADG, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education.

The FC then initiated the discussion on the Agenda Items one by one: -

FC-55/21/01: To confirm the minutes of the 54th Meeting of Finance Committee.
Fifty fourth meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 21st April, 2021 via video conferencing. The copies of the Minutes of the 54th meeting of the Finance Committee (**Annexure – I**) was circulated to all the members of the Committee. No comments has been received from any members.

The FC is request to confirm the minutes of 54th meeting of the FC.

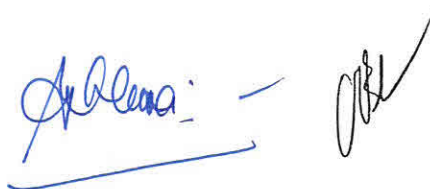
DECISION

The Committee confirmed the minutes of 54th meeting of Finance Committee.

FC-55/21/02: To discuss on the Action Taken Report on decision of the 54th Meeting of Finance Committee.
The action taken report on the minutes of 54th meeting of FC is placed at Annexure – II. The FC is requested to take note of the same

DECISION

The committee noted the Action Taken Report of 54th meeting of Finance Committee.



FC-55/21/03: To consider and approve the procurement of campus license of Ansys Academic Products.

The Institute procured the following standalone versions of the Ansys products in ME, CE and ECE departments during 2012-16 as follows:

1. Ansys 14 Academic (Perpetual 50 user licenses) Mechanical Engineering Department purchased in 2012.
2. Ansys Academic Teaching Mechanical & CFD (Perpetual 25 user licenses) in Civil Engineering Department purchased in 2016.
3. Ansys Academic Research Mechanical & CFD (Perpetual 5 user licenses) in Civil Engineering Department purchased in 2016.
4. Ansys Academic Research HF - 5 Task (Perpetual 5 user licenses) in Electronics & Communication Engineering Department purchased in 2016 later AMC renewal was purchased in 2018 and 2021.

Though the licenses are perpetual, it is not fulfilling the purpose of the research scholars and students due to its old versions and are not contributing substantially in the current research ecosystem of the Institute. It may be noted that currently there are nearly a 1000 research scholars and approximately 400 master's level students (in addition to UG students) and a substantial portion of them use Ansys products in their project/research works at UG/PG/Doctoral levels. The current licenses are operational within the campus LAN only. Our Institute Software Evaluation Committee had several rounds of discussions with the OEM on the up-gradation of the same. Upgrading the old licenses individually to current level will cost more compared to a Campus License. Moreover, a greater number (proposed campus license offers 40 academic research and 400 teaching licenses in total) of users can be accommodated in Campus License. One more advantage of Campus License is that it can be accessed from anywhere within India, which is turning out to be an essential component to continue research and academic activities during the ongoing pandemic. The cost of an academic license of Ansys is INR 7918000.00 (exclusive of taxes). The negotiated rate is valid till 23 June 2021. Campus license of Ansys will greatly benefit most of the departments of the Institute

FC is requested to approve the proposal and recommend the same to BoG for approval.

DECISION

The Finance Committee discussed the issue and recommended to go for customised bid in Gem Portal. The Finance Committee also recommended the same to BoG for approval.

FC-55/21/04: To consider and approve the procurement of Vector Network Analyzer (VNA) up to 67 GHz.

The old VNA is portable and works up to 15 GHz. It has limited features and suitable for open-air outdoor measurements in the verse area like vehicular communication, microwave imaging, etc. Experiments can be performed outside NIT Silchar as per the requirement of various real-time experiments and sponsored projects.



However, the frequency range needs to be extended beyond 15 GHz for research on contemporary topics. For some application, more precision is needed where high-end table top VNA is required. As the era of automation rises, the internet is evolving and becoming an integral part of our lives based on 5G and beyond 5G communication. The frequency bands for 5G networks are 450 MHz to 6 GHz and 24.25 GHz to 52.6 GHz. So, a VNA having higher specification is an urgent need of various departments to initiate new research on 5G domain.

The UG/PG/PhD students and faculty members of Department of ECE, E&IE, EE and Physics will be directly benefitted from this proposed high-end VNA.

Utilization of the Present VNA:

UG, PG & PhD students use it to characterize their antenna and published more than 50 research articles in SCI/SCIE journals since its procurement in 2017. There is one approved DST sponsored project where the present VNA will be required to measure various microwave signals of the on-body antennas embedded on the patients admitted in hospitals outside NIT Silchar.

Possibility of Future Extendibility of the Proposed VNA:

The proposed VNA is up to 67 GHz and can be extended up to 1 THz later. So, it will be able to serve our purpose for a very long period.

The cost of the proposed VNA is **INR 93,72,891 (exclusive of taxes)**.

FC may consider the indispensable need of a high end VNA and approve it for procurement.

DECISION

The Finance Committee recommended to go for Competitive Bidding through Gem Portal.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Prof. N. B. Dev Choudhury)
Registrar (i/c) & Member Secretary



(Sri Gautam N Mehra)
Ex – Officio Chairman, FC