



## FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY

Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions  
(Regulation of Admissions and Fees)

"शिक्षण-नव्वेव्यवसाय -ज्ञान यज्ञ"

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Meeting Date: 08/09/2021

### Minutes of Meeting

The Meeting of the Fees Regulating Authority (constituted under section 11(2)(3)(4) of the Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admissions and Fees) Act, 2015) held on **8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021** in the Conference Hall, Room No. 305, Government Polytechnic Building, 49 Kherwadi, Ali Yawar Jung Marg, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051.

Following were present:

1.	Hon'ble Justice V.L. Achliya (Retd.)	:	Chairperson
2.	Dr. Vijay Vasant Khole, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Mumbai University	:	Member
3.	Shri. Manoj Damodar Chandak, Chartered Accountant through video conferencing	:	Member
4.	Shri. Ratanakar (Shirish) Phadtare, Cost Accountant	:	Member
5.	Shri. Dharmendra Dilip Mishra, Professional Educationist	:	Member
6.	Shri. C.D Joshi , IAS through video conferencing	:	Secretary

Dr. Dhanraj Mane, The Director, Higher Education, Pune absent without intimation.

**Item No. 1: To confirm the minutes of the meeting dated 02/09/2021 & 03/09/2021.**

"Discussed.

The minutes of the meeting dated 02/09/2021 & 03/09/2021 are approved and confirmed".

**Item No. 2: To consider the proposals received from the Agricultural/Engineering/Law Colleges/Institutes for fixation of fee for the academic year 2021-22.**

**Part I**

"Discussed.

The Authority has examined the proposals received from the institutes/colleges mentioned below seeking approval of fees for the academic year 2021-22. After considering the scrutiny reports and the relevant factors it was decided to approve the fee structure as under;

**Law Course**

Sr. No.	Code No.	Institute Name		Final Fee For AY 2021-22
1	LLB5001	A.K.K. New Law Academy-Pune	LLB 3yrs	23,000/-
			LLB 5yrs	19,500/-
2	LLB5003	Adv. Balasaheb Apte College of Law-Mumbai-City	LLB 3yrs	30,000/-
			LLB 5yrs	24,000/-
3	LLB5017	D. E. S. Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College-Pune	LLB 3yrs	30,000/-
			LLB 5yrs	30,000/-
4	LLB5018	Devjibhai Hariya Law College, Shahad-Thane	LLB 5yrs	17,000/-
5	LLB5040	M. S. P. Mandals Law College, Beed.-Beed	LLB 5yrs	10,000/-
6	LLB5078	Smt. Kamlaben Gambharchand Shah Law School, Mumbai	LLB 3yrs	15,000/-
			LLB 5yrs	18,000/-
7	LLB3058	Shri Pancham Khemraj Law College, Sawantwadi-Sindhudurg	LLB 3yrs	14,500/-
8	LLB33082 1006	Bharatratna D.Babasaheb Ambedkar Law College, Bhiwandi, Dist-Thane-Thane	LLB 3yrs	20,500/-
			LLB 5yrs	26,000/-
9	LLB3046	New Law College, Ahmednagar-Ahmadnagar	LLB 3yrs	16,000/-
			LLB 5yrs	19,000/-

The fees as approved be communicated to the respective institutes/ colleges. The institutes/ colleges be informed that if the fee approved by the Authority is not acceptable to them then individual institutes/colleges may file the review application with detailed reasons before the Fees Regulating Authority as per the procedure prescribed within fifteen days from the date of communication of the decision.

### **Part II**

On scrutiny of the fees proposals received from the following institutes/ colleges seeking approval of fees for the academic year 2021-22, it is noticed that their proposals are incomplete and full of deficiencies. It was decided the institutes/colleges be directed to submit the documents within one week. In case the documents are submitted the proposals be processed.

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Code No.</b>	<b>Institute Name</b>
1	LLB3042/ LLB5050	Nalanda Law College, Mumbai
2	LLB324336/ LLB503004100	Shri Educational Trust's St. Rock's Degree College of Law, Mumbai
3	LLB324721020	Dhirajlal Talakchand Sankalchand Shah College of Law, Mumbai

Let the follow-up action be taken".

**Item No. 3:** **To consider the request received from RANM/RGNM Colleges/Institutes for fixation of fee for the academic year 2020-21.**

"Discussed.

Deferred for further consideration on 09/09/2021".

**Item No. 4:** **To consider the complaints received from the students of Audyogik Shikshan Mandal's Institute of Management & Computer Studies, Thane.**

"Discussed.

Pursuant to notices issued the following were present:

- 1) Dr. D.V. Kulkarni, The Director of ASM's Institute of Management & Computer Studies, Thane,


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- 2) Dr. V.P. Pawar, The Director of the Audyogik Shikshan Mandal's (ASM) Trust,
- 3) Ms. Manisha A. Singh, the Complainant ,
- 4) Ms. Jyoti A. Gupta, the Complainant ,
- 5) Ms. Shweta Suryavanshi, the Complainant,
- 6) Mrs. Sonali Nikam the complainant (through video conference),

The complainants have filed complaints against the ASM's Institute of Management & Computer Studies, Thane run by Audyogik Shikshan Mandal's Trust alleging therein that for the academic year 2017-18 the Fees Regulating Authority has approved the maximum fees to be charged as Rs. 1,23,000/- per student for two years MMS course. However, the said Institute has charged Rs. 53,000/- per student over and above the fees approved by Fees Regulating Authority. In support of the allegations, the complainants have annexed the copies of receipts of Rs. 53,000/- issued by the Institute towards the recovery of excess fees from them.

On satisfaction that the complainants have made out a prima facie case to enquire into the act of profiteering by said Institute, the notice was issued to Institute to offer their explanation. Dr. D.V. Kulkarni the Director of the Institute responded to notice dated 12/1/2021. In response to the letter dated 12/1/2021 it is vaguely stated the fees charged by the Institute as per fees approved by the Fees Regulating Authority and in line with the University of Mumbai. Therefore vide letter dated 25/01/2021 the institute was called upon to furnish information as to total fees collected from the students under all the heads in the academic year 2018-19. The Institute vide letter dated 09/02/2021 responded to letter dated 25/01/2021 & provided the particulars of fees collected from each student over and above the fees approved by the Fees Regulating Authority. The letter dated 09/02/2021 received from Institute supports the allegation made by complainants.

The subject was discussed in the meeting of the Fees Regulating Authority held on 17/03/2021. Dr. D.V. Kulkarni the Director and Mrs. Varsha Parab the professor of the institute were present. The hearing was given to said officials representing the said institute. In the said meeting the officials were made aware that their act of charging the fees over and above the fees approved by the Fees Regulating Authority



calls for action u/s 20 of the Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admissions and Fees) Act, 2015 and they are liable to refund the excess fees to concerned students. The officials sought time to furnish clarification after consulting Chartered Accountant. However, the institute failed to offer clarification till this date.


On 30/08/2021 some of the Complainants visited the office of the Fees Regulating Authority to enquire about the status of their complaints and clarification if any submitted by the Institute. They have further made a grievance that Mrs. Varsha Parab the Assistant Director of the Institute harassing the Complainants & using abusive language against them.

The Complainants present reiterated the allegations made in their complaints and further disclosed the harassment they are facing from the officials of the institute and more particularly from Mrs. Varsha Parab. They alleged that Mrs. Varsha Parab telling the other students to produce the Complainants before her. Due to complaints lodged the officials of the institute have ensured that they would not get placement through campus interviews.

Mrs. Sonali Nikam the Complainant who is present in the meeting through video conference made serious allegations against the officials of the institute. She alleged that the local persons were sent to her house to pressurized & to settle the matter with the Institute. The person sent by the institute met her husband and pressurized to persuade her to settle the matter with the institute.

Dr. D.V. Kulkarni the Director of the Institute present in the meeting, when asked to respond & clarify the allegations he expressed that he is unaware of the allegations made against Mrs. Varsha Parab as well as the local persons sent to pressurized said Complainant.

Mrs. Sonali Nikam the Complainant counter the statement of Dr. D.V. Kulkarni and categorically stated that after the incident she along with her husband visited Dr. D.V. Kulkarni and apprise him about the incident to pressurize her. She further stated that she can produce evidence to establish that Dr. D.V. Kulkarni was informed about said incident.



Dr. D.V. Kulkarni the Director of the Institute and Shri. V. P. Pawar the Director of ASM group requested to grant one or two days' time to file a reply/clarification.


The Complainants opposed to adjourn the matter for filing the reply. They have stated that they are facing a lot of harassment after filing complaints. They are required to take leave from their employer to attend the hearing. The institute has failed to file a reply/clarification though the period of more than six months has elapsed.

The allegations made against the institute are serious. It is not befitting for any Educational Institution to indulged in such acts of threatening and pressuring the Complainants through local persons. The institute in their letter dated 09/02/2021 admitted the collection of Rs. 53,000/- per student over and above the fees approved by the Fees Regulating Authority. It is for the institute to justify its act of recovering the amount over & above the fees approved by the Authority. Although, the period of more than six months has lapsed the institute failed to submit the clarification to justify their act of recovery of the excess amount of fees from students. In that view, no further time deserves to be granted to submit clarification. However, it is decided that in the larger interest & fair opportunity the institute be granted the last opportunity to file clarification subject to cost. Accordingly, the institute is granted one week to file clarification/reply subject to deposit a cost of Rs. 1,00,000/- with the Authority .

Both the officials of the institute present were directed to ensure that no such instances of pressurizing the Complainants to be repeated in future & repetition of any such act would be viewed seriously and treated as aggravated circumstance to imposed extreme penalty and take further measures against the institute.

On the next date of hearing i.e. 17/09/2021 beside the Director of the Institute, Mrs. Varsha Parab, the Assistant Director & Professor working with the Institute be kept present along with the office bearers of the Trust.

Mrs. Varsha Parab will be at liberty to file her affidavit dealing with the allegations made against her. So also the Complainants are granted



liberty to file detailed affidavits mentioning allegations made in the complaints, the instances of harassment caused to them after filing the complaints.

Let the follow-up action be taken."

**Item No. 5: Any other subject with the permission of the Chair.**

(i) **To consider the matter of Nalanda Law College, Mumbai regarding the excess collection of the fee.**

"Discussed

It is brought to the notice that after inspecting the Institute on 14/02/2020, the institute was directed to refund the excess fee collected from the students and to file an explanation. Despite sending repeated letters/notices the Institute has failed to respond & shown scant disregard to the direction issued by the Authority.

Considering the conduct of the officials of the Institute it is decided to call the Principal, the President, the Secretary of the Institute, and the Chartered Accountant who audited the accounts of Institutes for hearing. Notice be issued to them to personally appear on 17/09/2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Let the follow-up action be taken."

(ii): **To consider the request received in the form of a letter dated 27/06/2021 from Takhatmal Shrivallabh Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, Amravati, to approve the fee to be charged for the academic year 2019-20 & 2020-21 as per the fee approved by the Authority for the academic year 2017-18 and allow them to continue to charge the fee at the same rate for the academic year 2018-19.**

"Discussed

The subject was discussed in the meeting of Authority held on 23/07/2021 and it was decided to direct the institute to submit an audited financial statement. In compliance, the institute has submitted the audited financial statements.



After considering the scrutiny report, the audited financial statement the Authority is of view that the fees of Rs. 53,500/- per student claimed by the institute for the academic year 2019-20 & 2020-21 is reasonable. Accordingly, the proposal of the institute is approved. The Institute is permitted to charge the fees @ of Rs. 53,500/- per student for the academic year 2019-20 & 2020-21.

Let the follow-up action be taken."

**Date : 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**  
**Place : Mumbai**

  
**CHAIRPERSON**  
**FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY**