सत्यमेव जयते

FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY

Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions
(Regulations of Admission and Fees)
"शिक्षण-नव्हेव्यवसाय -ज्ञान यज्ञ"

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Meeting Date: 25/7/2019

Minutes of the 156th Meeting of the Fees Regulating Authority (constituted under section 11(2)(3)(4) of the Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation Admissions and Fees) Act, 2015) held on **Thursday, the 25th July 2019 at 11:00 a.m.** 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 M.N. Gilani, (Retd.)	:	Chairperson
2.	Dr. R.S. Mali	:	Member

Item No. 1: To confirm the minutes of the 155th Meeting of the Fees Regulating Authority.

The Minutes of the 155th Meeting dated 27th June, 2019 of the Fees Regulating Authority are confirmed and approved.

Item No. 2: To discuss and finalize the Norms for A.Y. 2020-21.

Deferred.

Item No. 3: To decide in the matter of Balasaheb Thackeray Law College, Taloja, Navi Mumbai.

The College conducts LLB 5 years & LLB 3 years courses. For the AY 2018-19 fees proposal was submitted. This Authority approved following fee structure:

For LLB 5 years Rs. 24,000/-
For LLB 3 years Rs. 25,000/-

On 10/5/2019 the college was visited by the Chairperson, FRA & Shri. Sanjay Panse, Chartered Accountant, Member, FRA. Number of deficiencies were noticed. Attention of the college was drawn to those deficiencies vide show cause notice dated 17/5/2019.

In the fees proposal for the AY 2018-19 balance sheet for the financial year 2016-17 was relied upon. In that there was a figure of Rs. 21,87,184/- towards payment of University and Bar Council fees. During inspection, the Accountant and Principal of the college were asked to produce voucher and justify the above expenditure. Justification was not furnished. Today, before the Authority, Shri. Mustafa Ahmed, Accountant and Shri. Rathod, Principal appeared. According to them the actual expenditure was Rs. 8,91,154/- and not Rs. 21,87,184/-. It is thus admitted that inflated figure of expenditure was shown. Apart from this the principal does not hold required educational qualification and experience. There are no full time core faculties with the pay scale as per UGC norms.

Having considered above aspects, it is justiciable to revisit fee structure approved for AY 2018-19. On recalculating fees come to round about Rs. 19,000/-

Thus the rectified fee structure for the AY 2018-19 shall Rs. 20,000/- for LLB 5 years & Rs. 20,000/- for LLB 3 years. Whatever excess fee collected shall be refunded or adjusted in the next years fees.

It is desired that college should take step to appoint qualified and experienced principal as well as core faculties as per University/UGC norms. Their pay structure should be as prescribed by the UGC. The payment of salary to the teaching and non-teaching staff should strictly be through bank.

Office to carry out necessary corrections in the original minutes and MAHA- DBT portal.

Item No. 4: Any other issue with the permission of the Chair.

(i) In the matter of Lotus Nursing School, Nanded for fixation of fee structure for A.Y. 2019-20.

Lotus Nursing School conducts RANM course. Fees for this course was approved for A.Y. 2017-18. The management opted for the same fees for A.Y. 2018-19. For A.Y. 2019-20 management submitted fee proposal within time. However, on 3/11/22018 communication was received by this office requesting to open the link for carrying out some corrections. Accordingly, link was opened. The management did not make corrections nor confirmed the submission. Therefore, the status of the proposal remained in the category of "non-submission" and therefore, was not examined alongwith other fees proposals of the nursing colleges.

On 18/7/2019 the management enquired about the status of their proposal for A.Y. 2019-20.

In the meeting of the Authority this issue is taken up. Mr. Shrikant R. Bartakke, Tutor appeared for the management. He could not explain as to why the online proposal remained to the confirmed although link was opened as per their request. Since the business of vetting proposals for A.Y. 2019-20 is already over and this Authority is preparing for inviting fees proposal for the next A.Y. i.e. 2020-21, it is necessary to settle the issue without further delay. Therefore, draft print of proposal available on official site is examined.

It is admitted, by Mr. Shrikant Bartakke that salaries of some staff members are paid in cash. As regards hostel facility, it is stated that Warden is employed. In the draft print the salary of Lab Attendant is shown as Rs. 1,80,000/- per annum and salary of warden Rs. 1,46,000/- per annum. However, warden gets Rs. 4,000/- per month and Lab Attendant Rs. 7,000/- per month. This is clarified by Mr. Shrikant Baltakke. It is seen that 2 teaching staff and all non-teaching staff receive their salaries in cash. This is despite the

instructions issued from time to time to discourage any payment in cash. As per norms only 50% of such expenditure made in cash will be considered. It is explained that the hostel is not compulsory. It is unbelievable that students are not charged separately for availing hostel facility. Therefore, expenditure towards salary of warden is not considered. There are other discrepancies between data in the online fee proposal and figures in the hard copy (brought by Mr. Shrikant). In the totality of facts and circumstances and ignoring minor deficiencies fee structure for A.Y. 2019-20 shall be Rs. 50,000/-.

(ii) <u>In the matter of collection of extra fees by Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's Shri Bhagubhai Mafatlal Polytechnic, Vile Parel, Mumbai.</u>

Read office note 23/7/2019. This is regarding collection of fees from the students admitted to polytechnic course in the A.Y. 2017-18 and 2018-19.

On the basis of the fees proposal submitted by the college, fees for A.Y. 2017-18 and 2018-19 was approved at Rs. 1,15,000/- and Rs. 1,24,500/- respectively. The decision about fees proposal for A.Y. 2017-18 was taken on 16/2/2017. Regarding fees for A.Y. 2018-19 decision was on taken on 27/12/2017. Thus in both the cases, well before admission started, fee structure was approved.

Grievance of the students is that at the time of admission for the A.Y. 2017-18, the college quoted fees of Rs. 43,000/-. Accordingly, they paid the fees and obtained receipts. As late as on 9/5/2019 the college displayed notice quoting fees for A.Y. 2017-18 and 2018-19 as decided by this Authority. Obviously, this is shocking to the students and therefore, they approached this Authority and the Director, Technical Education. Prima-facie, not disclosing fee structure at the time of admission and prompting students to get admission by paying lower amount of fees and deliberately concealing the fees approved by this Authority, is unfair. Therefore, it appears that students have grounds to raise grievance. Dr. R. S. Mali, Member, Fees Regulating Authority had a dialogue with

Mr. Vanvari, Principal and apprised him with the relevant facts appearing in the record. Statements of the students have been recorded.

In the next meeting, the management be requested to appear and explain their stand. Copy of this resolution be forwarded to Joint Director, Technical Education with reference to his letter dated 19/7/2019.

(iii) <u>In the matter of merger of G H Raisoni Institute of Engineering & Management Jalgaon (EN5105) to G.H. Raisoni Institute of Business Management Jalgaon (MB 5152) from A.Y. 2019-20.</u>

Read office note.

Decision dated 27/6/2019 is stayed still further orders.

(iv) <u>In the matter of approval of fees for the F.Y. 2017-18 and 2018-19 by Y.M.T. College of Physiotherapy, Navi Mumbai.</u>

Read letter received from Y.M.T. College of Physiotherapy dated 16/7/2019.

It appears that no review application was filed against decision of approving adhoc fee structure for A.Y. 2017-18 and 2018-19. Review was only sought relating to fee structure for A.Y. 2019-20.

Management to appear before the Authority to put up their case.

Date: 25th July 2019
Place : Mumbai

CHAIRPERSON
FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY