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16.10.06

505

# COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



## MINUTES OF THE 505<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE SYNDICATE HELD ON 24-06-2006

Place of meeting : Syndicate Hall  
University Administrative Office

Time : 10.30 a.m.

### Members present:

1. Prof.(Dr.)P.K.Abdul Azis,  
Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair)
2. Dr.N.D.Inasu,  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
3. Sri.R.S.Sasikumar
4. Prof.B.Suseelan
5. Sri.K.A.Zakkariya
6. Sri.Lopus Mathew
7. Dr.K.N.Chandrasekharan Pillai
8. Dr.P.Sudarsanan Pillai
9. Prof.V.Unnikrishnan Nayar

### Also Present :

Dr.A.Ramachandran  
Registrar.

### Special Items brought forward by the Vice-Chancellor :

- 1.\* Fraud committed by Ms.T.Sreelakshmi in attending B.Tech Electronics and Communication classes and her subsequent registration for 1<sup>st</sup> year examination.

The Vice-Chancellor presented a detailed report on the unauthorized presence of Ms. T.Sreelakshmi in the I year class of B.Tech (Electronics and Communication Engineering) at the School of Engineering of CUSAT and her illegal registration for the I year examination held in June 2006 (Annexure - 1).

The Syndicate accepted the report and resolved as follows :

1. Ratified the suspension of Dr.Rajan P. Nambiar, Principal, School of Engineering and Smt. C.V. Sreedevi Antharjanam, Assistant Registrar, School of Engineering.

2. Noted the suspension of the following other employees :

1. Sri. L. Johnson, Section Officer, School of Engineering.
2. Smt. V. Shehla, Section Officer, Examination P Section.
3. Smt. P.R. Jayalakshmi, Assistant Gr.II, School of Engineering.
4. Sri. B.K. Bijoy, Assistant Gr.II, Examination P Section.
5. Sri.M.K. Venugopal, Security Guard.

3. Dr.Gopikakumari, Head, Division of Electronics and Communication be asked to explain the circumstances under which she had permitted Ms. T.Sreelakshmi to attend first and second semester B.Tech Electronics and Communication classes during 2005-06 without proper admission in this University.

4. To refer the replies to the memo of charges received from the suspended officers to the Sub Committee which enquired this matter.

5. Authorised the Vice-Chancellor to take appropriate decision based on the recommendations of the Sub Committee.

6. The Non-Teaching Staff presently working in the School of Engineering be transferred.

7. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor is authorized to assess the work load in School of Engineering office and submit the report to the Vice-Chancellor to taking necessary steps to engage additional staff, if required and the Vice-Chancellor is authorized to engage additional staff on daily wage basis meeting the expenditure from the fund generated from self financing stream.

8. The existing practice of engaging persons as Assistants on daily wage basis from outside be dispensed with and the vacancies of Assistants be filled up by taking persons from the existing approved Rank List of Assistant Gr.II. If the rank list is exhausted temporary appointments be made from the list called from the Employment Exchange. The Daily Wage engagements be made only in unimportant seats shifting the regular employees to vital and important seats. The controlling officer will be responsible for the duties performed by temporary hands.

9. Representatives of Cochin University Employees Association and Cochin University Employees Union be invited for a discussion to maintain cordial atmosphere in the University.

(Ad.)

2. MHRD Vision Plan for the upgradation of CUSAT to the level of IIT – Fast Track Mechanism.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that he has received a draft proposal for a fast track procedure for implementing the various proposal for upgrading CUSAT to the level of IIT's.

The Syndicate noted the proposal presented by the Vice-Chancellor and resolved that a combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Works and Finance & Purchase be convened at 10.30 a.m. on 30.06.2006 to examine the proposed Fast Track Procedure for implementing the MHRD Vision

Plan for upgradation of CUSAT to the level of IIT. The Dy. Director of Local Fund Audit be also invited for the meeting.

(PL)

3. Establishment of the Department of Aeronautical Engineering in CUSAT.

Vice-Chancellor reported that a detailed Project Proposal would be presented by the Consultant at 12 noon on 03.07.2006.

Item No.505.01 Confirmation of the minutes of the 504<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Syndicate held on 27.05.2006.

The Syndicate considered the draft minutes of the 504<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Syndicate held on 27.05.2006 and approved the same with the following emendations :

1. In Item No.4 of Special Items brought forward by the Vice-Chancellor insert the word 'from' between the words 'applications' and 'across', in the first paragraph.
2. Delete the words 'and decided to re-accredit the University' from the second paragraph of Item No.11 of the Special Items brought forward by the Vice-Chancellor.
3. In Item No.14 of Special Items brought forward by the Vice-Chancellor -
  - (i) delete the words 'has been commenced and' from sub item 2.
  - (ii) Put a bracket at the end of sub item (3) of item 3.

Item No.505.02 Recognition as Research Guide under the Faculties of Environmental Studies and Science – Dr.M.Sivaram, Scientist-B, KFRI, Peechi – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters on the request of Dr.M.Sivaram, Scientist-B, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi for recognition as Research Guide under the Faculties of Environmental Studies and Science of the University.

Resolved that Dr.M.Sivaram, Scientist-B, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi be recognized as a Research Guide of this University under the Faculty of Environmental Studies.

(Ac.B)

Item No.505.03 Issue of effecting date of higher qualification for considering it for Career Advancement – Reconsideration by the Syndicate – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment, Finance & Purchase and Academic Matters.

Resolved that detailed clarification be sought from AICTE.

(Ad.F)

**Item No.505.04** Strengthening Astronomy and enhancing interaction with Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) – Proposal for instituting an Adjunct Faculty in the University – Consideration of.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment, Finance & Purchase and Academic Matters.

Resolved that the item be deferred as recommended by the Standing Committees. Decided to place it in the next meeting.

(PL.UGC)

**Item No.505.05** Setting up a Tsunami Cell in the School of Marine Sciences – Reg.

Considering the request from the Director, School of Marine Sciences, sanction was accorded by the Vice-Chancellor, subject to reporting to the Syndicate, to set up a "Tsunami Cell" in the School of Marine Sciences with Dr.K.T.Damodaran as the Chief Co-ordinator and Dr.R.Sajeev, Reader, Department of Physical Oceanography as the Co-Co-ordinator and also to draw an amount of Rs.1,00,000/- to start the works of the Cell from the head of account '2-45-0-Q-3-289 other activities (Tsunami Cell)' provided in the budget of the University for the year 2006-07.

The Syndicate ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor and resolved that the Co-ordinator be entrusted to prepare and submit the project to the Department of Ocean Development.

PL(UGC)

**Item No.505.06** Enhancement of Corpus amount of the endowment instituted in the University – Reconsideration – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters on the earlier resolution of the Syndicate (vide item 486.23) regarding enhancement of corpus amount of the Endowments instituted in the University and resolved the following :

- (i) the decision to raise the minimum deposit of Rs.1 lakh for instituting an Endowment in the University be made applicable only for new proposals.
- (ii) in the case of endowments already existing in the University, the award be restricted to a certificate and medal, if the amount to be distributed is less than Rs.1000/-.
- (iii) All these awards should be given at a common function annually.

(Ac.B)

**Item No.505.07** Employment under the Scheme for the compassionate employment of the dependents of government Servants Dying-in-harness – Contemplated G.O.(P)/12/99/P&ARD dtd. 24.5.99 offer of Employment in the University – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the Recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment and Finance & Purchase and resolved the following :

- (i) to consider the case of Sri.V.V.Rahul, S/o late V.C.Vijayan, Electrician, for appointment under the dying in harness scheme.
- (ii) Following the precedents, a supernumerary post of Clerical Assistant be created, without affecting those who wait for promotion, and appoint Sri.V.V.Rahul in the created post after obtaining clearance from Statutory Finance Committee.
- (iii) In future no appointments in this category be made against Government Rules.

(Ad.A)

**Item No.505.08** Establishment - Inter University Transferred employees in the University – Audit objections on the fixation and the applications of Rule 28(A) on fixation – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance & Purchase and Staff & Establishment the matter of Audit objections on the fixation of pay and the application of Rule 28(A) on fixation of pay.

The Syndicate approved the recommendations of the Standing Committees and resolved the following :-

- (i) a suitable reply be given to the Dy. Director, Local Fund Audit regarding the initial pay fixation given to Inter-University transferees as envisaged in the Statutes enclosing a copy of the State Government letter dated 04.05.06.
- (ii) As regards the issue of Rule 28A fixation benefit, pay be re-fixed for all inter-University transferees by excluding the benefit of Rule 28A fixation and on the basis of Rule 37A.
- (iii) The excess pay and allowances drawn till the date of the Syndicate decision (ie) 24.06.2006, need not be recovered.
- (iv) A reply be given to the Government in response to their letter No.33861/B4/2005/TI.Edn. dated 04.05.2006.

(Ad.G)

Item No.505.09 Sri. Sabu P.U., Sr. Grade Assistant and Sri. Edmond John, Sr. Gr. Assistant – Habitual absence unauthorisedly – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment.

The Syndicate approved the recommendation of the Standing Committee and resolved the following :

- (i) to censure Sri. Sabu P.U., Sr. Grade Assistant.
- (ii) The University Librarian be asked to explain why she had regularized the absence of Sri. Edmond John, Sr. Gr. Assistant, even after reporting the matter to the Registrar.

(Ad.A)

Item No.505.10 School of Engineering - Funds – Investment and Re-investment – Action of the Vice-Chancellor – Reporting of.

The Syndicate ratified the action of the Vice-Chancellor giving sanction, subject to reporting the matter to the Syndicate, for the investments and reinvestments mentioned in Annexure – II.

(Cash)

Item No.505.11 Fixation of fee structure in respect of University Standing Counsel and the Panel of Advocates – Date from which the rates are effective – Reported – Reg.

The Syndicate approved the action of the Vice-Chancellor in fixing the date of effect as 01.01.2006 for the fee structure implemented in respect of the University Standing Counsel and the Panel of Advocates as approved in the meeting of the Syndicate held on 08.05.2006.

(L.A.)

Item No.505.12 Banning of the usage of educational institutions and premises for non-educational purposes – High Court Order – Implementation – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academic Matters and Finance & Purchase.

Resolved to wait for the Orders of the Government in this regard.

(GA & EL)

Item No.505.13 Incidents of damages to University property as well as private vehicles by a section of students pursuant to the declaration of results of election to various Legislative Assembly constituencies on 11.05.2006 – Reported – Reg.

The Syndicate noted the matter.

Item No.505.14 Payment of telephone charges to Heads of Departments and Deans of Faculties – Clarification – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the matter along with the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance & Purchase.

The Syndicate resolved the following :

"It is clarified that the ceiling is a maximum call charges of Rs.1000/- in addition to the actual rent or the actual bill amount whichever is less."

(GA & EL)

Item No.505.15\* Ph.D thesis entitled "NONPARAMETRIC ESTIMATION OF SURVIVOR FUNCTION IN BIVARIATE COMPETING RISK MODELS" Submitted by Smt. Ansa Alphonsa Antony – Evaluation report and Minutes of Viva-Voce Examinations – Consideration of.

The Syndicate considered the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters along with the reports of the Board of Examiners and the Minutes of the Viva Voce Examination in respect of the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt. Ansa Alphonsa Antony, a full-time Research Student who worked in the Department of Statistics, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi - 22 under the guidance of Dr.P.G.Sankaran, Sr. Lecturer, Department of Statistics, CUSAT.

Resolved that Smt. Ansa Alphonsa Antony be declared eligible for the award of degree of Doctor of Philosophy under the Faculty of Science for her thesis entitled, "NONPARAMETRIC ESTIMATION OF SURVIVOR FUNCTION IN BIVARIATE COMPETING RISK MODELS".

(Exam.A)

Item No.505.16 University Teacher – Dr.I.S.Bright Singh, Reader, School of Environmental Studies, Career Advancement Scheme of UGC – Promotion from Reader to Professor – Recommendation of the Selection Committee – Consideration of – reg.

The Syndicate considered the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academic Matters, Staff & Establishment and Finance & Purchase, the recommendation of the Selection Committee and approval of the UGC on the request of Dr.I.S.Bright Singh, Reader, School of Environmental Studies for promotion as Professor under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme.

Resolved that Dr.I.S.Bright Singh, Reader, School of Environmental Studies be promoted as Professor in the scale of pay of Rs.16400-450-20900-500-22400 under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme with effect from 09.11.2004.

It is recommended that the matter be placed before the Academic Council for "up gradation of the Reader post as Professor in the scale of pay of Rs.16400-450-20900-500-22400 with effect from 09.11.2004 so as to promote the teacher as Professor with effect from 09.11.2004 under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme".

(Ad.D)

**Item No.505.17** University Teacher – Dr.S.Rajendran, Reader, Department of Marine Geology & Geophysics, Career Advancement Scheme of UGC – Promotion from Reader to Professor – Recommendation of the Selection Committee – Consideration of – reg.

The Syndicate considered the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academic Matters, Staff & Establishment and Finance & Purchase, the recommendation of the Selection Committee and approval of the UGC on the request of Dr.S.Rajendran, Reader, Department of Marine Geology & Geophysics for promotion as Professor under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme.

Resolved that Dr.S.Rajendran, Reader, Department of Marine Geology & Geophysics be promoted as Professor in the scale of pay of Rs.16400-450-20900-500-22400 with effect from 08.11.2003 under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme.

It is recommended that the matter be placed before the Academic Council for "up gradation of the Reader post as Professor in the scale of pay of Rs.16400-450-20900-500-22400 with effect from 08.11.2003 so as to promote the teacher as Professor with effect from 08.11.2003 under the Career Advancement of UGC Scheme."

(Ad.D)

**Item No.505.18** Recognition as Research Guides – Faculty of Technology – Application of Dr.M.Jayakannan and Dr. Asha S.K., Scientists, RRI, Thiruvananthapuram – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters on the request of Dr.M.Jayakannan and Dr.Asha S.K., Scientists, Regional Research Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram for recognition as Research Guides under the Faculties of Technology of the University.

Resolved that Dr.M.Jayakannan and Dr. Asha S.K., Scientists, Regional Research Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram be recognized as Research Guides of this University under the Faculty of Technology.

(Ac.B)

**Item No.505.19** Proposal for creation of posts of Hostel Managers -

The Syndicate considered the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment and Finance & Purchase on the proposal of creation of posts of Hostel Managers.

Resolved to create four posts of Hostel Managers and initiate steps to obtain concurrence from Government. The urgency and necessity of the same may be informed to the Government. The qualification for the post and scale of pay shall be similar to that of Matron in the University.

(Ad.G)

**Item No.505.20** Discontinuance of special allowance to Planning and Development Officer – Syndicate decision – reg.

The Principal Secretary, Higher Education (B) Department vide his letter dated 03.06.2005 has directed the University to restrict the special allowance being paid in the University only to the staff as given in the appendix of the letter. On the basis of the letter the Syndicate at its meeting held on 26.11.2005 decided to discontinue the special allowance being paid to certain categories of employees and the Planning and Development Officer. In the University Order communicating the Syndicate decision regarding discontinuance of special allowance to certain categories the name of Planning and Development Officer was excluded.

The Syndicate considered the matter and resolved that the Planning and Development Officer is not eligible to get Special Pay in the light of the Government Letter dated 03.06.2005.

(Ad.G)

**Item No.505.21** Statement of completed and ongoing works – reg.

Syndicate noted the progress of the ongoing works.

**Item No.505.22** Construction of IV<sup>th</sup> floor over SES block I.

The Syndicate considered the estimate of Rs.1,05,60,000/- (at 2004 PWD schedule of rates) for the work 'Construction of IV<sup>th</sup> floor over SES Block I' including provision for civil works, water supply, sanitary works and lift room and resolved to approve the estimate.

(Engg.)

**Item No.505.23** Engagement of an Architectural Consultancy Firm – Constitution of a Sub Committee – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the constitution of a Sub Committee to study the matter of engagement of an Architectural Consultancy Firm and decided to constitute a Sub Committee.

**Item No.505.24** Construction of a Fire Engineering Lab for Safety and Fire Engineering Department.

The Item be referred to the Works Committee and place it at the next meeting of the Syndicate with the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

**Item No.505.25 Construction of I<sup>st</sup> floor for CELOS over the existing building for International School of Photonics – Estimate – Reg.**

The Syndicate considered the preliminary estimate submitted by Central Public Works Department (CPWD) amounting to Rs.87,03,390/- (work out lay Rs.81,72,200/- + Departmental charges Rs.5,31,190/-) for the construction of I<sup>st</sup> floor for CELOS, over the existing building for International School of Photonics.

The Syndicate approved the preliminary estimate submitted by Central Public Works Department (CPWD) amounting to Rs.81,72,200/- (work outlay) for the construction of I<sup>st</sup> floor for CELOS, over the existing building for International School of Photonics.

It is further resolved that as the construction is financed by UGC, Departmental Charges need not be paid.

(PI.)

**Item No.505.26\* Common Admission Test – charging fees for using CUSAT Rank List and counselling facilities by recognized colleges – reg.**

Considering the huge expenditure incurred by the University for the conduct of CAT every year the Syndicate resolved that an amount of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) be charged from M/s. K.V.M. College of Engineering and Information Technology, Cherthala and ER & DCI Institute of Technology, Thiruvananthapuram for using the CUSAT Rank List and counselling facilities for their admission.

(IRAA)

**Item No.505.27\* Establishment – Implementation of the Eighth Pay Revision to the Non-Teaching staff of the University as directed by the State (G.O.(P)No.62/2006/II.Edn dated 12.06.2006) – Consideration of – regarding.**

The Syndicate considered the item and resolved to convene a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment and Finance & Purchase with the representatives of the Service Organisations of non-teaching staff of the University at 2.30 p.m. on 30.06.2006 to discuss the issues relating to the implementation of the Eighth Pay Revision to the Non-Teaching Staff of the University as directed by the State Government.

(Ad.A)

**Item No.505.28 B.Tech Degree Courses – Eligibility for Admission – Change in criteria – Consideration of – Reg.**

The Syndicate considered the fact that Government of Kerala has fixed the eligibility criteria in the Entrance Examination conducted by it for admission to B.Tech Degree courses as a pass in Plus Two Examination with Physics and Mathematics compulsory along with any one of Chemistry/Biotechnology/Computer Science/Biology. Therefore admission to the recognized institutions of the University will be on these criteria. Therefore the Syndicate resolved that

1. The eligibility for registration in B.Tech Degree Examination be fixed as a pass in Plus Two Examination conducted by Government of Kerala or its equivalent.
2. For admission to the B.Tech Degree courses under School of Engineering, Cochin-22 and Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad and for other B.Tech courses in Marine Engineering, Polymer Science and Rubber Technology, Instrumentation and Naval Architecture & Ship Building in CUSAT the present eligibility criteria applicable to the respective courses will continue.
3. The Regulation for B.Tech Degree Examination be altered accordingly. Matter may be placed without delay before Board of Studies, Faculty and Academic Council for a decision on the matter.
4. The above eligibility criteria will be in force from the academic year 2006-07.

(Ac.A)

**Items Outside the Agenda :**

- 1.\* Report of the Enquiry Officer on the alleged malpractice - B.Tech III Semester Examination, November 2005.

The Enquiry Officer, who investigated the alleged malpractice of a B.Tech III semester student submitted a recommendation stating that the malpractice was not at all established and that the student "should not be punished".

The Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examination Matters in its report stated that the student had indeed used two equations that were found written on the calculator seized from him.

The Syndicate considered the observation made in the Standing Committee recommendation "that the Enquiry Officer has not discharged his duties fully" and examined the answer book and the calculator.

The Syndicate noted a laxity on the part of the Enquiry Officer and resolved that memo be issued asking him to offer reasons for reporting that "the malpractice is not at all established and the student should not be punished" recommending to drop the action and not to punish the student.

(Exam)

2. Nomination of teachers under QIP – reg.

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 24.6.2006 considered the matter of deputation of teachers under Quality Improvement Programme for higher studies and resolved that eleven (11) teachers who have already completed their pre-registration programme under QIP Scheme be deputed for their Ph.D. programme for the year 2006-07 on the ground that in the event of non-receipt of the grant from MHRD for the aforesaid purpose the teachers should refund the amount drawn for the purpose immediately and they have to find their own means to continue the study. If MHRD fund is not available for this purpose their absence



will be treated as I.W.A. from their date of relief. A bond to this effect have to be executed before they get relieved from the University.

3. B.Tech IV Semester, May 2005 - EEE - Award of sessional marks - correction requested - reg.

Controller of Examination is directed to put up a detailed note on the correction of sessional marks as per the Standing Committee Report.

4. Recommendation of the Standing Committee on re-designation and change of requisite qualification for appointment to the post of Typist/Stenographer - Consideration - reg.

Considering the protest from the service organizations against the decision taken by the Syndicate at its meeting held on 08.05.2006 (item No. 502.44) the Vice-Chancellor ordered to convene a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment with the representatives of the non-teaching staff organizations for solving the grievances of the employees regarding re-designation and change of qualification of the post of Typist/Stenographer.

Noted.

  
REGISTRAR

Unauthorized presence of Ms.T.Sreelakshmi in the 1 year B.Tech. Electronics and Communication Engineering at School of Engineering and illegal registration for examinations, during 2005-06.

09.06.2006

The case of fraudulent admission secured by Ms.T.Sreelakshmi has come to the notice of Dr.K.Sajan, Director of the IRAA Unit in the University on June 9, 2006. Immediately, instructions were given to the Director for a thorough enquiry. The matter was reviewed in the evening.

12.06.2006

Mr.Sebastian Cuseph, Registrar-in-charge was directed to inspect the records and seize them for safe custody. In the evening the matter was reviewed in the presence of the Director, IRAA. The Controller of Examinations was asked to seize the documents connected with the Hall Ticket issued to Ms.T.Sreelakshmi under which she is writing the first year examination.

13.06.2006

Dr. A.Ramachandran, Registrar has taken charge of the investigation with a directive to speedily conduct the enquiry within the shortest time possible. The matter was reviewed in the afternoon. The enquiry has brought out the following facts so far.

1. The IRAA Unit had sent the final admission list for the year 2005 together with all certificate including qualifying degree certificate of all the candidates admitted in 2005 to the Principal, School of Engineering, Thrikkakara with a direction to bring to the attention of the University any discrepancy that they might notice during verification. The principal did not respond.
2. To facilitate Branch/Campus transfer after Second Semester examination, the Principals were asked to report vacancy position of B.Tech, for the year 2005. The vacancy position reported by the Principals were found to be at variance with the IRAA records. While comparing the records, the IRAA Unit detected the name of Ms.T.Sreelakshmi, whose name was not listed in the rank list of CUSAT admissions 2005, as studying in the B.Tech.Electronics and Communication branch at School of Engineering. Her name could not be traced in any of the IRAA Unit records as a student admitted for any course in the University.
3. The IRAA further cross checked the following:
  - (i) The B.Tech.2005 rank list.
  - (ii) The consolidated B.Tech.admission list.
  - (iii) Records of fee collection
4. The name of the above student could not be seen in any of these records. The Principal, School of Engineering and the Head of the Division of Electronics Engineering have not asked the candidate to produce proof of admission such as original fee receipt (called IRAA Chit) as well as original qualifying certificate on the +2 examination.
5. It was seen that at the time of her registration for the first year examination, she has not submitted her original certificate for verification and nobody seemed to have asked and insisted for it.
6. On 12<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 2.00 p.m. Ms.T.Sreelakshmi together with her mother Smt.Vijaya visited the IRAA Unit and submitted a fee receipt indicating her name. On close scrutiny it was found that the same was a fake one. She seemed to have taken the receipt from another candidate by name Ms.T.Aiyawarya. The fee receipt

normally a computer generated one has been corrected by erasing the name of Ms. T. Aiyaswarya and inserting the name of Ms. T. Sreelakshmi. The rank number was also seen changed from 888 in the original to 288 in the corrected one.

**14.6.2006**  
**Action taken**

As part of the investigation, Ms. T. Sreelakshmi, her mother, her father and other persons associated with the admission were summoned to the University for taking statement. Enquiry is progressing in full swing. The Vice-Chancellor personally verified the file relating to the issue of hall ticket to Ms. T. Sreelakshmi. Mr. B. K. Bijoy, the Assistant who dealt the file and Smt. V. Shiehla, Section Officer were called for discussion. It is seen that the concerned officers have not verified the qualifying certificate of Ms. T. Sreelakshmi. They have also not verified the admission number which should be essentially entered in the S.B.T. Challan form. The application for examination shows that the Principal of School of Engineering has given a false statement saying that all the entries made by the candidate were verified and found to be agreeable with those in the records of the institution. In fact no verification was done at the School of Engineering.

- (i) In the light of the grossly criminal act committed by Ms. T. Sreelakshmi, B.Tech. first year student at School of Engineering she is put under suspension forthwith pending detailed enquiry.
- (ii) The Registrar has been directed to collect details about the following:
  1. Lapses occurred in the admission.
  2. Lapse occurred in forwarding the application for registration for B.Tech. first year examination 2006.
  3. Lapses that resulted in the issue of Hall Ticket to Ms. T. Sreelakshmi without verifying the qualifying certificate.
- (iii) IRAA Director has been directed to review the steps involved in the admission of students and submit a totally fool proof procedure covering the entire cycle from admissions to examinations including publication of results for submission to the Syndicate.
- (iv) IRAA Director has been directed to complete a verification of all admissions during the last five years in all the Departments and report the position.

**15.6.2006**

The Registrar continued the enquiry by taking statements from persons involved in this incident. The status of enquiry was reviewed in the evening and he has reported that no clue has been found regarding the exact manner in which the student was able to get into the class and continue for one year.

The Registrar has mentioned about the role of one Mr. Mathew cited by Ms. T. Sreelakshmi as having helped in arranging the admission. He has also mentioned that as per the girl's statement, it was one Mr. Venu who took her to the particular class on a day when Smt. Dhanya was taking the class. The Registrar has called Mr. Mathew and Smt. Dhanya to meet him tomorrow.

Considering the complexity of the matter, the Vice-Chancellor has appointed the following Syndicate Sub-Committee to conduct a detailed investigation.

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. Prof. Lopus Mathew<br>Member, Syndicate   | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. P. S. John<br>Member, Syndicate       | Member   |
| 3. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar<br>Member, Syndicate | Member   |

The Chairman of the Committee has been asked to submit its report within 10 days.

**16.06.2006**

10.15 a.m. Reminded Registrar of the Report.

Registrar submitted his report by 12.00 noon. As the Committee Members had already assembled to start their enquiry, this report was immediately referred to the Committee.

At 6.00 p.m. the committee chairman reported their work is not completed and would continue tomorrow.

**Follow-up Actions**

1. Report of the Registrar dated 16.6.2006 (Appendix I)
2. Report of the Enquiry Committee dated 17.6.2006 (Appendix II)
3. Report of Enquiry Committee dated 19.6.2006 (Appendix III)

The Vice-Chancellor has appointed a committee to make a "Reality Check on Admissions" on 19.6.2006 (Appendix IV)

Based on the revelation of a fraud in admissions in the Department of Instrumentation, the terms of reference of the committee has been expanded to include similar cases (vide Note dated June 19, 2006) (Appendix V).

As recommended by the report at 2 above (Appendix II), the following officers, who were found prima facie responsible for the grave lapses were suspended from service with effect from 17.6.2006 AN.

1. Principal, School of Engineering
2. Smt. C. V Antharjanam, Asst. Registrar, School of Engineering
3. Sri. I. Johnson, Section Officer, Exam - P - Section
4. Smt. V. Shiehla, Section Officer, Exam - P - Section
5. Smt. Jayalakshmi, Asst. Grade II, School of Engineering
6. Sri. B. K. Benoy, Assistant, Exam - P - Section
7. Sri. M. K. Venugopal, Security Guard

Based on the report at 3 above (Appendix III), the issue was referred to Police for detailed enquiry and subsequent actions.

Cochin University Employees Union and Cochin University Employees Association struck work on 19.6.2006 demanding that suspension be revoked. Cochin University Employees Union is still continuing agitational measures without striking work as per reports received. These Organisations demanded reinstatement of the suspended employees but this was not agreed to.



## Annexure - II

The following investments and reinvestments have been made from the School of Engineering Funds as per the orders of the Vice Chancellor, subject to reporting the matter to the Syndicate.

Sl.No.	Principal Amount(Rs.)	Period of Investment	Account No.	Interest Rate	Place of Deposit	Remarks
1.	3,56,44,851	3.4.05 to 3.4.08	4013	6%	SBT, Cochin Uty. Branch	Re-investment
2.	4,00,00,000	23.6.05 to 23.6.10	30008474742	6.25%	SBI, Palarivattom	-
3.	1,00,00,000	9.10.05 to 9.10.10	30022173918	6.25%	SBI, Palarivattom	Re-investment Rounded off the Prin. Amt. by adding Rs. 4,00,350
4.	4,00,00,000	11.11.05 to 11.11.10	67004271390	6.50%	SBT, Cochin Uty. Branch	Re-investment Rounded off the Prin. Amt. by adding 24,99,775/-
5.	2,00,00,000	27.3.06 to 27.3.09	30043374814	6.75%	SBI, Palarivattom	Re-investment Rounded off the Prin. Amt. by adding Rs. 19,32,758/-
6.	2,00,00,000	27.3.06 to 27.3.09	30043374417	6.75%	SBI, Palarivattom	-
7.	2,00,00,000	27.3.06 to 27.3.09	30043375251	6.75%	SBI, Palarivattom	-
8.	1,90,00,000	2.4.06 to 2.4.09	67010566192	7.50%	SBT, Cochin Uty Branch	Re-investment Rounded off the Prin. Amount by adding Rs. 7,98,886
9.	3,00,00,000	11.5.06 to 11.5.09	67011863763	7.50%	SBT, Cochin Uty Branch	-
10.	1,00,00,000	11.5.06 to 11.5.09	67011856213	7.50%	SBT, Cochin Uty Branch	-

## APPENDIX - I

Interim Report of the Enquiry conducted in connection with the admission of Kum. Sreelakshmi. T. to B.Tech. Electronics and Communication Engineering Course (2005 admission)

This report is a continuation of the preliminary enquiry conducted by the Finance Officer, who was in charge of Registrar on 12th June 2006.

The following persons were summoned as part of the enquiry:

1. Dr. Sreejith, Reader, Principal in charge
2. Dr. Gopikakumari, Reader and Head, Division of Electronics and Communication Engineering, School of Engineering.
3. Dr. Mridula, Lecturer and Class in Charge, Division of Electronics and Communication Engineering, School of Engineering.
4. Mrs. Binu Paul, Lecturer and Class in Charge, Division of Electronics and Communication Engineering, School of Engineering.
5. Smt. Dhanya T., Lecturer in Physics, School of Engineering
6. Kum. Sreelakshmi T., the Student
7. Smt. Vijayam, Mother of Sreelakshmi. T
8. Sri. Govindan Umni, Father of Sreelakshmi. T
9. Smt. Syamala, Assistant, School of Engineering handling the Admission and Examination matters.
10. Smt. Jayalakshmi, Assistant Gr. II handling the admission, examination matter and maintaining the Registers.
11. Sri. K.D. Vijayan, Section Officer, School of Engineering
12. Sri. L. Johnson, Section Officer, School of Engineering
13. Sri. M.L. Varghese, Security Guard
14. Sri. Radhakrishnan K.T, Section Officer, IRAA Unit
15. Kum. Aiswarya P, Room mate and class mate of Sreelakshmi. T
16. Smt. Geetha Suresh, Matron of the Hostel
17. Smt. Sheikha V, Section Officer, Examination P. Section
18. Mr. Benoy, Assistant Gr. II, Examination P Section
19. Friend of Sreelakshmi. T.

The following documents were also verified

1. List of Rank wise and Course wise admitted candidates (2005) as on 19.10.2005 forwarded by IRAA vide Letter No. IRAA/174-CAT/2005 dated 20.10.2005.
2. Rank wise list of admitted candidates (2005) as on 4.11.2005 forwarded by IRAA vide letter No. IRAA/174-CAT/2005 dated 7.11.2005.
3. B.Tech Admission list (2005) course wise/category wise/Rank wise as on 14.11.2005 along with CD forwarded by IRAA vide letter No. IRAA/174-CAT/2005 dated 19.11.2005.
4. Letter with list of candidates (all course) forwarding certificates of admitted candidates as on 19.10.2005 vide Letter No. IRAA/174-CAT/2005 dated 2.2.2006.
5. B.Tech admission list 2005 Course wise/Name wise (no forwarding letter)
6. Proforma for personal details of B.Tech students (2005 admission) in respect of Kum. Aiswarya P, duly filled up with supporting documents.
7. Admission Register 2005 for B.Tech (Electronics and communication Engineering Branch)
8. Students index card in respect of Sreelakshmi. T
9. Attendance and work registers maintained by some of the teaching faculty (8 Nos.)
10. Higher Secondary Examination (Class XII) mark list, Government of Kerala in original.
11. Application for registration as a matriculate duly filled up by Kum. Sreelakshmi. T
12. Proforma for personal details of B.Tech Students (2005) duly filled up by Kum. Sreelakshmi. T

13. Annexure XIII – Centralised Allotment Process 2005 – request for cancellation of higher options (Kerala Entrance) partially filled up by Kum.Sreelakshmi.T along with counter foil.
14. Qualifying Certificates of B.Tech students of Electronics and Communication Engineering 2005 admission forwarded by Principal, SOE vide letter No.SOE/Ai/QC/2005-06 dated 14.6.2006.
15. Application for registration for I & II Semester Examination June 2006 forwarded by Principal vide letter dated 5.5.2006.
16. Fee collection Register (2005 batch)

From the enquiry conducted the following facts are revealed:

1. Sreelakshmi.T had applied for admission in B.Tech through CAT admission test 2005. She had written CAT 2005 test with roll number 21839. The following are the marks secured by her

Physics & Chemistry	-	5 marks
Mathematics	-	4 marks
Net Mark	-	- 1

As the net mark is -1 her name did not appear in the rank list.

2. She was never called for any counseling or admitted to any course in the University.
3. The Admission Register and the Fee Collection Registers of I & 2 Semesters (Combined) for B.Tech. Electronics and Communications maintained in the office of the School of Engineering show only 92 names. Her name does not figure in any of these registers.
4. On examination of the attendance registers maintained by the teachers who handled classes for this batch and based on the revelation of Kum.Sreelakshmi.T it could be concluded that she had first reported in the physics class handled by Smt.Dhanya on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2005. According to her statement she was accompanied by Sri.Venugopal, Security staff of the University who offered assistance to her to secure hostel admission in one of the private hostels on the Pipe Lane Road. Sri.Venugopal also agreed to this statement given by her and said that she and her father first requested him to show IRAA Office to clear some doubts on the Semester fees. According to his statement he took them to IRAA office and showed them Sri.Radhakrishnan, Section Officer who was present there at that time. Sri.Salim, Sl.Gr.Assistant was also there in the Office. On cross verification with Sri.C.Govindan Unni (father of Kum.Sreelakshmi) it was confirmed that they have visited IRAA by around 10.00 – 10.15 a.m. to remit Semester fees. On further enquiry he stated that her daughter had checked with IRAA staff on the payment of the fees to be remitted for her admission by mentioning a roll number. This roll number was verified by the staff looking at a register and said that fee had already been remitted for this roll number. Then according to Mr.Govindan Unni he asked them to again verify the register as he has not paid any fees for her daughter. Then her daughter told him that one "Mathew Sir" (father of Jain Mathew who studied with her in the coaching center run by Mr.P.C.Thomas) would have remitted the fees along with the fees of Jain who also sought admission in CUSAT. According to the story narrated by Mr.Govindan Unni, he went to the IRAA office along with his wife & daughter. Mr.Venugopal who was standing outside the University office helped them to locate IRAA. He also said that he returned from IRAA straight to the hostel. He claims that he never accompanied her to School of Engineering. However, Mr.Venugopal said that he waited outside the IRAA office and after some time Sreelakshmi.T and her father came out saying that the fee problem was solved. According to the story told by Sri.Venugopal after their business in IRAA they requested him to show SOE and he did that by accompanying them in an auto rickshaw which was still waiting outside.

According to Mr.Govindan Unni he believed her daughter and tried to contact Mathew Sir several times to pay back the money, but in vain. For that also he had a reason. He said that her daughter told him that he was out of station on hearing the accident of his son in Pune. Then he remitted Rs.10,000/- in her daughters account in SBT to reimburse the fee to "Mathews Sir". The IRAA staff informed that they could not remember such an enquiry about fee remittance by this father and daughter.

5. According to the statement given by Kum.Sreelakshmi her friend's name is Jain Mathew and her father is Job Mathew. She said that she met Mr.Job Mathew during Kerala Entrance. She also claims that she had a rank of 2806 in the 2005 Kerala Entrance Test (I could not verify this claim. She further said that Jain Mathew also attended Kerala Entrance and joined in M.A.College of Engineering, Kothamangalam. I have deputed Dr.P.Sreejith to enquire about this girl in M.A.College of Engineering. On enquiry with M.A.College it could be seen that there is one student called Jain Rose Minathew in the first year and her father's name is Mathew Paul who is employed in State Bank of India at Thodupuzha. His residential address is Ananickal, Velielchal, Thattakad, Kothamangalam, Ernakulam - 686691 (Ph.0485-2570511). On verification with the personal diary of Kum.Sreelakshmi I could confirm that the friend she was referring to was Jain Rose Mathew of Kothamangalam as this very same address was written in her diary.
6. According to Kum.Sreelakshmi and her father their first visit to CUSAT was some where between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September. According to Sri.Govindan Unni they came to CUSAT to attend the counseling as requested by her daughter. He further stated that his daughter attended the counseling for admission in one room number 22 C or so (he does not clearly remember the room and location) where her friend's father ("Mathew Sir") helped her to get admission. According to his statement he said that her daughter came out after some time stating that she got admission with the help of her friend's father who was also inside the room. However, he said that he does not know him and whatever he says is based on the information given by her daughter. During this visit they met Mr.Venugopal who offered to help them to get hostel for his daughter.
7. Based on the investigation conducted which is not conclusive at this stage I have the following inference:
  - a. The girl might have taken advantage of the loopholes in the admission and examination system and acted very carefully with the advice of someone (May be more than one persons) within the system who knows and has experience in the entire admission and examination procedures. This is evident from the drama they have played by first coming for the counseling at the lag end of the counseling days and then arranging a hostel with the help of a University Staff claiming that she has got admission. The subsequent drama of visiting the IRAA office with the assistance of the same University staff seeking clarification on the fee remittance against a roll number which had already been admitted by the University and the confirmation received from the IRAA officials could be a part of this game. They have also ensured that the University staff accompanied them to the School of Engineering and directly approached the teacher who was attending the class without directly reporting to the Principal or Office or the Course-in-charge. The manipulators who could be very well from inside the University system know the administrative weakness of the School of Engineering. This is the same reason why they have not reported to the Principal or the School of Engineering office where the admission register and the list forwarded from IRAA office would have revealed their ploy. By this time Kum.Sreelakshmi also managed to get a fee receipt remitted by her own classmate and room mate and changed it to her name by removing her classmate's name. This is the initial proof that as student

has joined this particular programme if asked by any teacher. With this she managed to sit in the class till it was noticed while cross checking from vacancies by the IRAA unit. Had the Head of the Department or the other teachers who have handled the classes been careful this ploy could have been noticed in the beginning itself. It was also pertinent to note that she has not submitted her mark list of Higher Secondary in original or in any form to the University while applying for registration for 1<sup>st</sup> year examination. School of Engineering office has not verified her qualifying degree before recommending her name for registration for the 1<sup>st</sup> year examination which is a serious lapse on their part. The mark list was taken into custody by the course-in-charge from her hostel room as a part of the investigation. It is found that the mark list is tampered. Actually the girl is failed in Senior Higher Secondary (+2) examinations with only 18 marks for Mathematics (2004 examination). This was corrected as "Passed" by her.

- b. Based on the enquiry and the information I have received from various quarters I have strong doubt on the role of the Hostel lobby operating in the University (Both University staff and outsiders). It is learned that the representatives of this "Hostel Mafia" have access to all information pertaining to admissions and vacancies and some of them receive commissions for arranging hostels.
- c. A detailed police enquiry is required to book the culprits.
- d. Administrative and academic restructuring defining the roles and responsibilities of each and every staff and teacher in School of engineering is highly essential.

Kochi - 22  
16.06.2006.

*sd/-*  
REGISTRAR

## Appendix - II

Report of the Enquiry Committee dated 17.06.2006.

The Sub-committee of the Syndicate constituted by the Vice-Chancellor met at the University Office on June 16 and 17, 2006 and conducted investigation into the circumstances under which Ms.T.Sreelakshmi was able to attend B.Tech classes at SOE, for one academic year and write the first year examination being held in June 2006. The committee summoned the persons listed below.

1. Smt.Binu Paul, Lecturer
2. Dr.Mridula, Lecturer
3. Smt.Shyamala, Assistant, SOE
4. Smt.Jayalakshmi, Assistant, SOE
5. Sri.Bijoy, Assistant, Exam-P
6. Smt.Shelha V, Section Officer, Exam-P
7. Sri.Vijayan, Section Officer, SOE
8. Sri.L.Johnson, Section Officer, SOE
9. Principal, SOE
10. Dr.Gopikakumari, Reader
11. Sri.Govindan Unni, F/O Ms.T.Sreelakshmi
12. Smt.Sreedevi Antharjanam, Assistant Registrar, SOE
13. Sri.Radhakrishnan K.T., Section Officer, IRAA
14. Sri.M.K.Venugopal, Security Guard
15. Security Officer

The following inexcusable irregularities and lapses were noted.

Hall Ticket was issued by Exam.P section, although the application for examination did not carry the Qualifying Certificate or its photocopy. The staff in the Exam Section did not verify the certificates nor checked whether Admission Number was entered in the chalan indicating fee remittance.

The Principal's Office at the SOE forwarded the Examination Application form without verifying the certificates and admission register in the SOE Office. The application was not signed by the Principal, but by one of the teachers "for the Head of Division" of Electronics & Communication Engineering. All the application were forwarded to Controller of Examination's Office by the Principal without proper verification.

SOE has not forwarded the qualifying certificates in time to the Examination section. All the recognized institutions under the University are sending the qualifying certificates along with the application for the examination except SOE & CUCEK.

SOE has not verified the final admission list for the year 2005, sent by the IRAA Unit, despite the fact that the IRAA Unit had sent in November 2005 the final admission list for the year 2005 together with all certificates including qualifying degree certificates of all the candidates admitted in 2005 to the Principal, SOE, with a direction to bring to the attention of the University any discrepancy that may come to notice during verification.

### Recommendations

Documents and communications from the IRAA Unit regarding the candidates admitted finally are not timely verified by SOE. Hence a full proof procedure/system in IRAA Unit, SOE and CUCEK and in the conduct of examination and publication of result has to be evolved.

Admission register in SOE, CUCEK and all Departments may immediately be checked and verified with the students presently studying in the University. A report on this may be submitted by the IRAA within 10 days.

The following officers are prima-facie responsible for the grave lapses and hence suspended from service with immediate effect pending enquiry.

1. Principal, SOE
2. Smt.Sreedevi Antharjanam, Assistant Registrar, SOE
3. Sri.I.Johnson, Section Officer, SOE
4. Smt.Sheihla V. Section Officer, Exam -P
5. Smt.Jayalakshmi, Assistant Grade II, SOE
6. Sri. B.K.Bijoy., Assistant, Exam-P
7. Sri.M.K.Venugopal, Security Guard

The involvement of the candidate and the factors leading to the presence of the candidate in B.Tech class without following the normal admission procedures will be provided in the separate detailed report to be submitted to the Syndicate on 24<sup>th</sup> June.

Lopus Mathew (Chairman) sd/-

R.S.Sasikumar sd/-

Dr.P.S.John sd/-

### Appendix - III

Report of the Sub-Committee of the Syndicate dated 19.06.2006.

The Sub-Committee summoned Ms.T.Sreedakshmi today at 11.00 a.m. along with her father Mr.Govindan Unni and mother Smt.Vijayam in the Syndicate Room. The Committee enquired under the circumstances under which she got in touch with the Security Guard, Sri.M.K.Venugopal and along with him she entered the first year class room of the Electronics branch and continued to attend the classes from October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2005 and the context under which she was registered for the 1 & 2 Semester Exams and wrote the Exam. For all the questions she said she alone was responsible for this fraud. The Committee further questioned the father and mother regarding the manner in which their daughter got entry into the class room of the above course and continued to study without being noticed by anyone until she was caught during the verification conducted by the IRAA.

During questioning her father and mother were crying and requested not hand over their daughter to the police for questioning. Since the Committee could not get any evidence from the part of the student and her parents, it is recommended that the case may be referred to the police for detailed investigation and with a feed back to the University.

Kochi-22  
19.06.2006

Sri. Lopus Mathew - sd/-

Sri. R.S. Sasikumar - sd/-

Dr. P.S. John - sd/-

## Appendix - IV

## COMMITTEE ON REALITY CHECK ON ADMISSIONS

The Vice-Chancellor has constituted the following committee to conduct a reality check on all admissions of students studying currently at the SOE and CUCEK under CUSAT.

1. Dr.N.D.Inasu, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)
2. Dr.K.Sajan, Director, IRAA Unit
3. Dr.P.S.Sreejith, Head, Mechanical Engineering Division, SOE

The Principals, SOE and CUCEK are requested to give all support as required by the Chairman of the Committee.

Smt.M.P.Vanaja, Deputy Registrar & PS to PVC and Smt.Sindhu P Menon, Technical Assistant Grade III in charges of System Manager at the Vice-Chancellor's offices are deputed to serve as supporting staff for the smooth working of this committee.

## Terms of reference:

1. Verify the admission list of IRAA Unit, the Admission Registers maintained at the college and the Attendance Registers maintained by the teachers.
2. Verify receipt regarding remittance of admission fee and remittance of examination fees.
3. Verify admission number in all the documents wherever it is required to be stated in the SOE.
4. Verify records in the University examination wing responsible for the issue of hall tickets to students from SOE, CUCEK and the Teaching Departments for writing examination.

The Committee is directed to submit a detailed report within 10 days. Extreme confidentiality should be maintained with respects to facts collected during the investigation.

sd/-  
VICE-CHANCELLOR

## Appendix V

## NOTE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

June 19, 2006

The Sub-Committee of the Syndicate constituted to conduct a thorough investigation into the circumstances under which Ms.T.Sreelakshmi was able to get into B.Tech classes at SOE, continue to attend classes for one academic year and write the first year examination being held in June 2006 with Prof.Lopus Mathew as Chairman is further entrusted with the task of investigating similar instances of fraudulent admissions, examinations etc. If any, brought to its notice.

sd/-  
VICE-CHANCELLOR

## Copy to:

1. Pro-Vice-Chancellor
2. Registrar.