

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on 11-01-2014

The meeting started with a prayer at 2.20 PM in the Institute Auditorium. Dr. S.D Madhu Kumar

Secretary CREC PTA gave the welcome speech. After offering the formal welcome to the gathering, the Secretary mentioned the distinctive features of NITC as being undisturbed by hartals/strikes, convenient access to the laboratories round the clock for the students, committed faculty members, excellent teaching and research environment, good infrastructure etc.

Dr. V.K Govindan, President CREC PTA, in his presidential address, informed the parents that the Institute is taking a step by step approach for overcoming the issues faced by the Institute. Problems related to the student accommodation is expected to be resolved with the completion of construction of the mega hostels. He informed that, taking note of the feedback about lesser content of practical component in the existing curriculum, appropriate modifications are being incorporated in the ongoing curriculum revision. It was pointed out that in the current academic year there was no official complaint of ragging and related problems. It was also mentioned that shortage of regular faculty has been temporarily managed by employment of adequate ad-hoc teachers. Steps taken by the Institute towards purchase of new laboratory equipment, starting of new PG programmes and new MOUs with IITs were also mentioned. President also highlighted the activities of PTA like financial support for paper presentations and other welfare activities for the students. He offered thanks to all the parents for their generous support.

The Secretary presented the minutes of the last AGM held on 12/1/2013 and it was approved by the General Body. The activities report of the PTA during the last year was also presented.

Dr. Arun P, Joint Secretary cum Treasurer, presented the audited financial report for the year 2012-13. This was approved by the General Body. The proposed budget for the financial year 2013-2014 and was approved by the General Body.

Dr. R Vijayakumar, Registrar and Dean Faculty Welfare of the Institute addressed the gathering and mentioned that students and parents should note the huge intake of students which is also a primary factor responsible for some of the issues which the Institute is facing. He also mentioned his regrets for not being able to provide guest house accommodation to all parents who had requested for the same due to limited availability. He suggested that PTA has a vital role to play in the institutional development.

Dr. M L Joy in his address stressed on the importance of the Faculty Advisory system being followed in the institute and noted that there must be a close monitoring of the utilization of free time by the students. He pointed out that we should effectively utilise the facilities of students guidance and counselling cell set up in the campus. He urged the parents not to provide vehicles to the student and requested them to make periodic visit to the hostels and interact with the wardens. With respect to the cultural programs and other club activities, he requested the parents to advise their wards to maintain complete discipline

Dr. S. Jayaraj, Chief Warden in his address reported initiatives from the hostel section. He stated that prompt action is always taken based on the information/complaints received by the hostel section and nothing is kept pending to the extent possible. However he mentioned that it was not the policy of the hostel section to do any sort of policing. He requested the parents to continuously monitor the CGPA of their wards and to be in regular touch with their faculty advisor, HOD and other faculty members engaging the classes. He also requested the parents to regularly visit the campus. He further mentioned the steps taken by the hostel section towards insisting of compulsory availing of mess facilities to all hostel inmates, curtailing unapproved student tours and misuse of freedom by the student community.

Mr. A. Selvam in his address offered his New Year wishes. He expressed his happiness on the support offered by the PTA to the students.

Mr. K.C Sasidhar in his address appreciated the FA system and noted happiness about the reduction in ragging. He commented on the excellent laundry facility the hostel however suggested need to increase the space allocated for it. He mentioned that it can be thought to increase the PTA contribution being given by the students during admission looking at the current level of PTA activities in providing financial assistance and other development activities being taken up. He also proposed the idea to register a new NITC PTA and transfer the assets and liabilities of existing CREC PTA rather than going for changing the name. He suggested that preferably the budget may be presented at the starting of the academic year. He mentioned that Institute should take steps to impart skills to the students to meet the high level of competition being faced today. It was also suggested by him that students must also take part in ensuring cleanliness in the campus, steps for summer placements may be taken up, complaint register in hostels may be maintained, junk foods may be avoided in canteen/mess. It was also mentioned by him that there has to be good interaction between the industries and the Institute.

Mr. Suresh Kumar DB, in his address, congratulated the faculty for the good academic atmosphere available at NITC.

Memento was presented to the outgoing member of the Executive Committee, Mr A Selvam.

The following members of the PTA were nominated to the Executive Committee:

(i) Mr. Nirmal Kumar E K (ii) Dr. Suma C (iii) Mr. Govindan S

Dr. Jose Mathew, Dean Research and Consultancy mentioned about the NBA accreditation being taken up by the Institute in the current academic year and also about the significance of the feedback from the parents. He requested the presence and participation of the parents during the accreditation process for formal interaction with the NBA personnel. He also briefly explained the various steps taken up by the Institute for overcoming the problems being currently faced like faculty recruitment in process, steps for better industry interaction etc.

In the open interaction, parents had put forward some suggestions and some clarifications were requested, which are summarised below:

- Steps to be taken for renaming CREC PTA to NITC PTA by appropriate means
- Better communication between the PTA and parents so that dates of the meeting are known well in advance.
- Provision for registering for the meeting through PTA website
- There were some concerns related to the award of R grades which were clarified by the Dean Academic
- Annual accounts may be circulated in advance
- The PTA contribution from students can be suitably enhanced
- There can be voluntary contributions to the PTA from the students
- Accommodation issues of students especially in the LH to be resolved

Mr. Zainul Abid proposed the vote of thanks and the meeting came to an end at 5 PM.

Around 200 members attended the meeting including parents and faculty members.