



मौलाना अबुल कलाम आज़ाद एशियाई अध्ययन संस्थान

(संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त निकाय)

आई. बी. १६६, सेक्टर ३, सॉल्ट लेक, कोलकाता ७००१०६

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)

IB 166, SECTOR III, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA 700106

E-mail : makaiaskol@vsnl.net
E-mail : makaias_cal@vsnl.net
E-mail : info@makaias.gov.in
Website : www.makaias.gov.in

टेली फैक्स : (०३३) २३३५-६६२९/२३३५-७६२६
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Tele Fax : (033) 2335-6629 / 2335-7626
Phone : (033) 2335-6623 / 6642 / 6629

Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Maulana Aul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies Society held on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, 4 p.m. at Azad Bhavan, MAKAIAS, Kolkata

Members Present:

1. Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Vice President of the MAKAIAS Society & Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
2. Professor Suranjan Das
3. Shri. Siddartha Varadarajan
4. Professor Uma Dasgupta
5. Professor O.P. Mishra
6. Professor Subhash Ranjan Chakraborty (Representative from The Asiatic Society)
7. Professor Gopa Sabharwal
8. Dr. Azarmi Dakht Safavi
9. Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta
10. Sri. Azim Bari
11. Sri. Gayanidhi Rout
12. Ms. Nirmala Goyal (Deputy Secretary, MOC, GOI- nominee of the MOC)
13. Dr. Sreeradha Dutta (Director & Member Secretary)

Leave of absence was granted to:

1. His Excellency, the Governor of West Bengal & President of MAKAIAS Society, Sri. M. K. Narayanan.
2. Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary, MOC, GOI
3. Mr. Raghav Chandra (Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MOC, GOI)
4. Secretary, Department of Secondary & Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, GOI
5. Sri Rahman Rahi, Vichar Nag, Noushehara, Srinagar- 190 011
6. Sri. Chandrasekhar Dasgupta
7. Professor Mushirul Hasan
8. Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Department of Higher Education, Bikash Bhavan, Central Vista, Salt lake, Kolkata 700 091
9. Dr. Chitra Mondal, Scientist, IICB, Jadavpur, Kolkata 700 032

10. Dr. Chandrasekhar Dasgupta, Distinguished Fellow, TERI, IHC Complex, New Delhi 110 003
11. Shri. Gopi Chand Narang, Professor Emeritus, University of Delhi, New Delhi 110 017
12. Professor Ashis Kumar Roy, Executive Council Member, MAKAIAS
13. Prof. Md. Rafatullah
14. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Director, Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna- 800 004
15. Professor H. P. Roy, Retired Professor, Chinese language, JNU, New Delhi
16. Professor Syed Tanveer Nasreen, Head, Department of History, Burdwan University
17. Professor Shahid Amin, Delhi University
18. Professor Abhirup Sarkar, ISI, Kolkata- 700 108
19. Shri. Arjun Aksrani, 12 SFS Apartments Huaz Khas, New Delhi 110 016
20. Professor Hossenur Rahman

With the consent (vide letter No. 4071- G) dated June 20, 2014) of His Excellency the Governor of West Bengal & President of the MAKAIAS Society the 20th Annual general Meeting of the MAKAIAS Society was held on June 25, 2014 at 4 p.m. Azad Bhavan, MAKAIAS with the Vice – President of the MAKAIAS Society Shri. Sitaram Sharma as Chairman for the meeting.

Shri. Sitaram Sharma, Vice President of the MAKAIAS, Society and Chairman of the 20th Annual General Meeting welcomed all the members present.

The Chairman requested the Director & Member Secretary, Dr. Sreeradha Dutta to begin the proceedings.

Agenda Item No. 1: To confirm the Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on November 20, 2013 at Azad Bhavan, Kolkata. (Annexure I)

Resolution: Resolved that the Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata Society held on November 20, 2013 be confirmed and approved.

Agenda Item No. 2: To consider the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 5 in the Action taken Report, Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta enquired about the status of the Ph. D/ M. Phil Programme proposal of MAKAIAS in collaboration with other Universities and Institutes. The Director & Member Secretary, Dr. Sreeradha Dutta informed the members that as reflected in the action taken a Committee has been constituted and a date was also fixed for a meeting to discuss and work out the modalities of the programme, however, the meeting could not be held as scheduled but the meeting will be rescheduled shortly.

Resolution: The Action taken Report on the resolutions of the 19th Annual General Meeting of the MAKAIAS Society was noted and confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 3: To consider and approve the provisional Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Institute for the year 2013- 14. (Annexure II)

The Chairman, requested the Director & Member Secretary, MAKAIAS Dr. Sreeradha Dutta to report on the activities during financial year 2013- 14.

The Director & Member Secretary, Dr. Sreeradha Dutta informed the Society members that the last financial year was the 20th year of MAKAIAS, Kolkata, has been able to made maximum Utilization of the Grant received from the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, through various academic and cultural activities.

Dr. Sreeradha Dutta highlighted in brief some of the major events during 2013- 14:

- The Institute celebrated the 125th Birth Anniversary of Maulana Azad on November 11, 2013 and the Maulana Azad Memorial lecture was delivered by Sri. M. J. Akbar. On the occasion the Institute also released Professor Mushirul Hasan's book '*Islam, pluralism, nationhood: legacy of Maulana Azad*'.
- The Director & Member Secretary made special reference to co- hosting the Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival during January 2014 in which the theme for the Literary Festival was 'Maulana Azad' and Mr. Aamir Khan, the actor and social activist and also the grant nephew of Maulana Azad was the Special Guest for the event. He also visited the Maulana Azad Museum and spent couple of hours interacting with the research Fellows and Staffs of the Institute. Also, on this occasion, the book by Dr. Sayeeda Hamid on 'Maulana Azad, Islam and the Nationalist Movement' a co-publication between MAKAIAS and Oxford University Press was also released.
- The Institute has been successful in signing 3 MOU's with Sikkim University, Tezpur University and Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh for institutionalizing the Maulana Azad Centres for North East Studies within the Universities. MOU's in the pipeline are with Tripura University, Mizoram University and NEHU, which will be signed shortly.
- Dr. Sreeradha Dutta, Director & Member Secretary informed the Society members that MAKAIAS has signed agreement for 19 titles for publications during the last financial year. The entire publication backlog has been cleared and the few remaining are either with the reviewer or the publisher.
- With regard to the academic work within the Institute, the Member Secretary informed that all the researchers working at MAKAIAS are focused, they are delivering in- house presentation which is chaired by an external Expert for review and recommendations to streamline their work and the peer review process proved to be helpful for scholars.
- The Director & Member Secretary reported to the Society members that a Curator has been appointed at the Maulana Azad Museum, and the work of conservation and preservation has been ongoing with the help of School of Cultural Texts and Records, Jadavpur University. They are preparing a metadata. Victoria Memorial Hall & Museum has shown interest to take up preservation of the wooden artifacts at the Museum. The Curator at the Museum has taken initiative and contacted few organizations who are expert in Textile preservation and conservation.

- The Director reported that the next Quarterly Newsletter 'Asia Connect' will feature a special theme on the North East and there will be a special theme for every volume. The new website will be launched shortly. The new website will be launched shortly.
- With regard to the reach out programme of the Institute the Director referred to the MOU's signed between MAKAIAS and YASS (Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences), Kunming and the delegation visit of the MAKAIAS Council members to Kunming and the International MOU for academic exchange programme signed between MAKAIAS and VIISAS (Vietnam Institute of Indian and South west Asian Studies), Vietnam and the delegation visit from VIISAS to MAKAIAS which was followed by a one day International Conference at Azad Bhavan, MAKAIAS.

The Director, MAKAIAS also informed the Society members that the Chairman, MAKAIAS is keen to expand the outreach programme of the Institute and reach out to Shanghai and Beijing. The Institute looks forward to bilateral publication with its international partners to give more substance to the MOUs and continue engaged interactions.

The Chairman, Mr. Sitaram Sharma of the Society thanked Dr. Sreeradha Dutta for her brief overview on the activities of the Institute specially the progress with regard to the North East Programme, the Museum. The Chairman further informed the members that the Curator has been requested to prepare a vision programme/proposal and the MOC, GOI has also been very supportive to train and guide the Curator for the same. The Chairman invited the members of the Society to contribute to the "ASIA CONNECT" the Quarterly Newsletter. The Chairman, Shri Sharma said that towards further consolidation of our work and presence in the North East, MAKAIAS is planning to hold a conference with the participation of partner Universities to identify the areas of cooperation and for effective planning and coordination.

Chairman Shri Sharma further added that MAKAIS plans to encourage original research on the life and ideals of Maulana Azad and promote publications in vernacular languages. In this regard Chairman said that a National Conference of all Institutions devoted and working on Maulana Azad in different parts of India is planned to share, exchange and coordinate activities. The Chairman also recorded the thanks to the Ministry of Culture for its cooperation and support. The Chairman, Shri. Sitaram Sharma opened the floor to the members of the Society to make suggestions and comments.

Professor Subhas Ranjan Chakraborty, pointed out that for materials on Maulana Azad the Institute may explore the State Archives in Kolkata specially the IB Files which are easily accessible.

Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta complimented MAKAIAS and its Director for the variety of academic activities undertaken during the last year and suggested that in view of the fragmented nature of the work on Maulana Azad and also in view of the proposal of the Chairman to coordinate the activities of different institutions working on Maulana Azad, the Institute may undertake an initiative to create a classic bibliography of all the works on Maulana Azad and MAKAIAS should establish

itself as the authoritative Institute regarding the collection on Maulana Azad. Professor Mehta also suggested that in the Annual Report it would be useful to incorporate the work in progress as classified of the researchers working at the Institute. And also useful to have publication foregrounded.

The members supported the suggestion made by Professor Mehta and further suggested that MAKAIAS may put up a proposal for creating a Maulana Azad Portal with responsibility and all the work of digitization of Maulana Sahib's book and archival material may be showcased in the portal with the copyright vesting with MAKAIAS.

The members also supported the idea of the Chairman to encourage more work on Maulana in vernacular languages and floated the idea of translating the works of Maulana Azad in other languages like in English, Bengali, Urdu, Persian etc. may be taken up by the Institute. And a complete bibliography on Maulana Azad's work is prepared for reference to any scholars. Professor Uma Dasgupta also mooted the idea and all members requested that the Institute take up the work.

The members of the Society also floated the idea that a major Historian may be commissioned for a period of 3 years to undertake the biographical work on Maulana Azad. The suggestion was supported by all the members and the Chairman of the MAKAIAS, Society and the Director & Member Secretary thanked the members for the above suggestions and assured that the initiative will be taken.

With regard to the Annual Audited Accounts the members made the following observations:

- i. The details of Other Income should be specified as a normal standard procedure.
- ii. CPF A/c is being shown under the Income of the Institute. It is not an income for the Institute.
- iii. Grants from other Universities / Institutes have been less than in the previous year
- iv. The income during the financial year 2013- 14 is less than that in the previous year.
- v. The Auditor may be asked to be available for the AGM for any clarification.

Resolution: The Society noted and approved the provisional Annual Report and Annual Audited Accounts and requested that the Annual Audited Accounts may be forwarded to CAG for further necessary action.

Agenda Item No. 4: To consider appointment of Chartered Accountant, CAG empanelled – Gupta & Mitra as Internal Auditor of the Institute for 2014- 15, with terms and conditions as per previous year. (Annexure III)

Agenda Item No. 5: To consider enhancement of remuneration of M/s Gupta & Mitra, as Chartered Accountant (CAG empanelled) for conducting the quarterly internal audit as required by the MOC, GOI. This will cover the additional manpower required for completing the task within the allotted time period. (Annexure IV)

Resolution: Taking both the above items together, the Society resolved that M/s Gupta & Mitra CA, CAG empanelled may be appointed for undertaking the Internal Audit of MAKAIAS, Kolkata for the financial year 2014- 15 with the increase of remuneration from Rs.14,800/- (Rupees Fourteen thousand and eight hundred only) to Rs.16,800/- (Rupees Sixteen thousand and eight hundred only) per annum in view of undertaking of Quarterly Internal Audit as per the directive of MOC.

Agenda Item No. 6: To report the Following:

i. Shri. Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS has been nominated as the Vice President of the MAKAIAS, Society vide Ministry of Culture's Order No. F. 12- 3/ 2010 – C & M, GOI, MOC dated March 4, 2014.

The members congratulated Shri. Sitaram Sharma.

ii. To report signing of MOU between MAKAIAS and Ministry of Culture, GOI.

The members of the Society raised the point that why the MOU as it is being called or named by the Ministry is for 1 year. The members observed that it is more in the nature of a directives and a thrust on MAKAIAS. Ms. Nirmala Goyal clarified that the Ministry is just taking a commitment from all its Institutes through this MOU, to ensure receipt of Annual Report and Audited Accounts in due time every financial year. Professor O. P. Mishra made a general observation that since it is a research Institute therefore the academic and research work and output should be decided by the Institute.

The members noted the MOU between MAKAIAS and MOC, GOI.

The Chairman, Shri Sitaram Sharma recorded thanks and gratitude of MAKAIAS for cooperation, support and guidance provided by the President of the MAKAIAS Society Hon'ble Shri M.K. Narayanan, Governor of West Bengal.

The Chairman thanked all the members for their valuable suggestions, support and cooperation. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



Shri. Sitaram Sharma
Vice President of MAKAIAS Society
& Chairman, Executive Council
MAKAIAS



Dr. Sreeradha Dutta
Director & Member Secretary
MAKAIAS