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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 : makaiaskoi@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 72nd Executive Council Meeting of MAKAIAS, Kolkata held on March 13, 2014 at IIC, New Delhi at 12 noon

The 72nd Executive Council Meeting of MAKAIAS, Kolkata was held on March 13, 2014 at 12 noon, IIC, New Delhi (Committee Room I, Annexe).

Members Present:

1. Shri. Sitaram Sharma, Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
2. Shri. Ravindra Singh, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, GOI
3. Professor Mushirul Hasan, Member, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
4. Professor Uma Dasgupta, Member, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
5. Professor Suranjan Das, Member, Executive Council, MAKAIAS
6. Dr. Sreeradha Dutta, Director & Member Secretary, MAKAIAS

Leave of absence was granted to Professor Ashis Kumar Roy, Professor O. P. Mishra and Mr. Siddartha Varadarajan.

Agenda Item No. 1: To confirm the Minutes of the 71st Executive Council Meeting held on November 14, 2013 at IIC, New Delhi. (Annexure I)

The Council confirmed the Minutes of the 71st Executive Council meeting held on November 14, 2013 at IIC, New Delhi.

Agenda Item No. 2: Action Taken Report on the resolutions of the 71st Executive Council Meeting held on November 14, 2013.

The Council noted and approved the action taken report on the resolutions of the 71st Executive Council Meeting with the following observation:

Agenda Item	Resolution and Action Taken
<p>Agenda Item No. 3: To report the Judgment & Order passed by the Calcutta High Court, dated September 30, 2013, in the matter of M.A.T 1683 of 2012 with CAN 9849 of 2012 with Can 6648 of 2013- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata Vs Dipak Dutta. (Annexure II)</p>	<p>Resolution: After a brief discussion, the Council resolved that the service of Mr. Dipak Kumar Dutta, AFO, MAKAIAS may be confirmed.</p> <p>Action Taken: Action pending.</p>

Agenda Item No. 3: The Minutes of the 31st Finance Committee Meeting of MAKAIAS, Kolkata held on November 14, 2013 is placed before the Executive Council, MAKAIAS for perusal and record. (Annexure II)

The Council noted and confirmed the Minutes of the 31st Finance Committee of MAKAIAS held on November 14, 2013.

Agenda Item No. 4: The Minutes of the Academic Committee Meetings of MAKAIAS held on November 11, 2013 and January 6, 2014 is placed before the Council for perusal and confirmation. (Annexure III)

The Council noted and approved the Minutes of the Academic Committee Meetings of MAKAIAS held on November 11, 2013 and January 6, 2014.

Agenda Item No. 5: The Council is requested to nominate the members for the delegation visit to Myanmar during June, 2014 with reference to the letter of invitation received from Consulate General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar dated March 3, 2014. (Annexure IV)

The Council resolved that the Director, MAKAIAS may coordinate with the Executive Council members for the delegation visit to Myanmar during June 2014.

Agenda Item No. 6: To approve the Academic Calendar 2014- 2015 of MAKAIAS. (Annexure V)

The Council noted the Academic Calendar 2014- 15 and resolved that the Academic Calendar 2014- 15 of MAKAIAS may be placed before the next Academic Committee, MAKAIAS meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7: The Council is requested to peruse and confirm the Agreement on Academic, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation between MAKAIAS & Kyrgyzstan- Turkey Manas University. (Annexure VI)

The Council resolved that MAKAIAS may sign the Agreement on Academic, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation with Kyrgyzstan- Turkey Manas University. The Director, MAKAIAS is requested to take necessary action.

Agenda Item No. 8: The Council is requested to peruse and confirm the Agreement of Academic Interchange between MAKAIAS and Hacettepe University Strategic Research Centre (HUSAM) of Hacettepe University. (Annexure VII)

The Council resolved that MAKAIAS, Kolkata may sign an Agreement of Academic Interchange between MAKAIAS and Hacettepe University Strategic Research Centre (HUSAM) and the Director, MAKAIAS is requested to work out the modalities for further necessary action.

Agenda Item No. 9: The Council is requested to consider the prayer/ application submitted by Ms. Arpita Basu, Senior Research Assistant, MAKAIAS for considering Child Care Leave for the period January 13- 28, 2014 and March 3- 26, 2014 in view of ICSE Examination of her son. (Annexure VIII)

The Council approved the prayer of Child Care leave submitted by Ms. Arpita Basu Roy, Senior Research Assistant, MAKAIAS. After due deliberation, the Council further resolved that a policy may be framed by the Director, MAKAIAS regarding such issues for due approval.

Agenda Item No. 10: To report that with the approval of the Chairman Executive Council, MAKAIAS the Institute organized the following Academic events:

- i. International Seminar on "The Arabic & Persian Poetry in India" during February 24- 25, 2014 in collaboration with University of Calcutta, Dept. of Arabic & Persian. MAKAIAS financial grant for the above seminar was Rs. 5, 00, 000/- (Rupees five lakhs).
- ii. Hosting an Exhibition on "Reinventing Asian Culture: The Asia Show" at Maulana Azad Museum, Kolkata during March 8- 16, 2014 in collaboration with Asia Centre, Kolkata. MAKAIAS is only providing the venue, floral arrangement and refreshment on March 8, 2014.

The Council approved the above two academic programmes organized by the Institute with the approval of the Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS.

Agenda Item No. 11: To consider and approve advertisement of Fellowships starting from April 2014 at MAKAIAS. The Council is requested to nominate External Experts for the Selection of Fellows, Senior Research Assistants and Research Assistants and suggest tentative date. The status of the Fellows at the Institute indicating their research topic and tenure is given in the annexure. (XI)

The Council requested the Director, MAKAIAS to circulate a white paper about the Fellowships- Internal Fellows and external project Fellows. Further resolved that extension for 3 months may be given to all researchers at the Institute, whose tenure will be ending during March- April, 2014.

Agenda Item No. 12: To discuss the matter regarding air travel & accommodation of P.S. to Director for attending official meetings/ programmes at New Delhi or outside Kolkata. (Annexure XII)

The Council resolved that the Director, MAKAIAS may write to the Ministry and seek their approval.

Agenda Item No. 13: The Director MAKAIAS reported to the Council that a MOU has been signed between MAKAIAS & Sikkim University under the Maulana Azad Centre for North East Studies; MOU's with Tezpur University, Mizoram University will be signed shortly. The Director, MAKAIAS proposes an eminent person Lecture for inauguration of the Maulana Azad Centre for North East Studies at these Universities.

The Director wishes to request the Council members as well as experts like Professor Ram Chandra Guha, Dr. Sayeeda Hamid, Dr. Arvind Gupta, Ambassador Shyam Saran and others to deliver these inaugural lectures.

The Council noted and approved the signing of the MoU between MAKAIAS and Sikkim University and approved the proposal of inviting well known scholars for delivering the inaugural lectures at the Maulana Azad Centre for North East Studies at different North east Universities.

Agenda Item No. 14: To consider the proposal for Special National and International Seminar and Exhibitions on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

To commemorate and pay tribute to India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata (MAKAIAS) wishes hereby to apply for a grant of Rs.5 crores. The various international and national events spread over the year will include different activities including;

- Holding of ten-days photo exhibition on life and works of Pandit Nehru in major Indian cities including Kolkata, Mumbai Chennai and New Delhi.
- Documentary film to be made on Pandit Nehru
- Book on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad; "Freedom Fighters and Builders of Modern India."
- International Seminar to discuss the role and impact of Pandit Nehru in our freedom movement and building and strengthening democratic and secular institutions in free India-their contemporary relevance in the developing world.

Brief Concept Note of International Seminar on Life and works of Jawaharlal Nehru: Contemporary Relevance

Fifty years after Jawaharlal Nehru's (1889-1964) death, much of Nehru's world has undergone a transformation. The British empire which Nehru challenged have long since disappeared. The Cold War, from which he fought hard to insulate the Third World, has been supplanted by an unipolar world and the model of state-led socialism, which Nehru and his generation of nation-builders saw as the key to development and the

fight against poverty and inequality, has failed. Many of the new nations whose independence Nehru championed are also now in deep crisis.

When Nehru became the first prime minister of independent India it indeed was a crucial phase where the legacy and institutions of British rule had to be transformed to fit the needs of a post-colonial state. He has often been dubbed as the "architect of modern India" setting India on the path of democracy, nurtured its institutions - Parliament, multi-party system, independent judiciary and free press and Panjayati Raj institutions. Nehru was instrumental in bringing about what Gramsci designated a 'passive revolution'. Although to the masses, the British state meant oppression, brutality and torture, with the attainment of freedom, Nehru argued, the state would transform itself drastically, contributing more to the well-being of the people and the state as an institution should not be criticized, only the individuals running the apparatus are to be blamed.

However, in India itself, Nehru's legacy has come under sustained attack. Several elected governments have undone the state-planned 'mixed' economy he worked so hard to put into place. Nehru's commitment to a secular India has been openly challenged by increasingly strident religious nationalists; and his faith in progress, liberalism and inductive rationalism is sometimes deemed out of fashion with India's intelligentsia, once his natural allies but now influenced by post-modernism.

Despite these factors, it is undeniable that he had the vision for a modern India. With the foresight of a statesman, he created institutions like Planning Commission, National Science Laboratories and laid the foundation of a vast public sector for developing infrastructure for industrial growth. Besides, developing the public sector, Nehru also wanted to encourage the private sector. To establish a social order based on social justice, he emphasised the need of planned development. Nehru gave a clear direction to India's role in the comity of nations with the policy of non-alignment and the principle of Panchsheel, the five principles of peaceful coexistence. His vision was that of extensive application of science and technology and industrialisation for better living and liberation from the clutches of poverty, superstition and ignorance. Education to him was very important for internal freedom and fearlessness. Emotional sensitivity and intellectual passion infused his writings, giving them unusual appeal and topicality. He emphasized India's great cultural heritage and liked to combine tradition with modernity.

The international seminar would discuss the contemporary relevance of Jawaharlal Nehru based on the following themes:

- Nehru's vision for a modern Indian State: Planning and Institutions
- Nehru's Intellectual passion: Analysis of his writings and their contemporary relevance
- Nehru's Socialism and Secularism and their long-term impact on Indian Politics
- Non-alignment Movement, Panchsheel and other Aspects of his Foreign Policy: Contemporary Relevance

The Council noted the proposal. The Council suggested that the Director may consult Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Tagore Fellow, MOC and submit a revised proposal to the Secretary, MOC, Gol.

Agenda Item No. 15: To consider the proposal for setting up of Maulana Azad Culture Centre and Library at Kolkata – A New Campus.

It is proposed that Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) set up a third campus in Kolkata in order to pay respect to Maulana Azad as part of the programmes for celebrations on his 125th birth anniversary. The third campus will try to fulfil certain functions which cannot be performed by the first campus on Ashraf Mistry Lane (Lovelock Street) and the second campus in the Salt Lake City. We are hopeful about getting the land for the third campus from the West Bengal Government, and we urge upon the Union Ministry of Culture to finance the construction of the building/campus with a one-time capital grant for Rs.10 crores. with the below – mentioned specifications:

- Auditorium/Convention Centre of international standards with facilities like video conferencing that will require independent server, dedicated internet bandwidth (not shared bandwidth), terabyte capacity for central storage of documents that would comprise of photographs, images and maps and therefore take a lot of space, and wifi facilities.
- Two lecture halls and seminar rooms.
- Web-portal for Maulana Azad Cultural Centre
- Director and a core team of Senior Fellows (Fellows from all three campuses) who can coordinate academic work and seminar activities with Director, Registrar, Accountant, Librarian and trained library staff who can handle microfilm and microfiche material, Computer Technician, Photographer exclusively for Institute's meetings and seminars and exhibitions
- Digital archives storing data (printed matter converted into microfilm and microfiche) related to (a) Maulana Azad and Indian Freedom movement (b) role of Bengal in India's national movement (c) A Bengal Gallery can be set up separately
- Library with ample facilities for readers from other Institutes, Colleges and Universities. Some duplication of materials available in New Delhi, Ranchi or elsewhere may be necessary.
- Language Teaching programmes (Persian, Turkish, Arabic, Urdu, Russian, Uzbek, Tajik, Kazakh, Chinese) with language experts (2 for each language and willing to stay upto 2 years at a stretch) to offer two-year basic-language teaching courses.
- To give the Institute an International Stature, visiting scholars (from various parts of Afro-Asia, Europe and America) can be invited on a three to six month basis—so that every year the Centre can invite Visiting Fellows. The Visiting Fellows Lecture series may be published by the Institute.
- We propose to make it a National Cultural Centre by recruiting fellows from different parts of India. Apartments in the third campus to be built, without which we cannot attract eminent persons from different parts of India for a duration of 2-3 years as. The validity of this suggestion can be confirmed by the experiences of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, and the Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses, New Delhi.
- Economists and social anthropologists/sociologists and geographers with experience in field research and surveys as in-house Fellows. They will explore ways and means of academia-industry collaboration. This can be planned in such a way as to benefit

not only the eastern and north-eastern region of India but also a few neighbouring countries.

- Exhibition centre and photo gallery
- Arts and Crafts Centre for exhibition and sale
- Cafeteria and an attached garden with sitting arrangements
- Guest House with 4 fully furnished 2-room studio apartments (for visiting scholars and his/her family) and 4 double bedded rooms with kitchen and bathroom facilities. There should be one big screen TV, phone (for campus use only) in the lobby. Internet facilities and wifi facilities in the Guest House are essential. Cleaning and maintenance staff should be arranged exclusively for the Guest House.
- Individual rooms for scholars with individual laptops and internet facilities, xerox machine for researchers in the new campus.
- Cultural events related to Asian music, Asian theatre and Asian films and talk-shows may be arranged.

The projects on which the national fellows of this centre will work on can be classified into two types:

1. Long-term research programme on governance and secularism:

We can bring together foreign as well as Indian scholars in pursuit of a valuable cross-national research programme of 5 years duration. Outputs of this programme will not only have a purely academic impact but also significant public policy implications.

2. Short Term Programme on wide-ranging issues:

Under this type, will fall projects, which represent the current flexibility of approach in the Institute, which permits scholars to work on a wide range of topics, and enhance the free flow ideas (and hard data).

The justification for this programme is provided below:

1. A large number of countries in the world are encountering transition of governance and secularism. It has multifaceted manifestations. Our Institute can take into consideration a few countries and resort to continuous and long-term tracking.

2. In order to keep the research programme manageable and result-oriented, we suggest investigations into the affairs of the following regions of Asia: West Asia, Central Asia/Eurasia, South and South-East Asia, Afro-Asia with special focus on countries like Thailand, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, China, Mongolia, Syria, Egypt, Turkey, Iran, Israel, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Baltic Republics and the Caucasus. Transitions in these countries are rooted in social and political inconsistencies and authoritarian tendencies. The primary task of the researchers will be to analyse the multi-faceted processes in each country on a case-to-case basis preferably without comparative analysis.

3. Aim of the research would be a solution-based. For this purpose, there should be field work in each country. This field work is to be conducted in the third year of the programme, the first two years being spent in the collection of published documents, and acquisition of language skills, for the purpose of which a language laboratory has to be set up.

4. Encourage the foreign scholars to work on the Indian model of secularism and governance. For, India accommodates a multiplicity of religious-linguistic and socio-economic categories. India has accomplished (more or less) a balance (a) between the scope of authorities at central, regional and local levels; (b) between the functioning of the public sector, the private sector and the voluntary sector; (c) between the powers of

politicians and administrators; (d) and finally between individual initiative and government intervention. Experts in all the above-noted countries may hold conferences with the Institute's experts (Indian and foreign).

All these features will project the Centre's international character and profoundly honour the sacred memory of Maulana Azad.

The Council resolved that the matter may be discussed later.

Agenda Item No. 16: To consider engagement of Consultants as:

- a. Deputy Director
- b. Curator for the Maulana Azad Museum

The monthly remuneration may be fixed at Rs.30,000.00/- (consolidated). The remuneration may be charged under Non-Plan(G).

The Director, MAKAIAS, informed the Council that the Finance Committee in its meeting held on March 12, 2014 has approved the engagement of the Curator for the Maulana Azad Museum. In view of the same the Council resolved that a Curator for the Maulana Azad Museum may be engaged and may prepare a proposal for the Maulana Azad Museum for submission to the MOC's Museum Scheme.

The Council also considered the engagement of Consultant as Deputy Director and approved the same in principle. Further the Council resolved the modalities of the work profile etc. may be worked out and discussed later.

Agenda Item No. 17: To consider the proposal for Corpus Funds for Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata.

The Institute wishes to hereby apply for a grant of Rs. 15 crores to set up a corpus from the investment of which, financial stability would be ensured for the Institute's long term future; and secondly, some much - needed capital assets will be established without recourse to appeals for ad- hoc funding from the Govt. of India (Ministry of Culture).

Currently the Institute receives about 7.36 crore annually to finance its on- going and recurring activities, including the salaries, of the Institute's establishment comprising management of Fellows, permanent and temporary staff. It will not be possible to undertake any major expansion of these activities without substantial supplementary financing.

The proposal for Corpus Funds, if sanctioned, will be invested in public sector and fiduciary securities on a long term basis and will not be drawn down. Only the interest there on will be utilized for the Institute's expansion, which apart from the ongoing academic activities will also include:

Expansion of existing Structure (Ballygunge & Salt Lake Campus)

- Extra floors in Azad Bhavan for library and scholars. Expansion of maintenance and cleaning facilities.
- Individual rooms for existing senior scholars and language experts with special facilities computer/ laptop, printers, scanners, Photostat machines in the two campuses, in Ballygunge and in Salt Lake.

Expansion of Maulana Azad Museum, 5, Ashraf Mistri Lane

- At present a detailed inventory of the collection of the Museum, including books and manuscripts, furniture's, items of fabric, crockery, utensils, etc. and other artefacts has been made as part of the cataloguing and accessioning project of the recently acquired memorabilia collection. A more detailed database (with metadata), is currently being prepared for the text and manuscript portion of the collection as part of the digitization project.
- Post restoration and preservation work being completed of the newly acquired items apart from the books and manuscript which include furniture, items of fabric, crockery, utensils, and other artefacts, will need display area. The present Museum will require substantial expansion and modification for the same.

The utilization of the funds made available from the annual interest will be subject to the usual government procedures and customary audit.

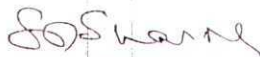
The Director, MAKAIAS was requested to forward a detailed plan for extension of the present Azad Bhavan premises to the MOC, Gol for consideration.

Agenda Item No. 17: Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

- To consider engagement of Hindi Language Office Assistant at the Institute for official Hindi work as the tenure (contractual) of Ms. Sunita Tiwari, Hindi Language Office Assistant, MAKAIAS is ending on April 10, 2014.

The Council resolved that the tenure of Ms. Sunita Tiwari may be extended with break in service for a period of 1 year with same terms and conditions as per her previous engagement as temporary/ ad- hoc basis at the Institute with a raise of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) in her consolidated pay in view of her satisfactory performance.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



Shri. Sitaram Sharma
Chairman, Executive Council



Sreeradhā Dutta
Director & Member Secretary