

F.No. IIT Bhilai/HGB/HGB Meetings-1/2021

Indian Institute of Technology Bhilai

Date 05/07/2021

Subject: Minutes of the 1st Hub Governing Body Meeting of the TIH, IIT Bhilai- reg.

The 1st meeting of the HGB of TIH, IIT Bhilai was held on 10th June 2021 from 10 AM to 11:30 AM through Video Conference. The major focus of this meeting was to apprise the HGB regarding the focus of the hub, milestones achieved, ratification and approval of recruitment and project proposal related points. The list of participants is placed at Annexure-I.

2. The Chairman Prof. Rajat Moona, at the onset, welcomed the members of the HGB and then requested Dr. Prashant Agnihotri, to proceed with the agenda items.

3. The following are the agenda items and the outcomes arrived after detailed discussions.

Item No 1.1: To appraise the members of the HGB regarding the scope, thematic areas and vision of the TIH as per the DPR of the TIH

Secretary of HGB presented the scope, thematic areas and vision of the TIH.

The HGB noted the same and stated that the scope, thematic areas and vision of the TIH are well formulated. The HGB appreciated the relevance of the TIH at IIT Bhilai being its focus on FinTech area, that has emerged as one of the most thriving sectors in terms of business growth, adoption among the customers, employment generation etc. It was suggested that connect should be established with end-users and focus to be given on social needs in the FinTech area. The activities of TIH may be planned accordingly. It was also suggested that for achieving successful “innovative ecosystem” practical use cases need to be considered in formulation of the start-ups, projects, research problems etc. For pursuance of practical use case driven project roadmap, it was suggested that TIH should also seek collaboration with Institute for Development & Research in Banking Technology (IDBRT) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Item No 1.2: To appraise the milestones achieved by the TIH

Secretary of HGB presented milestones achieved by the TIH till date. The HGB noted the same.

Item No 1.3: To appraise about the call for project proposals under the three schemes namely EIR, Start-up and PRAYAS, and the list of proposals received

Secretary apprised the board regarding the details of the schemes of EIR, Start-up and PRAYAS, against which call for proposals were floated. Further, the board was apprised of the list of proposals that have been received.

The HGB noted the same.

It was highlighted that to synergize the Hubs with various ministries of GoI, the NM-ICPS mission has constituted an “Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee (IMCC)”. As of now, around 200 technology requirements have been received from various government organizations by the mission office through IMCC. The mission will circulate the technology requirements to all the Hubs and a type of match-making with the user agencies and the Hubs will be enabled. It was suggested that projects to be funded under various schemes should be aligned to meet the goals of the technology requirements mapped to the TIH at IIT Bhilai. It was also suggested that “call for proposals” should be on a rolling basis, and open throughout the year and posted on the single portal to be set-up for all hubs for inviting “Call for Proposals”. Expert committee may evaluate proposals every quarter and select promising proposals for funding. It was suggested to work towards seeking funds from sources like corporates, PSUs, collaboration start-up funds etc., that would provide top-up grants to the proposals (apart from NM-ICPS grants). Another suggestion was regarding “Blockchain Technologies” being one of the thematic areas of the TIH, and its increasing applicability in the FInTech area, the TIH should focus on establishing CoEs on “Blockchain and Cryptography”. It was emphasized that a major focus of the hub should be towards solving a “Grand Problem” in the area of Fintech, where Blockchain based Agricultural Supply-Chain Management can be a tentative area to explore. It was suggested to encourage “virtual Incubation” that will help in proliferation of the benefits of the TIH funding to a much larger audience.

Item No 1.4: To consider the expert committee to review the proposals and recommend for funding

The secretary apprised the HGB of the proposed members of the expert committee to evaluate the proposals along with a presentation from the PI and Co-PIs and recommend for funding based on technical merit and alignment with thematic areas of the TIH. **The HGB accorded its approval on the proposed expert committee to review the project proposals and authorized the chairman of HGB to sanction the projects as per the recommendations.**

Item No 1.5: To appraise about the recruitment process for the posts of CEO, CTO, CS and project staff for IIT Bhilai Innovation and Technology Foundation (IBITF), and Shortlisting of the candidates for interview for these posts of CEO, CTO, CS and project staff.

The secretary apprised the HGB of the creation of the posts for CEO, CTO, CS and project staff for IBITF as per the DPR of the TIH. The details regarding the number of applicants, shortlisted candidates for interview etc. were also presented to the HGB by the secretary. It was suggested to consider flexibility of allowing CTO “to work from anywhere in India” as recruitment and retaining an experienced/skilled CTO may be difficult for a specific location like Raipur/Bhilai.

Along with the suggestions, the HGB ratified the following.

- 1. Creation of posts for CEO, CTO CS and Project staff and the salary structure as per DPR**
- 2. Floating of the advertisement**
- 3. Recruitment process involving receipt of the applications and shortlisting of the applicants for interview.**

Item No 1.6: To consider the selection committee to conduct the interviews of the shortlisted candidates for the posts CEO, CTO and CS.

The Secretary presented the list of proposed selection committees for the posts CEO, CTO and CS.

The HGB approved the formation of selection committees as proposed for conducting the interviews for the post of CEO, CTO and CS, and desired to include one more industry member in the selection committees of CEO and CTO. The HGB also authorized the Chairman of HGB to nominate the industry member. HGB also authorized the Chairman of HGB to carry out the process of recruitment and approve the selection of the candidates for the post of CEO, CTO and CS based on the recommendation of the committee members and subsequently to issue the appointment letters. The HGB desired to form a sub-committee for salary fixation and negotiation of CEO, CTO and CS. The HGB authorized the Chairman of HGB to form this sub-committee. HGB also desired that the selection details of CEO, CTO and CS be presented in the next HGB meeting for ratification.

Item No 1.7: Consider adjustment in budget heads

The Secretary apprised the board regarding the availability of non-recurring budget only in the second year. Since, the managerial manpower namely, CEO, CTO and CS are being

recruited during June-July 2021, thereby anticipating the requirement for PCs, laptops, printers etc., secretary requested to make adjustment of non-recurring budget of Rs. 10 Lakhs from the second year to the first year for procurement of PCs, laptops and printers to be able to meet such requirements. **The HGB accorded its approval for the adjustment of budget heads as proposed** (as it is within 10% and adheres to GFR guidelines).

Item No 1.8: Any other item, with the permission of chair.

As there were no other matters, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the HGB members.

Annexure-I

List of Participants

Sl. no	Name and Affiliation
1	Prof. Rajat Moona, Director of IIT Bhilai and Chairman of HGB
2.	Prof. D. Janakiram, Director of Institute for Development and Academic Research in Banking Technology, Hyderabad and Member of HGB
3.	Prof. G. Sivakumar, Professor of CSE, Department of CSE, IIT Bombay and Member of HGB
4	Mr. Rama Iyer, Head of Innovation, GMR Group and Member of HGB
5	Mr. J A Chowdary, Chairman Indian Blockchain Standards Committee and Member of HGB
6	Dr. Prashant Agnihotri, Interim CEO of IIT BHILAI INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION, and Member-Secretary of HGB.