

FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY

Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admissions and Fees)

"शिक्षण-नव्हेव्यवसाय -ज्ञान यज्ञ"

Govt. Polytechnic Building, 305, 3rd Floor, 49, Kherwadi, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051.

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Minutes of Meeting of Authority

Dt. 04/02/2025

The Meeting of the Fees Regulating Authority (constituted under section 11(2)(3)(4) of the Maharashtra Unaided Private Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admissions and Fees) Act, 2015 held on **04**th **February, 2025** in the Conference Hall, Room No. 305, Government Polytechnic Building, 49 Kherwadi, Ali Yawar Jung Marg, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400 051.

The following were present/absent:

| 1. | Hon'ble Justice V. L. Achliya (Retd.), | T: | Present. |
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| 2. | Chairperson of Fees Regulating Authority Dr. Vijay Vasant Khole, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Mumbai University, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Not Present. |
| 3. | Shri. Manoj Damodar Chandak, Chartered Accountant, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present through video conference. |
| 4. | Shri. Nitin Bapurao Chavan, Chartered Accountant, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present. |
| 5. | Shri. Ratnakar (Shirish) Phadtare, Cost Accountant, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present. |
| 6. | Shri. Atul Damodar Dharap, Cost Accountant, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present. |
| 7. | Shri. Adv. Dharmendra Dilip Mishra, Professional Educationist, Member of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present. |
| 8. | The Director, Technical Education, Mumbai, Ex-Officio Member of Fees Regulating Authority. | : | Absent. |
| 9. | The Director Higher Education, (M.S), Ex-Officio Member of Fees Regulating Authority. | : | Absent. |
| 10. | Commissioner Medical Education (M.S), Ex-Officio Member of Fees Regulating Authority. | : | Absent. |
| 11. | The Director, Directorate of AYUSH, Maharashtra State, Ex-Officio Member of Fees Regulating Authority. | : | Absent |

| 12. | The Member Secretary of the Maharashtra Council of Agriculture Education and Research , Pune , Ex-Officio Member of Fees Regulating Authority. | : | Presence dispensed. |
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| 13. | Shri. S. Ramamoorthy,I.A.S., Member Secretary of Fees Regulating Authority | : | Present. |

<u>Item No.1:</u> To confirm the minutes of the meeting dated 30th January, 2025 of Fees Regulating Authority.

"Discussed.

The minutes of the meeting dated 30^{th} January, 2025 are confirmed and approved".

Item No.2: To consider the Grievance received from Shri. Vijay Bhoir (Parent) against the Dean of Terna Medical College, Navi Mumbai, regarding charging of five times fees from the I.Q quota for the academic year 2023-2024 in respect of M.B.B.S. course.

"Discussed.

Mr. P.T. Deshmukh, the C.E.O of the Institute/College representing the Institute and Mr. Vijay Bhoir the father of the student/complainant appeared and submitted that the Grievance has been mutually resolved. The Institute has agreed to adjust Rs. 16 lacs collected from the complainant in excess than the fees of the Ist year M.B.B.S course in the fees payable for the IInd year M.B.B.S course. The Complainant has agreed to pay the balance amount of Rs. 8 lacs of the fees for IInd year M.B.B.S course and also paid the said amount through RTGS. The C.E.O of the institute/college admitted that the entire fees of IInd year M.B.B.S course has been received from the Complainant by way of adjustment of Rs. 16 lacs payment of Rs. 8 lacs by way of RTGS & no amount towards fees of IInd year M.B.B.S course is due and payable from the Complainant. The C.E.O assured that no amount over and above the fees prescribed by the Authority shall be claimed or demanded from the complainant for IInd & IVth year course i.e. till completion of course by the Complainant. After hearing the Complainant and the Official representing, the Official of the Institute is directed to submit following documents;

- 1. The letter to be jointly signed by the Complainant and Dean of the College recording the settlement redressing the Grievance of the Complaint.
- Produce the photocopy of the receipts of amount of Rs. 16 lacs adjusted by the Institute towards the fees payable by the Complainant for the IInd year M.B.B.S course and the receipt of Rs. 8 lacs paid by the complainant to the Institute towards balance fees of Rs. 8 lacs for IInd year M.B.B.S course.
- 3. The Dean of the Institute to file an undertaking to the effect that the Institute will not claim, demand and charge more than the fees prescribed by the Fees Regulating Authority during the entire course duration of the Complainant.
- 4. The Institute shall furnish the list of the students with details such as name of the student, address, phone number the fees payable, the fees charged and collected, the amount if any recovered in excess than the fees prescribed by the Authority & fees if any refunded to such student/s.

The compliance to this effect be made on & before 21/02/2025. List for further hearing on 21/02/2025".

<u>Item No.3:</u> To consider the complaints received from the students against Ratnadeep College, Jamkhed running B.A.M.S courses.

"Discussed.

The following parents of some of the students were present.

- 1. Mr. Shahaji Gandhya Gire.
- 2. Mr. Ramjan Ashgaralli Mulla.
- 3. Mr. Shantaram Pandrinat Gangurde.
- 4. Mr. Atul Ekanath Ghumatkar.

Dr. Bhaskar R. More, the Former President and Member of the Executive Management Committee of the Trust running the Institute appeared. He has submitted that the Institute has decided to challenge the decision of Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Bombay Bench at Aurangabad.

Dr. Bhaskar R. More the Managing Trustee of the Trust reiterated his commitment to refund the excess amount charged over and above the adhoc fees collected from the students as per the commitment made on previous dates of hearing. He submitted that Institute has certain reservation about the exact amount to be refunded towards tuition and development fees charged and collected from the students who were transferred to other colleges on account of deaffiliation of the course run by the Institute. He has further submitted that the amount to be refunded towards the fees other than the Tuition fees and Development fees the certain amount has been paid to University and further amount collected towards providing of study material and uniform has been actually incurred by the Institute & same cannot be refunded.Similarly, the process fees charged towards admission etc. the students are not entitled to claim the refund. It is further submitted that the Institute would like to verify the amount claimed by individual students and their receipts with the record of the institute.

The parents representing the students urged the Authority that in order to ascertain the bonafides of the Officials representing the Institute, the Official of the Institute be directed to deposit the entire amount collected from the students as fees as well as other fees with the Authority & then the Authority may proceed to consider the rival contention. The undisputed amount be immediately refunded to students.

Dr. Bhaskar R. More the Former President and Member of the Executive Management Committee submitted that the Institute is ready to deposit the amount collected as other fees with the Authority to show the bonafides of the Institute to redress the grievance of the Complainant & show bonafides of Management running the Institute. He has further submitted that Authority may pass order/direction to refund the amount which is not under dispute. The disputed amount be kept with the Authority and same shall be disbursed & after providing an opportunity of hearing to both the sides.

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On the basis of the complaints lodged, the Affidavit filed and the supporting documents submitted by the batch of students admitted to 1st year B.A.M.S course in the academic year 2023-2024, who were transferred to other colleges on account of deaffiliation of course by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik (M.U.H.S) the students claimed to have deposited total sum of Rs. 5,18,07,900/-. Out of said amount Rs. 3,04,08,000/- collected as Tuition fees and Development fees. Beside said amount Rs.1,13,23,400/- was collected as other fees under various heads & Rs. 2,00,600/- towards trip etc. Beside said amount the amount of Rs. 98,75,900/- was collected as fees of Hostel, Bus & Mess.

Thus, apart from Tuition and Development fees the Institute has collected Rs. 1,15,24,000/- as other fees from the students prima facie impermissible & require to be refunded. In view of deaffilation of course and transfer of students the Institute also require to refund the Mess charges collected in advance to students by deducting the amount to extent the Mess facility was available before deaffiliation of course.

On due consideration of the submission advanced the Authority is of the view the Institute be provided opportunity to show their bonafides to resolve the dispute. It was therefore decided that in first instance as per the commitment made the Management of the Trust shall deposit the amount collected as other fees i.e. Rs. 1,13,23,400/- + Rs. 2,00,600/- (Rs. 1,15,24,000/-). It was therefore directed the Management running the Institute to deposit by way of RTGS with the Authority by crediting the amount in its Bank Name i.e. Bank of Maharashtra, Branch Kalanagar, Bandra (E), i.e. "THE SECRETARY FEES REGULATING AUTHORITY", bearing Account No. 60420326891, IFSC Code No. MAHB0000164,on & before 20/02/2025 and appear before the Authority on 21/02/2025.

The Officials of the Institute are granted liberty to verify the documents submitted by the students and record their objection in writing with reason for non refund of amount towards other fees collected from the individual student. After deposit of amount the Authority will pass further order towards refund of the amount, after providing opportunity of hearing to both the side.

The issue in respect of refund of fees collected towards Mess, Tuition fee, Development fees shall be taken up for hearing after deposit of amount as directed.

List the subject on 21/02/2025".

Date: 04th February, 2025

Place: Mumbai

S. Ramamoorthy, I.A.S Member Secretary Fees Regulating Authority State of Maharashtra