



1st Meeting

Board of Management

Agenda Items

**Odisha State Open University
Sambalpur**

Agenda Notes of the meeting of the Board of Management (BOM) of Odisha State Open University, Sambalpur scheduled to be held on 19th July 2017 at 4 PM at OSOU Main Office, Sambalpur.

Item No.1 Nomination of the member to the committee for the appointment of Vice-Chancellor

BM.1.1.1 Section 10(1) of OSOU Act, 2014 states that the Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor from a panel of three member recommended under sub-section (4) by a committee appointed for the purpose under sub-section (2). Sub-section (2) of Section 10 of OSOU Act has made provision for a committee to be constituted which shall consist of the following members, namely:-

- (i) One member not connected with the University to be nominated by the Board of Management.
- (ii) One member to be nominated by the Chairperson of the Distance Education Council (DEC). (This sub-section has been amended by the Govt. vide Gazette Notification no. 1027 dt. 29th May, 2017 thereby substituting the words “Distance Education Council” with the words “University Grants Commissions”). Copy of the Gazette notification is attached as **annexure.1/1.**
- (iii) One member to be nominated by the Chancellor, who shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.

BM.1.1.2. Additional Secretary to the Chancellor vide his letter no. 770 date. 14.07.2017 has requested to furnish the name of the BOM nominee for constitution of the selection committee for selection of the Vice-Chancellor, OSOU. Copy of the letter is placed as **annexure.1/2.**

BM.1.1.3. The agenda item is placed before the BOM for nominating a suitable member for the selection committee for selection of the Vice-Chancellor, OSOU.

Item No.2 Creation of teaching, other academic, administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts in the University

BM.1.2.1 The BOM is vested with the power under Section 20(2) (ii) of the OSOU Act, 2014 to create teaching and other academic posts and to prescribe the functions and conditions of service of Professors, Readers, Lectures and teachers and other academic staff employed by the University.

Similarly, sub-section 2 (ix) of Section 20 of OSOU Act, 2014 empowers the BOM to create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts after taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Committee and to specify the manner of appointment thereto.

BM.1.2.2. A proposal was sent to the Deptt. of Higher Education vide our letter no. 717 dt. 4th Aug 2016 for creation of 205 academic positions and 309 non-academic positions with proper justification for creation of these positions. Copy of the letter is placed in **annexure .2/1.**

BM.1.2.3. In response, Dept. of Higher Education vide their letter No. 32257 Dt. 15.11.2016 has observed that as per para 5(1) (xvii) of the OSOU Act, 2014 the University has the power to create administrative, ministerial and other posts as the University may deem necessary from time to time and to make appointment thereto, subject to the condition that the University shall bear the salary costs of the officers, teaching and non-teaching and other staff so appointed or engaged out of its own fund and shall not be entitled to any grants whatsoever from the Govt. towards that salary, remuneration, fees, or honorarium cost. (**Annexure.2/2.**)

BM.1.2.4. The University vide letter no. 1022 dt. 22 Nov 2016 had informed the Govt. that as per para 4 (1)(d) of the OSOU Act, The University shall provide access to higher education to large segments of population and in particular the disadvantage groups such as those living in remote and rural areas. Hence, minimum fees is to be charged from the

students to make higher education affordable and accessible. Therefore, it is necessary that financial support from the Govt. for at least 10 years is required for the open university to generate its own revenue to meet the salary cost of its own employees. It was proposed to make suitable insertion in para (5) (1)(xvii) of the OSOU Act in the form of an amendment without diluting the main objectives of the University. (copy of the letter is placed on **annexure .2/3**) The proposal is under active consideration of the Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha.

BM.1.2.5.

In the mean time, after due consultation with the then Principal Secretary higher education a revised proposal was submitted to the Govt. vide letter no. 414 dt. 01.05.2017 and vide letter no. 624 dt. 03.07.2017 to initially sanction 25% of the proposed teaching and non-teaching posts to make OSOU eligible for UGC recognition and financial support under Section-12 (b) of the UGC Act. The revised proposal is in conformity to UGC (Open and Distance Learning) Regulation, 2017 made effective from 23rd June 2017.

The revised proposal submitted to the Govt. along with the relevant annexures are placed before the Board of Management for consideration and approval (**Annexure.2/4**).

Item No.3. Signing of MoU:

BM.1.3.1. Section 4(2) of the OSOU Act, 2014 says, the University shall strive to fulfil its objective by a diversity of means of distance and continues education and shall function in cooperation with the existing universities and institutions of higher learning and make full use of the latest scientific knowledge and new educational technology to offer high quality education to meet contemporary needs.

To fulfil the mandate the university has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IGNOU, COL, CEMCA and OKCL. The thrust of these MoUs is given below:

BM.1.3.2 MoU with IGNOU

MoU was signed with IGNOU on 10th June 2017 for mutual sharing of self learning materials by way of acquisition of production rights and supply these materials among the students for the course offered by the respective universities. The MoU shall be effective for a period of three years and it grants to each university the acquisition of production and translation rights of their respective study materials for distribution among the students. Copyright in respect of concerned course materials is reserved with the respective Universities. There is no financial commitment from both Universities for making the MoU effective.(IGNOU-OSOU MoU is placed at **annexure.3/1**)

BM.1.3.3 MoU with Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada.

COL is an inter- governmental organization created by the Commonwealth Heads of Govt. in 1987 to promote the development and sharing of open leaning and distance education knowledge resources and technologies. Within the framework of the Strategic Plan 2015-21, the COL has supported OSOU to development a skill-based programme on Multimedia and Animation with a financial contribution of CAD 22600 for conducting various activities. The

university has signed a MoU with COL to design and develop the programme as per mutually agreed schedule of activities. The programme is ready for launch from January 2018. A copy of the MoU is placed as **annexure.3/2.** before the BOM for consideration and approval.

BM.1.3.4 MoU with CEMCA.

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA), a part of COL, is responsible for effective utilisation of educational media research for distance education. The Govt. of India has notified CEMCA as a diplomatic mission under Section 3 of the United Nations Act, 1947. CEMCA is engaged in assisting higher educational institutions to adopt open educational resources (OER) through the development and implementation of institutional Open Educational Resource (OER) Policy. Under this MoU CEMCA has provided financial support to OSOU for finalization and implementation of OER Policy. CEMCA has contributed INR 5,40,000/- to OSOU for staff sensitization, capacity building, preparation of digital materials and web-based OER Repository including Internet Radio. The University has completed the assignment under the agreement. OER Repository and Mobile App of the University were launched on the 2nd foundation day on 10th of June 2017 by the Director, CEMCA at Sambalpur. Copy of the MoU is placed as **annexure.3/3.**

BM.1.3.5 MoU with OKCL

Under the initiative of Higher Education Department, Govt. of Odisha vide their letter no. 9607 dt. 18.04.2017, OSOU has signed a MoU with Odisha Knowledge Corporation Limited (OKCL) for testing of proficiency of the learners admitted in OS-CIT course conducted by OKCL and also issuing certificate to the successful candidates. The agreement was signed on 19th of May 2017 between OKCL and OSOU at Sambalpur defining the responsibility of

certifying authority i.e. OSOU and responsibility of OKCL.
A copy of the MOU is placed as **annexure.3/4**.

The above four MoUs are placed before the Board of Management for consideration and approval.

Item No.4. To fix Remuneration payable to course writers, Counsellors, Examiners and consultants engaged by OSOU.

BM.1.4.1 OSOU Act, 2014 under Section 20 (2)(xiii) has vested the power to the Board of Management to fix remuneration payable to course writers, Counsellors, Examiners, Invigilators, Consultants, travel and other allowances payable after consulting the Finance Committee. The university has admitted students in six programmes with an intake of 226 students in 2015-16 and has admitted 1534 students in 13 programmes during the academic session 2016-17. Course materials worth 320 credits have been prepared and audio/video Programmes have been developed by full time consultants appointed by the university, counsellor have been trained for providing counselling and conducting evaluation, study centre functionaries have been appointed and their remuneration have been fixed. Similarly paper setting, examiner and invigilators have been engaged for conducting Term End Examinations. The University has fixed the remuneration for above mentioned activities in keeping an eye on the remuneration paid by IGNOU and other State Open Universities for similar kind of activities under Open and Distance Learning System.

BM.1.4.2 The circulars issued in this regard by the University giving details of the remuneration for various ODL activities have been placed as **annexure.4/1.** for consideration and approval.

Item No.5**Statement of Income and Expenditure of the University****BM.1.5.1**

The University has received a sum of Rs. 5 crores towards establishment of the University during the Financial Year 2015-16. In the same Financial Year an amount of Rs. 40 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of OSOU towards payment of Block Grant. No other financial support has been received from the Govt. in the subsequent Financial Year. The University has submitted utilization certificate for the funds received. Proposed budget estimates for F.Y. 2016-17 and F.Y. 2017-18 have been submitted and request for additional funds Under Block Grant towards payment of Salary to the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar have also been submitted to the Govt.

BM.1.5.2

The University has generated Rs.35,42,500/- as course fees from learners during F.Y. 2015-16 and 2016-17. The details of expenditures for the above financial years are placed as **annexure.5/1.** before the BOM for consideration and approval.

Item No.6 Proposal for establishment of extension office of OSOU at Sambalpur Public Library.

BM.1.6.1 The University is presently functioning from its temporary campus within the premises of GM University Samblapur. The space provided to OSOU is insufficient for carrying out all its activities from GM University Campus. A proposal was submitted to Sambalpur Public Library to provide space for setting up of multimedia laboratory, Computer lab and Library facilities. They have agreed to the proposal to provide space to OSOU to carry out its activities.

Since Sambalpur Public Library is centrally located and is willing to provide adequate space it is proposed to establish an extension office of OSOU in their premises till infrastructure for the university is developed in the new campus.

The proposal is submitted for consideration.

Item No.7. OER Policy and OER Repository of the University.

BM.1.7.1 The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India over the past few years has taken initiative for developing a policy on OER and offer of online courses through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Under the initiative of MARD new digital initiatives such as NMEICT, NPTEL, e-PG Pathshala, SWAYAM and SWAYAM PRABHA have been introduced to fulfil the mandate of equity and access to higher education through digital mode. Secretary MHRD has also written letter to VC Open Universities to develop their OER Policy and to set up their own institutional repository of OER using open sources software and technology under an appropriate open licence system. (copy of the MHRD letter is placed at **annexure.7/1**)

BM.1.7.2 OSOU with the financial and technical support from CEMCA, New Delhi has adoption the institutional OER policy under CC-BY-SA license. The terms and condition of the policy and the details of the licensing system along with the relevant communication from Secretary, MHRD are placed before the BOM for approval of the institutional OER Policy and OER Repository of the OSOU. (**Annexure.7/2**)

Item No.8. Establishment of Regional Centres and Study Centres

BM.1.8.1

Section 2(p) of OSOU Act, 2014 defines Regional Centre as a centre established or maintained by the University for the purpose of supervising and co-ordinating the work of study centres and for performing such other functions as may be conferred on such centres by the Board of Management. Section 2(v) says, study centre means a centre established, maintained or recognized by the University for the purpose of advising, counselling or for rendering any other assistance required by the students. Section 6 (xi) stipulates that the University has the power to establish and maintain such Regional Centres as may be determined by the university from time to time and Section 5 (xii) empowers the University to establish, maintain or recognize study centre in the manner laid down by the Statute.

The UGC (ODL) Regulation, 2017 also defines the role of Regional Centres and Study Centres in ODL system. Copy of the Regulation is attached as **annexure.8/1**.

The Dept. of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha vide their letter no. 15488 dt. 15.07.2015 has communicated to Principals of all Govt. Colleges / Aided Colleges to provide adequate space free from rent for establishment of Regional Centre and Study Centre of the State Open University. The faculty member and non-teaching staff of these colleges will be engaged in the state Open University work on part-time basis on payment of remuneration fixed from time to time. (**Annexure.8/2**).

On the basis of the above provisions of OSOU Act, Regional Centres have been established at Bhubaneswar, Berhampur, and Jaypore in the premises of Govt. Auto Colleges.

A letter has been sent to the Vice-Chancellor, FM University, Balesore to provide space free from rent for establishment of Regional Centre at Balesore.

An assurance has been issued to the Odisha State Legislative Assembly vide out Letter no. 65 dt. 05.12.2015 to established Regional Centre at Bhubaneswar covering undivided districts of Puri, Cuttack and Dhenkanal; Regional Centre at Balasore covering undivided district of Balesore, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar; Regional Centre at Sambalpur covering undivided districts of Sambalpur, Bolangir, Sundergarh and newly established district Nuapada; Regional Centre at Berhampur covering undivided districts of Ganjam and Kandhamal and Regional Centre at Jeypore covering undivided districts of Koraput and newly demarcated district of Kalahandi. The copy of the Assembly question and our reply is attached as **annexure.8/3**.

Study centres have been established in Autonomous Colleges, Govt. Colleges and Govt. Aided Colleges covering all districts except Nuapada and Deogarh. The total numbers of study centre established so far is 38.

The new, UGC Regulation 2017, has made provision for establishment of study centres in University affiliated colleges and Government recognised higher learning institutions offering conventional mode programme of equivalent level in the same board areas.

It is proposed to constitute a committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. P. Padhi, Hon'ble Member BOM and Ex-Vice-Chancellor, Berhampur University to examine the viability and sustainability of establishing Regional Centres and Study Centres in different parts of Odisha within the framework of the Act, Statutes and Ordinances of the University and as per the UGC (ODL) Regulation, 2017.

The agenda is placed before the BOM for consideration and approval.

Item No.9 **University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulation 2017 and UGC Recognition of ODL Programmes of OSOU.**

BM.1.9.1 The University Grants Commission vide Gazette Notification No. 247 Dt. 23 June 2017 has issued Regulations, 2017 for the Open and Distance Learning System. The Regulation lays down the minimum standard of instruction for the grant of degree at the under-graduate and post-graduate levels through ODL mode and shall apply to all universities for all programmes other than the programmes in Engineering, Medical, Dental, Pharmacy, Nursing, Architecture, physiotherapy and any other programme not permitted to be offered in distance mode by any other regulatory body.

Major Highlights of the Regulations are as follows:

1. It shall come into force from the date on which it is notified in the Gazette of India i.e. 23rd June 2017.
2. Every Higher Educational Institution has to apply afresh for UGC recognition.
3. Higher Educational Institutions shall adhere to the policy of territorial jurisdiction in offering Open and Distance Learning programmes.
4. Preparation of Self Learning Material, establishment of Learner Support Centres (SLCs) and to Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA), availability of academic and other staff at the Higher Educational Institutions, availability of qualified counsellors at LSCs, all administrative arrangement for effective delivery of academic programme are pre-requisites.
5. NAAC accreditation is now made compulsory for open universities within one year of their becoming eligible for it.

6. Higher Educational Institutions approved for 2016-17 have been permitted to offer approved Open and Distance Learning programmes for 2017-18. They have to apply afresh for such permission. Fresh application for new programmes shall be considered for Jan 2018/ July 2018.
7. Higher Educational Institutions shall continue to offer Certificate, Diploma, PG Diploma provided these programmes are approved by statutory authorities of the respective Higher Educational Institutions and delivery mechanism passes through all quality standards of Open and Distance Learning.
8. Higher Educational Institutions shall not engage in commercialisation of education and shall provide equity and access to all deserving learners.
9. LSCs shall not admit any learners to ODLs programmes on behalf of the Higher Educational Institution.
10. Study centres can only be established in a college or institution affiliated to a recognized University (other than a private university) or a Government recognized Higher Educational Institution having necessary expertise and infrastructure.
11. No Study Centre shall be established under any franchisee or outsourcing agreement.
12. Every Higher Educational Institution shall establish a centre for internal quality assurance (CIQA) within a period of one year.
13. The number of full-time teachers, academics and other administrative and technical staff shall be made available as per UGC guidelines.
14. Optimal use of technology in programme design and delivery including use of OER and MOOCs.

15. Programme Project Report for each programme has to be developed and it shall be approved by the appropriate authority of Higher Educational Institutions and it shall put in place a monitoring mechanism for proper implementation.
16. Fee structure should be affordable to all stakeholders. Free waiver for SC, ST, and PWD should be as per Central Govt. rules.
17. Self-Learning Materials in printed form shall be provided compulsorily to all learners and additional learning resources through on-line mode.
18. Higher Educational Institutions shall provide facilities for online guidance and counselling and make provision for online discussion forum for learners.

BM.1.9.2

UGC has issued a Public Notice dated 29th June, 2017 stating that Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) already approved /recognized for 2017-18 have been permitted to offer approved ODL programmes for the academic year 2017-18.

The UGC vide their letter dated 17th October, 2016 has accorded recognition to OSOU to offer 13 courses under ODL mode. A copy of the letter received from UGC is enclosed as **annexure.9/1**.

BM.1.9.3

University has expanded four Diploma level programs to post-graduate diploma level programme by adding 16 additional credits to existing 32 credits. The University has further extended the period of completion of the programme at the PG Diploma level up to one and half year duration. The new UGC regulation has permitted Universities to offer Certificate, Diploma and PG Diploma programmes provided they are duly approved by the statutory bodies or authorities of the respective higher educational institutions and the delivery mechanism confirm to the quality

standards of the open and distance education specified by the Higher Education Institution.

BM.1.9.4

The Following P.G. Diploma, Diploma and Certificate programmes have already been introduced in the current academic session of the 2017-18 confirming to the ODL parameters / Standards mentioned in the new Regulation.

1. PGDIM : Post-Graduate Diploma in Management
2. PGDCS : Post-Graduate Diploma in Cyber Security
3. PGDJMC : Post-Graduate Diploma in Journalism & Mass Communication
4. PGDRD : Post-Graduate Diploma in Rural Development
5. DOM : Diploma in Office Management
6. DWD : Diploma in Web Designing
7. CEC : Certificate in e-Commerce
8. CSSITS : Certificate in Soft Skill and IT skill
9. CCCSD : Certificate in Climate Change and Sustainable Development
10. CNEMS : Certificate in Emerging and New Media Studies

The above agenda item is placed before the BOM for consideration and approval of the new programmes introduced in the current academic session.

- Item No.10** **Status report on Land for the permanent campus of the University at Sambalpur**
- BM.1.10.1** Section 3(2) of the Odisha State Open University Act, 2014 states that the headquarter of the University shall be at Samblapur and the University may established, maintain or recognise Institutes, Schools, Regional Centres and Study Centres and such other institutes at such places in the state as it may deem fit.
- BM.1.10.2** The Higher Education Department, Govt. of Odisha had requested the Collector, Sambalpur to identify a suitable piece of land for the University close to the Airstrip/Ainthapali so that the communication facility will be available to the students visiting the university from different parts of Odisha. Copy of the letter is placed in **annexure.10/1**.
- BM.1.10.3** Tahasildar, Sadar Samblapur was given the responsibility to identify suitable land for the permanent campus. A piece of land located at Raghunathpali village under Burla Police Station measuring about 16 acres was identified by the RI Katapali. However two numbers of stone crushers are located in the area identified for the open university. The present Collector of Sambalpur has been apprised of this and he has been requested to finalized land for the University at the earliest.
- BM.1.10.4** It is brought to the notice of the BOM that the campus of an Open University is distinctly different from the campus of a normal university offering academic programme in face to face mode. Open university campus should have Academic Blocks, Administrative Block, Library Block, Computer Centre, Multimedia Centre, Examination and Evaluation Centre, Skill Development Centres, Laboratory Facilities, Guest House and staff quarters. There is no need for hostel for the students, playground etc. Hence the requirement of land is around 40 acres to 50 acres.

BM.1.10.5 The University Grants Commission in its recent regulation has stated that the minimum requirement of physical infrastructure for Open Universities will be as per UGC (Fitness of Open University for Grants) Rules, 1988 and as amended from time to time, except for the existing open universities for the purpose of these regulations

BM.1.10.6 Keeping in mind the future expansion of university it is proposed to request the District Administration, Sambalpur to identified minimum 40 -50 acres of suitable land for the Odisha State Open University within the Sambalpur township itself having good communication facilities so that students from all parts of the state visiting the University shall not be subjected to any kind of inconvenience.

The proposal is submitted for consideration and approval.

Item No.11 Offer of academic programmes, fees and eligibility criteria for admission

BM.1.11.1 Under Section 4(i) the University has the follow objects, namely :-

- To provide access to higher education for large segments of population and in particular the disadvantage groups living in remote and rural areas including working people, house wives and other adults who wish to upgrade or acquire knowledge in various fields.
- To provide an innovative system at education, flexible and open, in regard to methods and pace of learning, combination of courses, eligibility for enrolment, age of entry, conduct of examination and delivery of the programmes with a view to promote learning and encourage excellence in new fields of knowledge.
- To strengthen the existing degree, certificate and diploma courses by way of introducing add-on courses related to the needs of the employment.

BM.1.11.2 Keeping the above objectives in view the University has introduced PG Diploma, Diploma and Certificate programmes both as add-on courses for both undergraduate and post-graduate students and for the working people, house wives and other adults. The course fees has been made affordable for all segments of the society and there is no age restriction for admission. Learners have been given flexibility of minimum and maximum duration for completion of the course of studies without making any additional payment.

BM.1.11.3 The details of the course, eligibility criteria, fee structure and minimum and maximum duration of the programme of OSOU are given in **annexure.11/1**.The proposal is submitted before the BOM for consideration and approval.

Item No.12 Institutional Development Plan (IDP) for World Bank Support

BM.1.12.1 Odisha State Open University has submitted Institutional Development Plan under the Higher Education Project for Excellence and Equity in higher education to the Higher Education Department, Govt. of Odisha. The following strategic goals of the University have been identified with a total budget estimate of Rs. 120 crores to achieve these goals during five years (2016-21) have been submitted.

BM.1.12.2 STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Design and development of high quality self-learning materials (SLM) in both english and regional language.
2. Production of audio/video programmes in english and regional language.
3. Development of e-content integrating multimedia components
4. Design and development of e-learning and m-learning platforms.
5. Web-conferencing and video-conferencing facilities for real time teaching and learning.
6. Online attendance management system at all study centres for academic monitoring of counselling and skill training sessions.
7. Online student feedback system for monitoring the quality of counselling and training programme.
8. Installation of biometric system and CCTV at study centres to monitor skill based training.
9. Integrated Examination Management System with Question Bank, Online Evaluation and Digitisation of certificates.
10. Construction of academic and administrative blocks,

- multimedia centre and centralized computing facility.
11. Faculty and student exchange programs with IGNOU and other open universities for adoption of best practices.
 12. WAN and LAN and connectivity with the national network.
 13. Contractual staff (teaching and non-teaching) appointment and training for capacity building.
 14. Creation of IQAC, Legal Cell, Anti-sexual Harassment Cell, Anti-ragging Cell and Equal Opportunity Cell along with OER policy Implementation cell.
 15. Creating institutional brand image through Learning Management System (LMS), Internet Radio (*Pragnya Vani*) and internet based video platform (*Gyan Jyoti*).
 16. Research activities to be augmented through R&D Cell and making provision for Research & Training Apprentice (RTA).
 17. Village immersion by students and village adoption of two villages by university for enhancing quality of life.
 18. Establishment of campus placement cell and training of students in soft skills to enhance employability.
 19. Financial support to disadvantaged groups.
 20. Introducing “Earn and Learn” scheme for needy.
 21. Distribution of smart phone and tablets to the disadvantaged social groups to facilitate online/mobile learning process.
 22. Free education to the transgenders.

Details of the IDP containing vision and mission of the university, need assessment, strategic goals and institutional project budget are placed at **annexure.12**.

The proposal is submitted to the Board of Management for consideration and approval.

Item No.13 Supply of computer, Printer, Scanner and furniture to the Regional Centres and Study Centres

BM.1.13.1 The UGC (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations 2017 states that Higher Educational Institutions providing education through open and distance learning mode have to manage a fairly large and well spread system with a variety of learner-centric operations for a number of heterogeneous groups of learners to meet their expectations and self-learning requirements using multimode programme delivery. To effectively manage the challenges and complex operation for a learner at a distance, a very dynamic interactive communication system between headquarters, regional centres and study centres has to be established on priority. Thus, it is desirable that an effective information and communication technology network connecting the headquarter, regional centres and study centres should be established at the earliest and used for faster and reliable communication.

BM.1.13.2 In order to strengthen the student support service network OSOU has provided computers, printers, scanners including furniture to all Regional Centres and Study Centres. The details of equipment purchased and installed at Regional Centres and Study Centres are given in **annexure.13**.

The proposal is submitted to the Board of Management for consideration and approval.

Item No.14 **Proposal for lunching of Master Degree Programmes with the help of Self Learning Materials (SLMs) prepared by IGNOU.**

BM.14.1 OSOU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IGNOU, New Delhi for mutual sharing of self-learning materials for initial period of three years with reproduction and translation rights of their study material for distribution among the students. Accordingly a request letter was sent to IGNOU to provide hard copies and soft copies of study materials for the following Master Degree Programmes: Political Science, Public Administration, History, Sociology, Commerce, Hindi and English. Self-learning materials prepared by IGNOU are of international standard. Hence preparing the same material will be wastage of time and money. OSOU proposed to translate these materials in Oriya language and like other open universities plans to offer Master Degree programme in both English and Odia for the benefit of disadvantage groups and students residing in rural and remote areas. These programmes will be offered only after getting due approval from UGC.

The proposal is submitted to the Board of Management for consideration.

Item No.15 Status of Development and Printing of Self Learning Materials and Audio/ Video Lessons

BM.1.15.1 UGC (Open and Distance Learning) Regulation 2017 clearly states that no programme in open and distance learning mode shall be launched by a Higher Educational Institution unless it has prepared the self-learning material. SLM should have clearly stated objectives, intended learning outcome, study guidance and advice for the learners as to how to optimally use the materials and suggestive related referral materials to enhance the learning experience and linkage within the text with other media is maintained for easy referencing and progress. SLM has to be self-explanatory, self-contained, illustrative, easily comprehensible and is available in manageable modules such as units and blocks.

BM.1.15.2 OSOU has strictly followed the above guideline and parameters in designing the self-learning materials for all the programme offered by the University. Details of the SLM developed are given in **annexure.15**. The University has digitised all SLMs and has uploaded the same on the web portal of the University under CC-BY-SA licence for free access. Along with SLM, OSOU has develop around 60 video programmes and has uploaded these videos in YouTube with a link given in the University website.

BM.1.15.3 **Prangynavani**, an internet Radio station of OSOU has been made operational since 10th June 2016. More than 100 audio programmes have been developed by experts and faculty of the university and the same area available on the internet.

BM.1.15.4 **e-Gyanagar**, an OER Repository of OSOU has been launched from 10th June 2017 providing access to all learning resources of the University (SLM, Video and Audio) through mobile apps and also through internet.

The agenda is submitted to the Board of Management for consideration.

Item No.16 Official Website and Logo of the University.

BM.1.16.1 The official website of the University was launched on 10th August 2015 by then the Hon'ble Minister, Higher Education, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Panigrahi in the presence of Joint Secretary, Higher Education. The website was designed by All India Online Pvt. Ltd. They had the experience of designing website of public funded institutions of higher learning such as Utkal University, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur University, GM University etc. NIC was approached but they expressed their inability to design and maintain the website as per the specification of the University. The OSOU website has become very popular among the students and general public and within a short span of two years nine lakh viewers have browsed the website.

BM.1.16.2 University has conducted a logo completion through a newspaper advertisement in the month of May, 2016. Around 50 Participants had submitted their design through the online portal of the University. A local committee was constituted headed by Sri Abhay Padhi, Ex-Additional Director General of Prasar Bharati. Committee after detailed deliberation has finalised the logo keeping in mind the vision and mission of the University. The Logo designed by Sri Bibekannanda Biswal, resident of Pallahada of Angul District was finalised after suitable modification suggested by the committee.

The logo designed by different participants and the minutes of the meeting of the Committee with the description of the logo short-listed as the official logo of OSOU, Sambalpur are placed before the BOM for consideration. **Annexure.16.**

Item No.17 Any other items with the permission of the chair