INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
INDRAPRASTHA ESTATE, RING ROAD, NEW DELHI

Minutes of the 272nd meeting of the Executive Council held on March 30, 2009 at 4.00 p.m. in the Conference Hall of the Institute

PRESENT

1. **Shri T.N. Chaturvedi** - **Chairman**
2. Dr. Yogendra Narain
3. Prof. R.V. Dhanapalan
4. Dr. K. Malaisamy
5. Shri S. Ramanathan
6. Prof. S.P. Verma
7. Shri B.V. Krishna Kumar
8. Prof. S.N. Mishra
9. Dr. Agarala Eswara Reddi
10. Prof. (Mrs.) S. Saroja
11. Shri P.R. Shampath
12. Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram
13. Dr. Brij Mohan Sharma
14. Prof. N.P. Singh
15. Dr. K.N. Srivastava
16. Ms. Sunita Kumari
17. Dr. Har Swarup
18. Shri T.N. Dhar
19. Shri M.C. Gupta
20. Prof. Joseph K. Alexander
21. Shri K.K. Sethi
22. Shri Narendra Kumar (Representative of Chairman Goa Regional Branch)
23. Prof. J. Guha Roy } Faculty Representatives
24. Prof. (Mrs.) Rajesh Singh }
25. Shri Rakesh Gupta }
26. Shri B.S. Baswan - Director & Member-Secretary

Dr. Naresh Kumar, Registrar, Dr. C. Giri, Dy. Registrar (AS), Dr. B.D. Singh, Dy. Registrar (Admn.), Shri Suresh Chandra, Dy. Registrar (Fin) and Shri R.K. Yadav, Asstt. Registrar were also present.

Before the start of the meeting the Chairman mentioned about the progress made in the implementation of the 6th Pay Commission recommendations for the staff. He stated that he was sympathetic to their demands. The staff are a critical part of the Institute and the EC will support them. They, on their part also have a responsibility and duty and should understand the position, which had been communicated to their representatives through the Director. However, on the request of some members, the President of the Staff Association was invited to convey his view point. The General Secretary of the Association was also permitted to join him subsequently. The Chairman once again reiterated the stand taken by

IIPA in the matter. Thereafter the Council resolved that, keeping in view the fact that IIPA had always been fully funded by Government for meeting additional financial liabilities arising out of Pay Commission's recommendations by the Government in the past, and noting the present financial position of IIPA and appreciating that IIPA has been working in the field of public administration as an Institute set up by the Government, it, in fairness, ought not to be equated with other autonomous bodies to whom additional fund support has been limited to 80% of the additional burden arising out of the Pay Commission's recommendations. The Executive Council resolved to strongly urge the Government to meet fully the additional financial burden arising as a result of the Pay Commission's recommendations. This Resolution would be forwarded to the Government for consideration.

Thereafter the Chairman welcomed all the newly co-opted/nominated members to the Executive Council and requested all present to introduce themselves. The Chairman also specifically requested the representative of the Goa Regional Branch, Shri Narendra Kumar (Secretary, Transport) to request the new Chief Secretary of Goa to become a member of the IIPA to enable him to be eligible to be the Chairman of the Branch. He also advised him to gear up the activities of the Branch.

Item No.272.1 Grant of leave of absence to Members.

The following members could not attend the meeting and were granted leave of absence:

1. Dr. R. Balasubramanian
2. Dr. S.L. Goel
3. Shri N.S. Periyaswamy
4. Dr. (Mrs.) N. Rajalakshmi
5. Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Sivakami
6. Shri T.G. Negi
7. Shri Hauzel Haukhum
8. Shri Suryya Ray
9. Prof. R.C. Sobti
10. Shri Rahul Sarin
11. Smt. Sushma Nath
12. Dr. Subas Pani

Item No.272.2 (a) Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meetings of the Executive Council:

(i) Minutes of the 270th meeting of the Executive Council held on September 25, 2008.
(ii) Minutes of the 271st meeting of the Executive Council held on September 26, 2008.

The minutes, as circulated, were confirmed.

(b) Action taken on the minutes referred to above.

The action taken reports on the minutes referred to above were confirmed with the following observations:

Item No.268.16 (ii) Appointment of a new Caterer and modernization of the Mess, Kitchen and the Canteen.

The Chairman mentioned that since gas, electricity and water was being supplied free of cost to the new caterer (IRCTC) and renovation and acquisition of equipments/cutlery has also been made by IIPA besides agreeing to a considerable increase in the rates, the quality of the items as well as the services should be ensured. A proper inventory be maintained of the items purchased and provided to them and EC be informed. He also directed that, as per the earlier decision of the E.C., the contract with them may be made initially for one year only and their continuance for the second year will be subject to agreement by both parties.

Item No.268.16 (iii) Non-handing over of the charge to the new office bearers of the West Bengal Regional Branch.

The Chairman, Standing Committee briefed the Council about the discussions held in the Standing Committee meeting. He added that, as per the decision he, along with the Director, will visit Kolkata after the General Elections, to hold discussions with the State Government and the Regional Branch regarding handing/taking over of the charge and conducting fresh elections which have become due. The Chairman also mentioned that, as regards the cases of defalcation alleged by the then Chief Secretary (who was also the Chairman of the Regional Branch), necessary action should have been taken at their end and they can do so now. But there should not be any hitch after fresh elections to the Branch are done. Date ought to be fixed in advance as stipulated and an observer from IIPA will be deputed.

Item No.268.16 (ix) Minutes of the Deemed University Status Committee meeting held on 27.3.2008.

The Chairman mentioned that on the question of acquiring Deemed University status for the Institute, of late this status itself has come under controversy and the process had been put on hold. The Council reiterated their earlier decision to press for IIPA being declared as an Institute of National Importance, emphasizing its unique character and history.

On a query being made by the Chairman, Standing Committee, the Director clarified that he had informally discussed the matter with the Secretaries of HRD and Personnel, who felt that this would not be possible at this stage. Once a new Government is formed at the

Centre, a formal proposal will be submitted. The Executive Council directed that rather than wait, the Institute should use the present period to prepare a strong case for IIPA to be declared as an Institute of National Importance, after examining how similar Institutes had been so declared. This requires further that the IIPA to expand its programme & activities as well as try to improve their quality further to create greater impact.

The Chairman mentioned that he has asked the Director to organize a seminar on *Hind Swaraj* and to invite a Keynote Speaker, Dr. Y.P. Anand, former Chairman, Railway Board. This was supported by Council members.

The Chairman thanked the former Director Shri M.C. Gupta and the former Hony. Treasurer Shri B.C. Mathur for their initiative in creating an "Infrastructure Development Fund" from the surpluses earned for meeting the future infrastructure needs of the Institute. It is expected that more contributions will be made to the fund. Any withdrawals from the Fund, the Chairman emphasized, should be speedily recouped back to the Fund.

Item No.269.3 Draft Annual Report for 2007-08.

The Chairman mentioned that contributions by the Faculty should form part of the shorter version of the Annual Report to avoid any needless menace. He also desired that a committee may edit the Annual Report before its finalization as hitherto. Referring to the observations made by members during the AGM, he mentioned that the draft replies from our side should be properly vetted (giving valid reasons for not agreeing to any suggestion).

Item No.270.4 Honorarium for 2008-09 to be paid to the Auditors to be appointed at the Annual General Body Meeting to be held on September 26, 2008.

It was reiterated that audited statement of accounts may be sent at least 15 days in advance to the members.

Item No.272.3 (i) Subjects for the (a) Annual Essay Prize Competition 2009, (b) Members' Annual Conference 2009 and (c) Special Issue of IJPA (July-September, 2009).

The Executive Council noted the recommendations of the Standing Committee and approved the following subjects for the:

(a) Annual Essay Prize Competition 2009

(i) Domestic Violence in India: Causes, Consequences and Remedies
(ii) Globalisation and Economic Recession: The Indian Context
(iii) The Importance of Agriculture in Sustainable Economic Growth in India

(b) Members' Annual Conference 2009

Reforms in Governance

(c) Special Issue of the IJPA (July-September, 2009)

The Right to Information: Present Status and Issues

(ii) Appointment of Judges for the Annual Essay Competition, 2009.

The Executive Council decided that the names of Judges may be finalised by the Director in consultation with the Hony. Treasurer and the Chairman, Standing Committee.

Item No.272.4 Dates for the Annual General Body Meeting and Members' Annual Conference.

The Executive Council approved the recommendation of the Standing Committee, that the Annual General Body Meeting may be convened either on October 23 or 24, 2009 or alternatively, on October 30 or 31, 2009, subject to the convenience of the President of the Institute. The Members' Annual Conference may be held on the subsequent day.

Item No.272.5 Draft Agenda for the Annual General Body Meeting.

The Executive Council approved the Draft Agenda of the Annual General Body Meeting in accordance with Rule 19 of the Memorandum of Association & Rules of IIPA.

Item No.272.6 Report of the Committee constituted to review the cases of isolated posts.

The Executive Council noted the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Item No.272.7 Report of the Committee constituted for review of the cadre/scales of the Stenographers.

The Executive Council noted the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Item No.272.8 A brief report on the important activities of the Institute during September, 2008 – March, 2009 relating to:

(a) Training Programmes,
(b) Status of Research & Consultancy Projects,
(c) Conferences/Seminars,
(d) Visitors to the Institute.

While noting the status of various projects, the Chairman expressed concern about the delay in completion of certain projects, owing to such studies being undertaken for a large number of states at one go, and emphasized the need for realistic goals and the maintenance of quality. The concerned State Governments could be asked to provide the necessary material in advance, to save time, and the expertise of the EC members and IIPA's branches tapped wherever possible.

It was also suggested that a brief outcome of the studies/projects completed should be presented before the E.C., and the feedback received from the customers be communicated. Prof. J. Guha Roy offered that, in the next meeting, he will make a presentation. The Chairman had earlier emphasized that the meetings of the Executive Council and Standing Committee should invariably have an academic content.

The Council congratulated the faculty on taking up and completing a large number of training courses, and research & consultancy projects.

Item No.272.9 Items to Report:

(i) Visits abroad of Faculty/Director.

The Chairman, Standing Committee mentioned that the Executive Council had earlier decided that the concerned faculty should make presentations in a faculty seminar to share their experiences. The Council was informed that two presentations were made last year by Dr. S.K. Bhattacharya and Dr. Lipi Mukhopadhyay.

The Chairman categorically mentioned that, if any project or consultancy/assignment is assigned to IIPA, it is the prerogative of the IIPA to decide to whom it should be given and no faculty member has a complete right over it.

On being pointed out by a member that a faculty member in his report has indicated that the detailed report may be seen on the website, it was mentioned by the Director that he will advise the concerned faculty to submit a brief report in a hard copy as well.

(ii) Prof. S.P. Verma, Hony. Treasurer officiated as Director during the leave period of the Director.

Noted.

(iii) Awarding of contract to M/s Advance Service (P) Ltd. for Security arrangement in IIPA Campus.

Noted.

(iv) Completion of probation period of Dr. Sachin Chowdhry, Assistant Professor in Urban Management.

Noted.

Item No.272.10 **Any other business with permission of the Chairman.**

(i) Establishment of IRCTC services at the IIPA.

The item was already discussed under the action taken report. On the question of raising the DA of outstation E.C. members, the Chairman mentioned that it may be uniformly raised to Rs.300/- per day. This was approved.

(ii) Office Remarks on the suggestions/observations made by the Office Bearers of the Regional & Local Branches in the meeting held on September 26, 2008.

The Executive Council noted and approved the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

(iii) Revision of charges for the issue of duplicate bar coded Library tickets to the faculty/staff.

The Executive Council noted the recommendation of the Standing Committee. It however felt that the charges should be renegotiated to lower them down.

(iv) Minutes of the Editorial Board meeting held on March 24, 2009.

The Executive Council noted and approved the recommendation of the Standing Committee which had not agreed to the giving of honorarium for writing or reviewing the articles printed in the Journal.

(v) Minutes of the Lok Prashashan Editorial Board held on March 25, 2009.

Noted.

(vi) Brief status report regarding the implementation of the Sixth Pay Commission's recommendations and resolution submitted by the Staff Association thereof.

The item had already been taken up under the action taken report.

(vii) Minutes of the Ninth meeting of the Resource & Economy Committee meetin held on March 25, 2009.

Noted.

(viii) Minutes of the Screening Committee meeting held on March 27, 2009.

The Executive Council approved the recommendations of the Screening Committ

(ix) Minutes of the Academic Committee meeting held on March 27, 2009.

Noted.

At this point of time the Chairman asked the other staff except the Registrar to leave the meeting. He made the following observation/points which were endorsed by the Executive Council:

1. He mentioned the need for strengthening and reviewing the functioning of the Regional/Local Branches, and added that he will constitute a Committee headed by Shri T.N. Dhar along with others to examine this.

   On a request from Shri T.N. Dhar, it was advised that a copy of the vision document/strategic plan of the IIPA may be sent to him, and other new members of the Executive Council. Shri Dhar expressed his dismay that the suggestions he had made for the E.C. and other meetings were not taken into account or even acknowledged, and wondered it might be intentional. The Director assured him that this was not the case, and that he would enquire as to why action was not taken on his suggestions. Expressing concern over the movement of papers in the office, the Chairman asked the Director and the Registrar to review internal systems to prevent such situations arising.

2. The Chairman mentioned that he had received a letter from Prof. R.V. Dhanapalan, tendering his resignation from the post of Vice President and requesting the Council to nominate Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram as Vice President of the Institute in his place. To follow a democratic approach, the Chairman wrote to all those EC members who were part of the meeting of the Executive Council held immediately after the AGM of 2008, i.e. 26 September 2008, giving them three options. Three opposed the proposal, two abstained and 13 supported it (and one left it to the Chair's discretion). The Chairman had kept all the papers with him and, based on the views of the EC members, he accepted the resignation of Prof. R.V. Dhanapalan from the post of Vice President and announced the nomination of Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram as Vice President of the Institute for the remaining term of Prof. R.V. Dhanapalan as Vice President i.e. till the AGM 2009. The Council welcomed Dr. V. Shanmugasundaram and thanked Prof. R.V. Dhanapalan for his gesture as well as for his meaningful contribution as Vice President. The Council also thanked the Chairman for conducting the matter in a democratic and constructive manner avoiding controversy. Chairman mentioned that the instant case would not constitute a precedent.

3. The GoI has laid down some conditions like the faculty - staff ratio and stopping recruitment/regularization of Group D officials. This was acceptable provided that the E.C's, existing decision was honoured, and no further regularization should take place. There would be no Group D recruitment either, and no back-door entries. If one person is appointed on a certain project and then is appointed on another project, it should be ensured that there is no continuity, which would enable anyone to demand regularization.

Appointments on a dailywage/adhoc basis should be avoided, and if outsourcing is resorted to as advised by Government, the surplus staff should be properly deployed/utilized, and fixed working hours determined. No one would be terminated on this account.

The Chairman advised against very frequent and avoidable travel, and emphasized the need to keep the interest of the Institute uppermost in mind. He referred to some directions which already existed about the participation of the faculty members in conferences, leave, etc. All this should not exclude even Delhi conferences during working hours with a specific permission of the Director or Chairman, Standing Committee. He further made the following observations:

- The Infrastructure Development fund should grow to take care of the future needs of the Institute.

- He also advised the Director and his colleagues to give due attention to the EC members whenever they call on him.

- As regards faculty evaluation, the existing norms, need to be fully adhered to and objective criteria established so that the process is more transparent and effective.

- As regards the Library, he mentioned that we had earlier engaged some staff for 3-4 months on dailywage/adhoc basis for retroconversion work etc., but now no more such engagements/extensions are to be made/given and the work should be carried out with the existing available staff.

- As regards the Time Bound Personal Promotion Scheme etc. the next scale can be granted when due, but no change of designation may take place as it gives claims for further creation of promotion posts in future.

Shri M.C. Gupta mentioned that a meeting may be held with the Secretary (Expenditure) as it will be worthwhile to make a request for an additional grant for the Institute. He also requested the Chairman, Standing Committee and the Director to have a meeting with Shri Vijay Kelkar, Chairman of the 13th Finance Commission (and offered to join them), to present a case for a dedicated grant to IIPA.

Chairman expressed his thanks and appreciation for the enlightened suggestions and interest of the members.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

T. N. Chaturvedi
(T.N. CHATURVEDI)
CHAIRMAN

B.S. Baswan
(B.S. BASWAN)
DIRECTOR &
MEMBER-SECRETARY