भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान जोधपुर
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY JODHPUR

अभिशासक मंडल

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

३९वीं बैठक के कार्यवृत्त

MINUTES OF 39th MEETING

११ मार्च २०२५ (मंगलवार)

मंडल कक्ष, भा. प्रौ. संस्थान जोधपुर

11th March 2025 (Tuesday)
Board Room, IIT Jodhpur

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Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur
Board of Governors
Minutes of 39th Meeting
11th March 2025 (Tuesday), 09:30 A.M.
Board Room, IIT Jodhpur

The following Members were present / issued comments in the 39th Meeting of the Board of Governors:

1.	Sh. A. S. Kiran Kumar, Former Chairman, ISRO	Chairman
2.	Prof. Avinash Kumar Agarwal, Director, IIT Jodhpur	Member (*Ex-officio*)
3.	Smt. Saumya Gupta, IAS, Joint Secretary (Technical Education) Ministry of Education, Govt. of India	Member (*issued comments*)
4.	Prof. Akhil Ranjan Garg, MBM University, Jodhpur	Member
5.	Prof. (Retd.) Narpat S. Shekhawat, JNVU, Jodhpur	Member
6.	Prof. Neeraj Jain, Deptt. of Bioscience & Bioengg., IITJ	Member
7.	Prof. Meenu Chhabra, Deptt. of Bioscience & Bioengg., IITJ	Member
8.	Prof. Sampat Raj Vadera, Advisor to the Director, IITJ	Special Invitee
9.	Prof. Bhabani K. Satapathy, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, IITJ	Special Invitee
10.	Dr. Ankur Gupta, *Offg*. Registrar	Secretary

The Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, Member, BoG could not attend the Meeting. Sh. Anil Bhavarlal Jain, Member, BoG did not attend the Meeting.

The following are the decisions of the *BoG* on the Agenda items:

S. No.	Items
39.1	**WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BoG)**
	At the outset, Dr. Ankur Gupta, Officiating Registrar welcomed Chairman and Members of the Board of Governors. Then, he requested the Chairman, BoG to kindly deliver his opening remarks.
	The Chairman, Board of Governors welcomed the Members of the Board of Governors especially Prof. Meenu Chhabra, Department of Bioscience and Bioengineering, who was attending the BoG meeting as Senate Nominee, for the first time.
	The Chairman welcomed Dr. Ankur Gupta, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, who was attending the meeting, as Officiating Registrar, for the first time. Chairman also welcomed Prof. Bhabani K. Satapathy, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, IIT Jodhpur who was attending meeting, as a Special Invitee.
	The Board of Governors also placed on record thanks to Prof. Richa Singh, Outgoing Member, BoG as Senate Nominee and Dr. Hari Om Yadav, Outgoing Registrar, for their contributions. Then, the Chairman called the meeting to order.
	Thereafter, the Director briefed to the Board of Governors about the sad demise of Dr. R. Chidambaram, former Chairman, BoG, IIT Jodhpur.

Then, the Director read the following Condolence Message:

"IIT Jodhpur, on behalf of the Board of Governors, Finance Committee, Director, Faculty Members, Staff Members, and Students, deeply mourn the sad demise of Dr. R. Chidambaram, Former Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Jodhpur, who breathed his last on 4th January 2025. Dr. R. Chidambaram was the Chairman of BoG, IIT Jodhpur, from 2nd July 2018 to 21st August 2023.

Dr. R. Chidambaram was one of the architects of India's Nuclear Programme and played a key role in India's nuclear tests. He will be remembered with great respect by the Nation, and his efforts will inspire generations to come.

Dr. Chidambaram served as the 2nd Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India for ~17 Years, Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission of the Government of India, and many key positions throughout his inspiring career. He was conferred Padma Shri and Padma Vibhushan in 1975 and 1999, respectively, by the Govt. of India. His passion for Science & Technology, focus on entrepreneurship, motivation for youth, humility, and sense of humour impressed everyone who interacted with him.

IIT Jodhpur is blessed to have the leadership, guidance, and wisdom of Dr. Chidambaram as the Chairman of BoG. His contributions are unmatchable and IIT Jodhpur will always remain grateful for his contributions for overall growth of the Institute.

IIT Jodhpur extends heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones and pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul and courage & fortitude to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

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The BoG also observed 2 Minutes silence to pay homage to Late Dr. R. Chidambaram, former Chairman, BoG, IIT Jodhpur.

39.1.1	**To confirm the Minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 25th October 2024 in the Board Room, IIT Jodhpur**
	The Board of Governors confirmed the Minutes of 38th Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 25th October 2024, as circulated.
39.2	**Presentation of the Institute Report by the Director, IIT Jodhpur**
	Professor Avinash Kumar Agarwal, Director, IIT Jodhpur, presented the Institute Report, highlighting key developments, initiatives, and achievements since the last meeting of the Board of Governors held on 25 October 2024. The report covered various aspects, including new academic initiatives, faculty recruitment status, research and development activities, international collaborations, corporate engagements, and student affairs along with major initiatives related to campus development activities.

39.2.1	Not for public domain.
39.3	**DISCUSSION ITEMS**
39.3.1	Not for public domain.

39.3.2	**To consider & approve the recommendations of the Senate made in its 40th Meeting held on 6th and 7th March 2025 at IIT Jodhpur:**
	  (i) Creation of Medical Technology Center (MedTech Centre)
	  (ii) Other recommendations of the Senate

39.3.2 (continued)

(i) Creation of Medical Technology Center (MedTech Centre)

Prof. Sushmita Jha, Coordinator, IITJ-AIIMSJ Med.Tech. Centre presented the proposal of the creation of MedTech Centre at IIT Jodhpur before the Board of Governors. Prof. Jha briefed the BoG that MedTech Centre will catalyse multi-disciplinary collaborations and the Development of Need-based Cutting-edge Technologies. Prof. Jha apprised the following objectives envisioned for the proposed Centre:

- To run Joint Programs in Medical Technologies (IIT J and AIIMS J), offering Masters, Masters-Ph.D. Dual Degree and Ph.D. Programs.
- To offer Programs in Digital Health.
- To offer Short-Term / Executive Education Courses in broad areas of Medical Technologies, Intellectual Property, regulatory framework.
- To offer ideation-to-prototyping services that will include: Consulting/ Handholding/ end-to-end service to Industry.
- To offer IP and Medical Technology regulatory framework services.
- To offer Clinical Trial services.
- To set up a prototype production/manufacturing facility for commercialization.
- The Center will broadly focus on solving significant healthcare problems using medical technology innovation and entrepreneurship. It will generate high-end facilities which will aid Medical Technology innovations for efficient patient management.

Prof. Jha briefed the BoG that the Medical Technologies Program, initiated in collaboration with AIIMS Jodhpur in 2020, has grown significantly over the years. In March 2024, the Senate, IIT Jodhpur approved the formation of the MedTech Centre under the Interdisciplinary Research Division (IDRD) of the institute.

The proposal emphasizes the rapid advancements in healthcare innovations but also highlights the challenges of improving access, efficiency, and cost in healthcare systems. India's unique healthcare needs, shaped by urban-rural divides, the transition from communicable to non-communicable diseases, and increasing life expectancy, require medical technologies that are better suited to local needs.

The proposal points out the limitations of adapting technologies designed for developed countries to the diverse needs of Indian patients, and the importance of considering factors like genetic profiles, climate, and culture. However, the proposal also stresses the opportunities arising from scientific discoveries, technological advancements, and global connectivity to develop innovative healthcare solutions.

To address these challenges, the MedTech Centre would foster multi-disciplinary collaborations between professionals from medicine, engineering, entrepreneurship, and business, aiming to develop need-based, cutting-edge technologies. The Senate, IIT Jodhpur has recommended the proposal for approval by the Board of Governors (BoG).

The Board of Governors appreciated the initiative and suggested that Institute should ensure the seed funding for establishing of the Centre and work out a future plan for its long-term sustainability. The Board approved the creation of Med-Tech Centre.

(ii) Other recommendations of the Senate

The Minutes of the 40th Meeting held on 6-7 March 2025 were placed before the Board of Governors. Prof. Atul Kumar, Dean of Academic Affairs (DOAA) presented the summary of the points discussed in the Senate before the BoG.

The following recommendations of the Senate were approved by the BoG:

1. Proposal for the establishment of **Manekshaw Centre of Excellence for National Security Studies and Research (MCOENSSR)** at IIT Jodhpur

The BoG was apprised that the proposal for establishing the Manekshaw Centre of Excellence for National Security Studies and Research (MCOENSSR), with IIT Jodhpur as one of the founding Institutes was presented to the Senate in its 40th Meeting held on 6-7 March 2025. The Senate considered and recommended the same to the BoG.

It was further informed that MCOENSSR is envisioned as a *Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)* fostering collaboration between academia, government, and industry to address national security challenges and develop a "*Security Industrial Complex*" under *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. Leading institutions such as IIT Guwahati, IIIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, IIT Jodhpur, and IIT Dharwad, along with the Indian tri-services, will drive innovation in defence technology, each specializing in specific domains.

IIT Jodhpur will serve as the Centre of Excellence *in Engine Design, UAVs / RPAs, and Directed Energy Weapons*, providing infrastructure, expertise, and administrative support. The institute will collaborate with others to identify critical research areas, share resources, and secure funding from government and private sectors.

Key Focus Areas:

A. Research & Development:
- Innovation, productization, and manufacturing in defence technologies.
- Addressing problem statements from MoD, DRDO, ISRO, CAPFs, and other security agencies.
- Serving as a single-window interface between academia and the armed forces.
- Collaborating with global institutes, startups, and industry for higher technology readiness.

B. Capacity Building:
- Offering specialized courses (Certificate/MDP/Master/Ph.D.) for defence personnel under NEP.
- Re-employment programs for military personnel transitioning to industry.
- Hosting workshops, ideathons, and an annual conference on national security and warfare strategies.

	2. To incentivize exceptional Ph.D. students submitting their thesis within 3 or 4 years since the date of registration with an enhanced assistantship for the next six months 3. Revised norms for partial financial support to Ph.D. students for attending and presenting their work in international conferences 4. Implementation of Half Time Research Assistantship (HTRA) for an additional year for female Ph.D. Students in compliance of the MoE directives 5. Proposal for Endowment Award to Support Inbound and Outbound Student's Mobility The BoG noted the following items approved by the Senate: 1. Proposal to restructure all M.Tech. and Ph.D. Programs of the institute 2. Reforms in M.Tech. Programs 3. Reforms in Ph.D. Programs 4. A new M.Des. Program in Smart Product Design from School of Design 5. A new M.Tech. Program in Bridge Engineering form the department of Civil and Infrastructure Engineering 6. A new M.Tech. Program in Drones and anti-Drones Technologies from the department of Mechanical Engineering 7. Revised publication requirements for Ph.D. students- School of Management & Entrepreneurship 8. Revised publication requirements for Ph.D. students- School of Liberal Arts 9. Revised guidelines for Branch-Change of B.Tech. students 10. Proposal to organize 11th Convocation of the Institute in the last week of June 2025 11. Transfer of Ph.D. Students of the Regular Faculty Members of Other Institutes Joining IIT Jodhpur

39.3.3	**To discuss and recommend Honoris Causa Doctorate to Eminent Personalities for their exceptional contributions during next Convocation of the Institute**
	
	The Board of Governors was briefed that the Senate in its 40th Meeting held on 6-7 March 2025 recommended for conferment of Honoris Causa Doctorate to following Eminent Personalities considering their contributions in their areas:
	
	1. **Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat**
	   Member, NITI Aayog,
	   Former Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University
	   Padma Bhushan Awardee
	
	2. **Dr. Ashutosh Sharma**
	   Institute Chair Professor & C. V. Seshadri Chair Professor
	   Former Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India
	   Padma Shri Awardee
	
	3. **Shri Vipin Sondhi**
	   Chairperson, National Board for Quality Promotion at the Quality Council of India
	   Chairperson of CII's Council for Green Mobility
	   Former Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Ashok Leyland, JCB India, and Tecumseh India
	
	Board of Governors considered the recommendations of the Senate and recommended it for submission to the Visitor *(Hon'ble President of India)* through Ministry of Education for approval.

39.3.4	Not for public domain.
39.3.5	Not for public domain.
39.3.6	Not for public domain.
39.3.7	Not for public domain.
39.3.8	Not for public domain.
39.3.9	**To consider and approve the creation of IIT Jodhpur North America Foundation, A Non-Profit Corporation** Prof. Kaushalkumar A. Desai, Dean of Resources and Alumni presented the proposal before the BoG. Prof. Desai briefed that IIT Jodhpur Alumni community established a North America Chapter for effective engagement between alumni in the North America region and the Institute in May 2022. It resulted in a focused alumni network actively participating in networking events and discussion forums. The chapter activities are proposed to be expanded and strengthened by creating the IIT Jodhpur North America Foundation. The purpose of setting up the IIT Jodhpur North America Foundation is to engage and support students / alumni, enhance branding, and raise funds for the betterment of IIT Jodhpur. Similar foundations exist for other IITs and are actively working towards supporting the concerned IIT, its students and alumni. The proposed Foundation will have a Board (with representatives from the Institute) to refine these purposes through a Board Resolution, provided the purpose remains exclusively in the context of education and scientific purposes leading to the betterment of IIT Jodhpur and its alumni worldwide. The Dean of Resources and Alumni (DORA) office will liaise with the IITJ North America Foundation to execute these purposes. The key objective of the Foundation is to support IITJ in achieving its aspiration of being ranked as one of the top Institutes of higher learning in the world. The Foundation will accomplish the same by the following activities: • Promoting Educational and Research activities of IITJ in the USA, • Creating opportunities for scholarships and grants for student education and research, • Supporting collaboration and research between IITJ faculty and students and educational and research institutes worldwide, especially in the USA, • Assisting faculty, students, and alumni of IITJ in pursuing their professional goals in the USA through networking, • Supporting visits by US faculty to IITJ for teaching, research, or collaboration, • Creating funding opportunities such as donations, bequests, gifts, and grants from alumni, associates, and benefactors, and • Creating a mechanism for utilizing funds received by the Foundation for the benefit of IIT Jodhpur. After detailed deliberations, the Board of Governors approved the proposal.

39.3.10	**To consider and approve the creation of Additional Endowment Opportunities for receiving Philanthropic, Alumni and Corporate Donations**
	Prof. Kaushalkumar A. Desai, Dean of Resources and Alumni presented briefed to the BoG that the guidelines for setting up Endowed Faculty Chair, Young Faculty Fellowship, and Endowed Awards for Student Excellence were approved by the Board of Governors (BoG) in its 37th Meeting held on 29th June 2024 and subsequently notified through Office Order No. IITJ/REG/2024-25/91 and IITJ/REG/2024-25/92, dated 1st August 2024. Building upon these initiatives, the Office of the Dean of Resources & Alumni (DORA) has identified and presented new endowment opportunities under three broad categories before the BoG: 1. Endowment Opportunities for Students – Supporting conference participation, entrepreneurship, summer internships, fellowships for bright students (including those from socially backward sections), and donor-specific domains. 2. Endowment Opportunities for Faculty, Research & Entrepreneurship – Funding faculty entrepreneurship, young faculty research grants, joint research collaborations, new lab infrastructure, and donor-desired domains. 3. Endowments for Naming Academic & Non-Academic Infrastructure – Offering naming opportunities for academic and non-academic spaces to recognize donor contributions. These endowment opportunities will enable alumni, corporate entities, and philanthropists to contribute either for a fixed duration (minimum five years) or through perpetual endowments, thereby expanding engagement with a broader donor base and creating additional revenue streams for the Institute. The details of received endowments and their operational plans will be presented to the BoG as they materialize. After detailed deliberations, the BoG approved the proposal.
39.4	**REPORTING, ADOPTING, AND NOTING ITEMS**
	Not for public domain.
39.5	**RATIFICATION ITEMS**
	Not for public domain.
39.6	**Presentation by the 2 Faculty Members on their research work /accomplishments before the BoG**
	As per the decision of the BoG taken in its 24th Meeting held on 5.12.2020, the following 2 Faculty Members of the Institute made presentations before the BoG about their research work: 1. **Dr. Rajlaxmi Chouhan**, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Head, CETE, presented her work in the area of image processing and education technology. She explained her work in the area of blended learning using video-based flipped classroom, gamification and game-based learning, assessment strategies, learning analytics, bilingual content creation and instructional design. She also mentioned that the video content created by her is freely available on YouTube channel for mass consumption. She also presented the journey and evolution of edtech at IIT Jodhpur from a small group in 2020 to a full-fledged Center in 2022 that has started

academic programs, PhD and ITEP, in 2023 and 2024, respectively. Dr. Chouhan also presented various other ongoing activities and initiatives of the CETE and the Institute towards NEP implementation such as ITEP curriculum development, multilingual STEM storybooks (joint CETE-SoD initiative), workshops, training, and instructional design support, teacher training programs, NEP outreach to state universities, and the learn-in-matribhasha initiative for BTech first year. The Board advised to incorporate more data for comparison of performance of students from the previous year of BTech program. The presentation concluded with a brief discussion on role of technology-enhanced learning and plans for growth of the CETE.

2. **Dr. Jitendra Kumar**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Jodhpur presented his ongoing research activities with the international mega-science project Belle II at KEK, Japan. The IIT Jodhpur has been officially part of the Belle II collaboration since June 2023. During his presentation, he provided insights not only to the field of particle physics but also highlighted key unresolved questions that the global scientific community is striving to answer in its pursuit of uncovering the universe's deepest secrets. He began by explaining the Belle II CDC detector-related activities at IITJ, after which the BoG Chair suggested also exploring the implementation of new ideas and approaches. His team is working on innovative ideas to improve detector performance and will explore further to find new pathways, as suggested during the meeting. He then presented a physics analysis work his team is currently working on in collaboration with INFN Italy and the University of Hawaii, USA. The BoG Chairman inquired whether these projects face any resource limitations at IIT Jodhpur and also if full data access is facilitated through Belle II collaboration. Dr. Jitendra mentioned computing resources as one of the limitations; for example, methods like Deep learning in complex data environment of particle physics need high-performance CPU with an advanced GPU. These resources can enhance the overall project execution efficiency and will also enable the testing of new ideas using ML/AI. Finally, he presented his theoretical and experimental work with Prof. Ashutosh Alok's team, highlighting extraordinary results that significantly impacted the particle physics community. The work gained recognition, leading to multiple seminar invitations at major collaborations like CERN and KEK. Prof. Uma from IIT Bombay played a key role in this work and pushed the team to test the theory with experimental data. The experimental particle physics (e.g., at CERN) community appreciated the innovative ideas proposed by the IIT Jodhpur team. The BoG Chairman asked whether any objections to the new findings were raised during the seminar. Dr. Jitendra explained that the seminar proceeded smoothly and concluded with open questions for the scientific community to explore in the future. The BoG chairman and other members appreciated his research work and suggested finding areas where new ideas could be implemented and suggested reporting resource limitations. The Director also discussed plans of connecting IIT Jodhpur with CERN as well as setting up new facilities for medical technologies based on particle physics research.

The Board of Governors appreciated the presentation of both the Faculty Members.

39.7	Not for public domain.

After the conclusion of the Meeting of the BoG, the Offg. Registrar & Secretary, BoG thanked the Chairman, BoG, the Director, and the Members for their invaluable time and critical inputs.

Sd/-
Offg. Registrar & Secretary, BoG

Sd/-
Director, IIT Jodhpur

Approved

Sd/-
Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Jodhpur