

**Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council of Rehabilitation Council of India held at 11.00 A.M. on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017 at Conference Room-I, India International Centre (Main), New Delhi**

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**P R E S E N T**

1. Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Pandey, CCPD & Chairperson, RCI
2. Shri Tushar Ranjan Mohanty, DDG, DEPwD, Member
3. Dr. N.S. Dharmshaktu, Principal Advisor, M/o HFW, Member
4. Shri Kamal Dayani, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat, Member
5. Shri Sambhu Nath Das, Member
6. Dr. K. Rayar, Member
7. Dr. Ravinder Singh, Member
8. Dr. Manisha Aggarwal, Member
9. Shri S.R. Meena, US, Rep. Member, M/o Rural Development
10. Shri H.M. Sonkusare, US, Rep. Member M/o HRD
11. Ms. Purnima Jain, Tamana, Rep. Member
12. Shri S.K. Srivastava, Member Secretary

Chairperson, RCI and Member Secretary, RCI extended warm welcome to the members of the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council. Chairperson, RCI informed that a meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the first week of February, 2017 in which a number of important decisions were taken. He said that the role of RCI is to facilitate, approve and monitor NGOs, institutions, organizations and Universities and professionals working in disability sector all over India. He said that 25 years have been completed since enactment of the Rehabilitation Council of India Act in 1992 and emphasized the need to improve our process and rules and regulations to give more facilities to NGOs/ institutions working in the field of disability to bring about change in the society, which can be done only with the collective efforts of all stakeholders. He said that the professionals also need to be turned into missionaries to bring attitudinal change in the mind set of society towards persons with disabilities. He then requested Member Secretary to present the agenda of the meeting.

Agenda was presented by Member Secretary and following decisions were taken:

**Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council held on 30.11.2015**

Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council of RCI held on 30.11.2015 were confirmed.

**Item No. 2: Follow up action on the Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council**

Follow up action (Action Taken Report) on the Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the General Council was perused and approved by the Members with the following decisions:

1. All National Institutes conducting examination of Certificate/Diploma level Courses under NBER shall depute concerned officials to study the examination system developed and

implemented by NIEPMD, Chennai in respect of Certificate/Diploma Courses to facilitate better conduct of examinations.

2. RCI to expedite hiring of building for NBER.
3. Scope of practice shall be prepared by the Council for other categories of professionals like Clinical Psychologists, etc. and put up for approval in the next EC Meeting.

### **Item No. 3: Perusal of the Progress Report of the Council**

Progress Report of the Council for the period from April, 2016 to January, 2017 was perused by the General Council.

### **Item No.4: Perusal of the Minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup>, 72<sup>nd</sup>, 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Executive Committee of RCI**

Minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup>, 72<sup>nd</sup>, 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Executive Committee of RCI were perused and approved by the General Council.

### **Item No.5: Opening of State Chapter of RCI**

General Council authorized the Chairperson, RCI to approve parameters for appointment of Chairpersons for State Chapters and norms & guidelines for running of State Chapters which shall be placed in the next meeting of the Executive Committee for approval. GC also authorized the Chairperson, RCI to select new Chairpersons for ZCCs whose term is expiring in June, 2017.

As regards setting up of 4 Regional Centres, it was decided that instead of setting up of infrastructure at regional places, additional officers, along with supporting staff, shall be appointed at RCI who would be responsible for their respective regions of the country.

### **Item No.6: Cut off date for accepting State Govt. NOC for consideration of fresh proposals for the academic session 2017-18**

It was informed to the General Council that the Council had invited proposals for grant of approval to conduct RCI approved training Courses in the field of disability rehabilitation vide Council's Circular dated 23/06/2016 which was placed in the public domain on the Council's website and various leading newspapers. As per the aforesaid circular, last date for receiving the proposals completed in all respects, including NOC from the State Government was 15/09/2016. Subsequently, the date was extended up to 31/12/2016. It has been observed that many proposals are not containing State NOC or even State NOCs are received after 31/12/2016 whereas the proposals have already being received by the Council within the prescribed last date.

2. Accordingly, the matter was discussed by the General Council in its meeting held on 22/02/2017 and it has been decided by GC that: (1) Fresh Proposals for the academic session 2017-18 received on time through on-line and offline mode, wherein NOC from State Government was not available, shall be considered for the academic session 2017-18 only in cases where State NOC is issued till 28/02/2017 and received in the Council latest by 06/03/2017, (2) Remaining proposals wherein NOC from State Government is issued after 28/02/2017, shall be considered and processed for the academic session 2018-19 subject to willingness of the concerned institution.

3. RCI shall issue notice to all State Governments under Section 24(9) of RCI Notification, 1997 which states that “ On receipt of the an application from an organization for permission to start new rehabilitation professional course, the Council shall call for if not done by the organization, the recommendations/views of the State Government. In case the recommendations/ views of the State Government are not received within a period of ninety days, the Council shall be entitled to process the application on its own with the support of its Committees and thereafter take such decision as it deems necessary” and subsequently the Council will initiate necessary action as provided under Section 24 (9) of notification referred above.

4. It was also decided by the General Council that RCI shall conduct surprise inspection of institutions which are given approval to verify the facts stated in the self-assessment report and inspection report submitted by the experts.

#### **Item No.7: Registration of workers/Technicians of Jaipur Foot/Limb in Central Rehabilitation Register**

The candidate working in Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti, Jaipur and having minimum qualification of Matric (10<sup>th</sup> class pass) shall be allowed to undergo 6 months Bridge Course in P&O to be eligible for registration in the Central Rehabilitation Register as a P&O Technician. The candidates who do have the minimum qualification of Matric (10<sup>th</sup> class pass) shall be eligible for registration only after acquiring minimum qualification of Matric (10<sup>th</sup> class) from a recognized Board through distance mode or NIOS. The procedure for conducting the Bridge Course shall be decided by the Council for such candidates.

#### **Item No.8: Programmes of Salus University, USA**

It was informed to the General Council by Member Secretary that subsequent to approval by DEPwD (Divyangjan), he visited Salus University, USA from 12-13 September, 2016 to study their programmes in the field of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology. As a follow up of the visit, representatives from Salus University, USA shall be visiting India to explore the possibility of signing MoU between Indian Universities/Institutions like Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech & Hearing Disabilities (Divyangjan), Maharashtra, National Institute of Speech & Hearing, Kerala, MGR University, Tamil Nadu and Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation University, Uttar Pradesh and Salus University to run the following programmes:

- a. International AuD Degree Bridge Program
- b. Advanced Studies Certificate Programs and
- c. M.Sc. in Clinical Audiology Program

General Council approved the proposal of collaboration with Salus University, USA and to place the syllabi of above Courses before the respective Expert Committee for consideration and approval. RCI can have an MoU with Salus University after completion of all the formalities required in such cases.

#### **Item No.9: Re-start of BPO Condensed course**

In view of the comments received from the Experts in the matter of conducting the BPO Condensed Course and in the interest of the candidates, General Council approved the proposal to re-start the BPO Condensed Course through its approved institutions.

### **Item No.10: Publication of Books for Diploma Courses by RCI**

General Council approved the proposal to bring out Books/Manuals on the lines of NCERT in collaboration with eminent publishers for the benefit of Diploma programme students. An Apex Advisory and Monitoring Committee shall be constituted consisting of a coordinator, experts for writing the books/manuals and an editor. Such books/manuals shall be translated in regional languages through the Centre for Disability Studies proposed to be set up at the Universities all over the country.

General Council also approved the following rates of remuneration/honorarium for payment to experts for this purpose:

Sr.No.	Topic	No. of pages	Size of the book	Rate (Amount in Rs.)
1.	Writing of books/manuals/ manuscripts/instruction material/TLM, etc.	Upto 100 pages	A4 Font 12 (Single line)	30,000
2.	Writing of books/manuals/ manuscripts/instruction material/TLM, etc.	Upto 200 pages	A4 Font 12 (Single line)	50,000
3.	Editing of Books/Manuals/ Manuscripts, etc	Upto 100 pages	N.A.	15,000
4.	Editing of Books/Manuals/ Manuscripts, etc.	Upto 200 pages	N.A.	25,000

#### **Any other matter**

1. It was informed to the General Council that the Bangalore University has conducted the Diploma in CBR outside their jurisdiction as a result the passed out candidates cannot be registered in the Central Rehabilitation Register. With the intervention of the Council, Bangalore University has now stopped conducting the DCBR course but the Courses conducted earlier cannot be regularized to give registration to passed out candidates. GC directed to take up the matter again with the DEPwD for resolving the issue of registration of passed out candidates from Bangalore University.
2. MoU with North-east Universities to be signed/renewed for conducting distance education programmes with the approval of Distance Education Bureau (DEB).
3. RCI has requested the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment to write to the Hon'ble Minister for HRD to direct the Universities to establish Centre of Disability Studies for conducting courses in disability rehabilitation and special education and promoting the schemes and programmes in this field for the benefit of persons with disabilities.
4. Dr. Ravinder Singh, ICMR informed that he has requested DGHS to direct the institutions to apply to the Council for running courses in Clinical Psychology.

5. General Council approved to recommend to the Ministry/Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities to undertake a study to validate the census data relating to disability.
6. In view of the enactment of the RPD Act, 2016, it has become necessary to make amendments to the RCI Act, 1992. Accordingly, General Council approved to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of a retired Judge to review and redraft the RCI Act.
7. General Council approved to recommend to the Ministry/Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities to reconsider starting of the National Programme of Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) Scheme for catering to the needs of persons with disabilities living in rural areas/villages.
8. Two Schemes for Leprosy Cured Persons prepared by the Expert Committee constituted by RCI for this purpose should be recommended to Government for launching through a single window system for the benefit of leprosy cured persons.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

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