

## Report of the High Power Committee in relation to CHEMCON 2017 Accounts

The background of the terms of reference of the High Power Committee as described in the Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting held on 20.07.2019 at Trivundrum is given below

*In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting, it was decided to invite 5 (five) Members of Haldia to the 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting subject to the presences of Immediate Past President (Prof Vinay K Srivastava) & Immediate Past Honorary Secretary (Prof Sudip K Das) otherwise, the presence of Members from Haldia could not solve the problem. Since Prof. Sudip K Das did not ensure his presence in the 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting despite repeated contacts, inviting Haldia Members in the 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting was dropped.*

*Under the above circumstance, it was decided that the Members of Haldia would be invited at IICChE HQ provided the presence of Prof. Radha Das in person is ensured on a mutually convenient date and time to present her clarifications to a High Power Committee constituted by the Council. She submitted that her clarifications were not properly briefed to the Council vide her email of 09.11.2018 (Annexure 3; Pg # 3).*

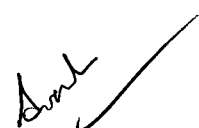
*The Members of Haldia, decided earlier in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting, to be invited are—*

- (i) Mr. A.P.Gangopadhyay, Ex-ED IOCL Haldia, Chairman, LOC, CHEMCON 2017*
- (ii) Mr. A.K.Ghosh, Chairman, Haldia Regional Center at the time of CHEMCON 2017*
- (iii) Prof. Tapas K Manna, Honorary Secretary, Haldia Regional Center at the time of CHEMCON 2017*
- (iv) Prof. Radha Das, Organizing Secretary, CHEMCON 2017*
- (v) Prof. R.N. Jana, Treasurer, CHEMCON 2017*

*The High Power Committee constituted by the Council comprising the following Members:*

- 1. Prof. S.V. Satyanarayana, Chairman*
- 2. Prof. P.De (President at the time of CHEMCON 2017)*
- 3. Prof. Vinay K Srivastava (Immediate past President)*
- 4. Prof. S.P.Chaurasia (Chairman of the Enquiry Committee, 2018)*
- 5. Mr. D.M.Butala (Vice President & Convener Legal Committee 2019)*
- 6. Mr. Ranga Rao (Member of the Enquiry Committees, 2018)*
- 7. Prof. A.Bandyopadhyay (Convener & Honorary Secretary)*

*President requested Honorary Secretary to include local Members (not more than two) in the Committee in consultation with him. Initially, the convenient date & time would be confirmed from the Members of Haldia (especially from Prof. Radha Das) followed by notification of the meeting to the Members of Haldia and to the Members of the High Power Committee. Prof. Sudip K Das being the Honorary Secretary last year (2018) would be invited to attend the meeting.*



Based on the decision of the Council, Honorary Secretary consulted with President on 12.08.2019 to include two local Members namely, Prof. B.B.Paira (Former Honorary Secretary & Founder Director of Haldia Institute of Technology) and Mr.A.Sural (Member of the revised Enquiry Committee, 2018).

The chronological events for fixing the Meeting followed by issuance of a Notice for the Meeting to all concerned are as follows:

- 30.07.2019 An email was issued to Prof. Tapas K Manna requesting him for getting confirmation of other Members of Haldia for attending the Meeting with the High Power Committee if it was held on 31.08.2019 at 11.00 AM at IICHE HQ, Kolkata (**Annexure-I; Pg # 1**).
- 31.07.2019 Prof. Tapas K Manna issued an email, to other selected Members of Haldia including Prof. Radha Das & Prof. R N Jana, for getting their confirmation to attend the said Meeting (**Annexure-I; Pg # 1&2**).
- 07.08.2019 Prof. Tapas K Manna responded to Honorary Secretary through email by forwarding the message (email) of Prof. Radha Das, of 07.08.2019, expressing her inability to attend the Meeting on 31.08.2019 due to preoccupation (**Annexure-I; Pg # 2 & 3**).
- 08.08.2019 Honorary Secretary in his response (email) informed Prof. Radha Das and other Members of Haldia to meet the High Power Committee on 01.09.2019 (rescheduled from 31.08.2019) at same time and same place (**Annexure-I; Pg # 3&4**). It was further clarified to her that no meeting would be held in the event of her inability to come and to meet the High Power Committee this time even if any of other specified Members of Haldia was willing to come.
- 10.08.2019 Prof. Radha Das in her response (email) expressed her ability to remain present in person in the meeting with the High Power Committee (**Annexure-I; Pg # 6**).
- 11.08.2019 A response was sent by the Honorary Secretary to the email dtd 10.08.2019 of Prof. Radha Das (**Annexure-I; Pg # 6 & 7**).
- 12.08.2019 Notice vide Ref No AB/HALDIA-2/2019 dtd 12.08.2019 for the meeting was issued to Prof. Radha Das and other Members of the Haldia (**Annexure-II & III**).
- 12.08.2019 The Members of the High Power Committee was also notified on 12.08.2019 (**Annexure-IV**).
- 13.08.2019 Prof. Sudip K Das (Immediate Past Honorary Secretary, 2018) was invited vide Ref. No. AB/HALDIA-03/2019 dtd 12.08.2019 to attend the meeting as per the decision of the Council as excerpted earlier (**Annexure-V**).



The Agenda of the Meeting was "**Briefing of the said Clarifications by Prof. Radha Das in relation to CHEMCON 2017 Accounts and matters arising out from the same, if any, with the permission of the Chair**". The meeting was organized at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor instead to 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of Dr H L Roy Building as notified on 12.08.2019.

**Members of the High Power Committee present were -**

1. Prof. S.V. Satyanarayana (President) Chairman
2. Prof. B.B.Paira (Former Honorary Secretary & Founder Director of Haldia Institute of Technology)
3. Prof. P.De (President at the time of CHEMCON 2017)
4. Mr. D.M.Butala (Vice President & Convener Legal Committee 2019)
5. Mr. Ranga Rao (Jt. Secretary; Member of the Enquiry Committees, 2018)
6. Mr. A.Sural (Member of the revised Enquiry Committees, 2018)
7. Prof. A.Bandyopadhyay (Convener & Honorary Secretary)

**Members of Haldia present were -**

1. Prof. Tapas K Manna, Honorary Secretary, Haldia Regional Center at the time of CHEMCON 2017
2. Prof. Radha Das, Organizing Secretary, CHEMCON 2017
3. Prof. R.N. Jana, Treasurer, CHEMCON 2017

Prof. Sudip K Das, Immediate past Honorary Secretary (2018) was present.

Communications were received from Prof. Vinay K Srivastava (Immediate Past President) and Prof. S.P.Chaurasia (Chairman of the Enquiry Committee, 2018) regretting their inability to attend the meeting. However, Mr. A.P.Gangopadhyay, Ex-ED IOCL Haldia, Chairman, LOC, CHEMCON 2017 and Mr. A.K.Ghosh, Chairman, Haldia Regional Center at the time of CHEMCON 2017 did not attend the meeting.

Prof. S V Satyanarayana, President of the Institute chaired the Meeting and called the meeting to order. At first, Prof. Radha Das informed that the "**Clarifications against observations of special purpose audit of the accounts of Chemcon 2017 by Debasis Bandyopadhyay & Co**" submitted dtd. 08.12.2018 addressing to the President of IChE (**Annexure-VI**) could be considered for the purpose of her briefing. A chronological fact on CHEMCON-2017 (Haldia) Accounts was circulated especially to the Members of the Committee for appraising the happenings during 2018 & 2019 (**Annexure-VII**). Several queries were raised to Prof. Radha Das and Prof. R N Jana by the Committee Members and following major observations were noted:

- (i) Lots of doubts were raised in the manner in which the quotation of M/s B K Caterer was accepted. On query from Committee Members, Prof. R N Jana (Treasurer, CHEMCON 2017) admitted that he had no idea about established procedures for inviting quotation as well as comparing the quotations.
- (ii) There is no relation between lowest quotation and final invoice submitted for the payment of bills towards travel expenses. As per the invoice, travel bills were paid from the CHEMCON 2017 accounts to some of the awardees; however, as per statements of some of the awardees car fare from Kolkata air port to Haldia was paid by them.



(iii) An amount of Rs.19,150 (car fare and accommodation) was reimbursed to Prof. K K Pant from the accounts of IChE HQ on 09.03.2019.

(iv) Two different signatures were observed for the signatory of the proprietor of M/s Maa Durga Bag Works (supplier of conference Bag) as Ranjan Maity and Ranjan Kumar Maity in various documents. That one person cannot use two different names without notarized affidavit certified by a first class magistrate was admittedly unknown to both Prof. R N Jana and Prof. Radha Das.

(v) Large discrepancies leading to "excess payment" in various items (especially for Food, Travel, Decorator and Printing & stationeries) were identified and shown in details to Prof. Radha Das and Prof. R N Jana by the Members of the Committee.

Based on the threadbare deliberations and the noted observations, both Prof. Radha Das and Prof. R N Jana agreed to

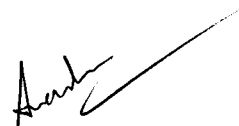
- 1) scrutinize the accounts of each items [(a) to (i)] in the said clarifications submitted on 08.12.2018,
- 2) recalculate the amounts payable to the suppliers/contractors in terms of work order and actual supply/work done as certified by respective subcommittees,
- 3) recover the excess payments made to suppliers/contractors, and
- 4) revise the Accounts for CHEMCON 2017 accordingly.

The revised accounts must be signed by at least one of the Convener and Chairman of the respective sub-committees (if either of them is not available), Prof. Radha Das (Organizing Secretary) and Prof. R N Jana (Treasurer). After signing, the revised accounts (along with a note stating the basis of revisions) shall be submitted to the IChE HQ by 23.09.2019 routed through Prof. Tapas Kumar Manna (Honorary Secretary, Haldia Regional Center at the time of CHEMCON 2017) to his entire satisfaction. While putting the signature of the Convener/Chairman of the respective sub-committees, the name & designation should be mentioned below the signature for clarity. No further scope of clarification would henceforth be allowed and entertained.

Prof. Radha Das & Prof. R N Jana have agreed to initiate appropriate actions as noted above without waiting for receiving any direction to avoid further delay in this instant matter.

The Committee Members discussed the matter within themselves to put forward the following recommendations:

- (a) A direction should be issued by the Honorary Secretary, IChE to Prof. Radha Das and Prof. R N Jana for compliance, including submission of revised accounts as noted in items 1 to 4 above, under intimation to the Committee Members, Prof. Tapas K. Manna and IChE HQ.
- (b) If the revised accounts is not found satisfactory or in the event of failure to submit the same within the stipulated time, this incident will be reported to the highest authority of the Haldia Institute of Technology for investigation at their end since the Institute



organized the CHEMCON 2017 in association with the Haldia Regional Center (Annexure-VIII);

- (c) Haldia Institute of Technology authorities will be requested to submit the report to the IICChE, HQ within one month time from the date of reporting the incident to them.
- (d) Placing the revised accounts and report of investigation (if any) before the Council Meeting falling next.



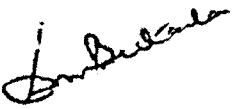
Prof. S.V. Satyanarayana



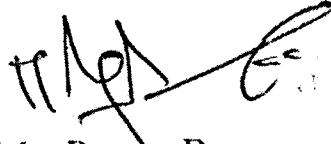
Prof. B.B. Paira



Prof. P. De



Mr. D.M. Butala



Mr. Ranga Rao



Mr. A. Sural



Prof. A. Bandyopadhyay