<u>MINUTES OF THE 1st (2022-23) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF AWARDS HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 29 NOV 2022, AT 1930 HOURS THROUGH ZOOM</u>

The following were present:

Prof (Dr) R R Deshmukh	Chairman
Prof Baswaraj Gadgay	Co-Chairman
Dr M H Kori	Member
Dr D C Shubhangi	Member
Dr Amod Kumar	Member
Prof Nuli Namassivaya	Member
Dr Virendra V Shete	Member
Shri S Ramaswami	Co-opted Member
Shri B A Damahe	Co-opted Member

Secretariat:
Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat
Shri M P Kesarwani
Shri Sanjay Setia

ITEM-1   CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 3RD (2021-22) MEETING OF THE BOARD OF AWARDS HELD ON THE 18 AUGUST 2022 THROUGH ZOOM

1.1   The minutes of the previous Board meeting stand approved as there were no comments.

ITEM-2   CONFERMENT OF AWARDS DURING AIC 2022

2.1   The Board members were informed about the conferment of IETE Awards-2022 during Annual IETE Convention held at Hyderabad on September 25, 2022. It was informed that the awardees were well-represented at the ceremony and that those who were absent have received their medals, and certificates at their mailing address. Prof Arun Kumar, IIT Delhi, delivered the 45th Ram Lal Wadhwa Award lecture on "Advances in Acoustic Vector Sensors and VLF Communication Modem," while Prof B Yegnanarayana,

INSA Honorary Scientist, IIIT Hyderabad, delivered the 54th Bhabha Memorial Lecture on "Evolution of AI & ML and Its Impact on Education."

2.2   In addition, all Awardees have been requested through emails to give a lecture on the work that led to their award at the IETE Centre closest to their location, with a copy to the Chairmen of that Centre. Some of the awardees have already delivered their lectures at the invitation of the nearest Centres, as reported. Among them are:-

IETE Awardees who gave their presentations

S. No	Name of Awardee	IETE Award - 2022	Talk delivered
1	Prof Arun Kumar, IIT Delhi	IETE - Ram Lal Wadhwa Award	Delivered during AIC at Hyderabad on " Advances in Acoustic vector sensors and VLF Communication Modem"
2	Dr Sanjeev Soni, CSIR-CSIO, Chandigarh	IETE - Hari Ramji Toshniwal Award	Delivered during IETE Foundation Day celebrations at Chandigarh Centre
3	Prof Lakshminarasamma N, IIT Madras	IETE - Bimal Bose Award	Delivered on 12 Nov 2022 on topic "NEP 2020: A Paradigm Shift in skill Based Higher Education: Challenges and opportunities" during IETE Foundation Day Celebrations at Chennai
4	Dr Aditya Kiran Jagannatham, IIT Kanpur	Prof K Sreenivasan Memorial Award	Delivered on the theme of "NEP :2020 A Paradigm Shift in skill Based Higher Education :Challenges and opportunities" on 2 Nov 2022.during IETE Foundation Day Celebrations at Kanpur
5	Dr Jawad Yaseen Siddiqui IRPE, University of Calcutta, Kolkata	IETE - Prof S N Mitra Memorial Award	Recipient Spoke on occasion of Foundation Day celebration on the topic "Antenna advances for cognitive radio System Multifunctional Printed Ultra wideband Antennas" on 2nd Nov 2022 at IETE Kolkata Centre
6	Dr Prachi Mukherji, CCEW, Pune	IETE-Smt Triveni Devi Gupta Memorial Award	Delivered on 2nd Nov 2022 on the topic of " AI applications in Healthcare and Future Technologies" at MIT School of Engineering, Pune

2.3   After observing, the Board advised that a second letter be addressed to the Centres in order to organize and set a date for the remaining recipients' talks / presentations based on their award work.

2.4   This is for information & approval of the Governing Council.

ITEM-3   CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: FOR IETE MAIN AND IETE CORPORATE AWARDS-2023

3.1   The notice for "Call for Nominations" typically appears in the November-December issues of IETE Journals (TR &JR) and the January-February issues of IETETR and JR, each year. On October 27, 2022, the updated "Call for Nominations-2023 Awards" was circulated to all Board Members alongside the welcome letter.

3.2 The Board Members are requested to approve the updated version of the Call for Nominations, which, if approved, will be posted on the website, e-mails will be sent to all Centres, IETE Student Fora, and Professional Activity Centres, and individual letters will be sent to all relevant organizations under the signature of the IETE President, for proper publicity. Moreover, announcement details will be posted on the IETE's Facebook page.

3.3 After careful examination, it was deemed acceptable and suggested that the Governing Council be notified and a timely resolution taken shortly after the meeting so that the notifications could be published in accordance with IETE journal precedence.

3.4 This is for information and approval of the Governing Council.

ITEM-4   IETE LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD-2022

4.1 It was informed that as with other IETE Awards, nominations for the IETE Life Time Achievement Award, which is part of the IETE Main Awards, are typically solicited through extensive publicity. The search for a suitable candidate begins with the nominations received or proposals received from Members, who may include IETE Governing Council members, IETE Fellows and Members, and the heads of academic, industrial, and research institutions. The Search Committee additionally examines other candidates if they deem their candidacy to be more suitable at the meeting time than the suggestions submitted. They select the Awardee(s) by analyzing the accomplishments of each contender and evaluating their overall impact.

4.2 The Committee was also requested to discuss whether the Lifetime Achievement Award should be a part of the IETE Main Awards or removed from the list(Main Award) and should be similar to the selection of Honorary Fellows by this Award's Search Committee. Accordingly, the "Call for Nominations-2023" shall be revised prior to distribution, if necessary.

4.3 Additionally, if the award is granted jointly in a given year and noteworthy awardees are required to travel from their home bases to collect the award in person to the venue, the Search Committee may choose to discuss the subject of air fare for awardees. The award conditions so far include a travel grant of Rs 7000/- for the awardee(s) to deliver a lecture closest to his location.

4.4 After due deliberations the Board members recommended the following:

a) For Item 4.2, the members considered that this prestigious award should continue to be on the list of "Main Awards" as it is now. Let the nominations be asked for by "Calling Nominations", along with proposals from Members, who may include IETE Governing Council members, IETE Fellows and Members, and the heads of academic, industrial, and research institutions. The Search Committee may also suggest other candidates if, at the time of

the meeting, they think those candidates would be a better fit than the ones already suggested.

b) For Item 4.3, the members unanimously agreed that as this is one of the Special awards, IETE should provide airfare, accommodation, and local hospitality to the awardee as a sign of respect. It should not contain a cash reward, and even the travel grant of Rs 7,000/- stipulated in the award's criteria for delivering a lecture at an IETE Centre close to an awardee's location should be eliminated. Because they are seniors, they can't be pressed to give seminars or lectures. Most of the time, they don't go, and the money is not claimed.

c) Additionally, the members suggested lowering the age requirement for the IETE Lifetime Achievement Award from 70 to 65 years, so that more worthy nominations whose efforts have influenced IETE's growth and advancement of its goals could be considered in the category. Finally, the awardee may preferably be a Fellow member of IETE.

4.4   The revised guidelines for the Life-Time Achievement award is attached (**Appendix-"A"** for approval of the Governing Council.

ITEM- 5   IETE BEST PAPER AWARDS JURY

5.1   Members of the Board were informed that the jury for the IETE Best Paper Awards consists of the Editors-in-Chief of all three IETE Journals, including the most credible jury member, Professor S C Dutta Roy, from whom the best papers in each category are selected.

5.2   The Editorial Board of the IETE Journal of Research, which has been slightly restructured and now has two Deputy Editors-in-Chief, Prof Arun Kumar and Prof Ranjan K. Mallik, both from IIT Delhi, in addition to Editor-in-Chief Prof Shiban Koul. Both the Dy EICs may be permitted to include additional jury members for IETE Best Paper awards beginning in 2023.

5.3   The Board members recommended the inclusion of two new jury members, namely Prof Arun Kumar and Prof Ranjan K Mallik, on the jury panel of IETE Best Papers Award beginning in 2023.

5.4   This is for information and approval of the Governing Council

ITEM-6   EXCLUSIVE AWARDS FOR IETE EDITORS AND REVIEWERS

6.1   It was informed that during a recent discussion held with EICs of the IETE Journal of Research, the President of IETE had voiced his intention to create an award category for the top IETE Editors or reviewers in order to encourage them.

6.2   The Board Members were also informed of a recent occurrence in which IETE Publications, with the approval of G C IETE, attempted to recognize the selfless and honourable work of the Editors by presenting cash to the Editors of three journals. And how one of the editors-in-chief opposed this decision and ultimately wanted to quit as EIC. Therefore, the Editors of that Journal could not receive a token of IETE's appreciation.

6.3   After thorough deliberation, the Board members unanimously concluded that all Editors/ Reviewers are making outstanding contributions without any expectation. Giving the Best Award to a select few could demoralize others. IETE may consider honouring them in another way for their unselfish intellectual contributions. Nonetheless, this issue could be addressed by appointing a special Committee.

6.4   This is for the information and approval of the Governing Council

ITEM-7   SOFTWARE/ ONLINE PROGRAMME FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS SUBMISSIONS.

7.1   It was informed to the members that during 2021-22, the Governing Council allowed the implementation of any online program/software to assist HQ staff with their responsibilities and to simplify the Award procedures for all, including jury members.

7.2   The IETE has been unable to identify any equivalent software utilized by other technical institutions.

7.3   Shri B S Damahe, the Co-opted member, volunteered his assistance in this respect and asked IETE Staff to supply him with the steps of IETE Awards Processing, so that he could discuss the process with his Bangalore-based vendor and determine if they could develop online software or programme for IETE.

7.4   The Chairman BoA, recommended constituting a Sub-Committee to explore this possibility of automating the IETE Awards Process. The following names for this Sub-Committee were recommended:-

          Dr M H Kori – Chairman
          Shri B A Damahe - Member
          Dr D C Shubhangi – Member

7.5   This is for approval of Governing Council.

ITEM-8   ANY OTHER MATTER WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

8.1   Under any other issue, members expressed concern about:

a) Updation of Jury panels: Prof. Nuli Namasivvaya was of the opinion that the members of the Jury should be updated, as many of the current members are elderly and inactive. Consequently, jury panels must be revised.

b) <u>Fewer Nominations from Industry or Corporate sectors:</u> Dr M H Kori voiced worry over the yearly decline in nominations from the Industry sector for the IETE Corportae Awards. He stated that IETE should have a stronger association with the corporate sector. More nominations should come from more industries.

8.2   After due deliberations, following was recommended

1. There is a need for additional nominations for the IETE Awards, which necessitates greater and more appropriate advertising and publicity.

2. Jury Members from the business/industry sector should be included in the IETE Corporate Awards jury. (Shri Damahe showed his support for getting some names for this matter)

3. Declare additional Award categories to better connect with Industry.

8.3 This is for approval of Governing Council.

Ref: IETE/J-216/1st 2022-23)/BoA
Date: 19 Dec 2022

Gp Capt Sonpal Singh (Retd)
Secretary General

Distribution:
Chairman and Members of Board of Awards.
President, IETE & Members of Governing Council for kind information.