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### MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> (2020-21) MEETING OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE HELD AT 1900 HOURS ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021 THROUGH ZOOM

The Members of the Committee:

Prof (Dr) A K Saini	Chairman
Prof M N Hoda	Co-Chairman
Gp Capt R C Goyal (Retd)	Member
Dr D C Pande	Member
Lt Gen (Dr) Rajesh Pant, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)	Member
Dr Niranjana Prasad	Member
Prof (Dr) V Gunasekhar Reddy	Member

Secretariat:

Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat	Asstt Secy
Shri M P Kesarwani	Member Staff
Shri Sanjay Setia	Member Staff

#### ITEM-1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> (2020-21) MEETING OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2020 THROUGH ZOOM

1.1 The Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> (2020-21) Meeting of the Publication Committee stand approved as no comments were received.

#### ITEM-2 ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND PROGRESS MADE

2.1 **Issuing of reviewing certificates:** The Chairman informed the members that as per the recommendations of the previous Committee meeting and its subsequent approval by the Governing Council, T&F had been asked to tailor the presently in use "thank-you letters" to advise peer-reviewers that IETE can provide a reviewer's certificate upon request. The request has been installed, and IETE has been given a template with similar information.

2.2 **Procuring advertisements for IETE Publications.** The Chairman stated that IETE Publications is in the process of contacting all possible contacts in order to secure advertisements from well-known sources. Lt Gen (Dr) Rajesh Pant and Dr D C Pande, members of the Committee, once again volunteered their assistance in this matter. It was asked that they be reminded via email by the IETE Publication Section.

1 of 8 of 3<sup>rd</sup> (2021-21)/pubs/Aug 2021

2.3 **Seeking more articles in IETE JE and expansion of its Editorial Board:** The issue has been brought within the purview of the EIC IETEJE, and every effort is being made to get more articles published in the journal. According to the present state, one article has already been published and ready to be allocated in the issue, **three articles** are in the hands of the EIC and will be assigned further, **one article** is under peer review, and **two others** are awaiting revision. These seven articles are being reviewed as quickly as possible in order to make the July-December 2021 issue of the Journal. The possibility of expanding the Editorial Board is under consideration.

2.4 **Extension of Printing Contract:** The Chairman informed the Committee members that the Governing Council has approved the extension of M/s Dolphin Printo Graphics' printing contract from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The vendor has agreed to the terms.

2.5 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-3 IMPACT FACTOR OF IETE JOURNLS (TR & JR)**

3.1 Chairman briefed about the Impact factor of IETE Journals for the year 2020 with comparisons to past years' impact factors as reported by Journal Citation Reports (JCR), as follows:

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Report for the Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
IETE Technical Review	0.925	0.888	1.304	1.330	1.339	1.618	1.845	2.200	
IETE Journal of Research	0.189	0.185	0.284	0.909	0.829	0.793	1.125	2.333	

3.2 It was demanded that the earnest efforts of the EICs and members of the Editorial Boards (IETEJR and IETETR be put on record. The steady rise of the Impact Factor was found to be extremely gratifying. The Committee suggested sending a letter of appreciation to the EICs and members of their individual Editorial Boards.

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

**ITEM-4 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE OF IETE PUBLICATIONS**

4.1 The current status of IETE Journals is as follows:

Publications	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
IETE Newsletter					Vol 23 No 2 (May-Aug) issue under compilation			
IETE Journal of Research	Vol 67 No 1 despatched		Vol 67 No 2 despatched		Vol 67 No 3 despatched		Vol 67 No 4 At final proof-reading stage	
IETE Technical Review	Vol 38 No 1, despatched		Vol 38 No 2 despatched		Vol 38 No 3 despatched		Vol 38 No 4 at proofing stage	
IETE Journal of Education	Vol 62 No 1 despatched						Vol 62 No 2 under compilation	

4.2 Up to now, the total number of subscribers has been 352, compared to 418 in 2020. The number of e-subscribers has risen from 20 in 2020 to 22 in 2021.

4.3 The members of the committee appreciated the publishing section for delivering timely publications and managing effectively.

4.4 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

#### ITEM-5 REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE SECTION

5.1 As per prior practice, the Chairman gave the following facts demonstrating income collected in 2021 vs revenue accrued in 2020.

Particulars	Amount (Rs)2021 so far	Amount (Rs) 2020 (Jan-Dec)
Subscription (Jan-Dec 2021)	19,64,375 (as on 27 July 2021)	21,84,950
Extra page charges (Jan-Mar)	7,04,907 (as on 29 July 2021)	6,99,116
Grant-in-Aid (DST) (TR/JR)	2,00,000 (only for JR)	4,00,000 (for TR/JR)
Royalty (Prof SC Dutta Roy's Books) Total revenue from Books recd as on 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2021 CSSP : Initial Amt - 74,439.77 Royalty - 41,129.00	CSSP 6,326.00 (Royalty for 2020) Rcvd on 18-3- 2021	CSSP 16,877.57 (Royalty for 2019) Rcvd on 28-4-2020
SP: Initial Amt - 69,166.28 Royalty - 25,184.81 2,09,919.86 =====	SP 9,441.06 (Royalty for 2020) Rcvd on 18-3-2021	SP 15,743.75 (Royalty for 2019) Rcvd on 28-4-2020
Royalty (NBT, Robot & Robotics)	Yet to come	53,205 (2/3 given to author)
Royalty on IETE Publications from T&F for previous year	4,28,386 (Rcvd on 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021)	3,65,444 (Rcvd on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2020)
Editorial Fund rcvd from T&F for the year mentioned above	3,56,495	3,48,250
Advertisement	--	63,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,69,930.06/-</b>	<b>41,46,586.32</b>

5.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-6 GRANT-IN-AID FROM SERB (DST) FOR IETEJR AND IETETR**

6.1 The Chairman informed the Committee members on the proposals being prepared for the financial year 2021-22, which will be submitted to SERB individually for both the IETE Publications in order to increase the possibilities of its acceptance.

6.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-7 STATUS OF RNI RENEWAL CERTIFICATES FOR IETE PUBLICATIONS**

7.1 The Chairman updated the Committee members on the subject of IETE Publications' awaiting RNI Certificate issuance from their office, which was being followed up on a regular basis.

7.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-8 STATUS OF SPECIAL /SUPPLEMENT ISSUES IN IETE JR**

8.1 The following is the current status of Special/ Supplement issues in the journal, as reported to the Committee:-

Sr No.	Type of issue	Name of the Issue	Status	Publishing schedule	
1	Special Issue(unpaid issue)	"International Conference in Tech, Mgmt & Design for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (ICSDG-2020)	7 articles accepted & 7 more articles are being added to utilize the page-budget for the journal.	Sep-Oct 2021 issue	
2.	Supplement issue @ US\$ 1350 per accepted article on sharing basis with T&F	"Machine Learning for Energy Efficient Electronic Circuits and Computing Systems"	13 articles received & are under review process	Future issue	
3.	Supplement issue@ US\$ 1500 per accepted article on sharing basis with T&F	"Industrial Developments and Applications of Intelligent Mechatronic Systems"	01 article received	Future issue	Since its proposer has stopped responding to our emails, the issue may fade out..

4.	Supplement issue@ 1500 US\$ per accepted article on sharing basis with T&F	“Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things”	Initial formalities are being carried out with T&F for its announcement on journal’s home page	Future issue	
5.	Special Issue (Unpaid) from selected papers of AIC 2021	“ IoT and BlockChain Technology for Smart Cities and Societies”	At initial stage	Future issue	

8.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-9 HUGE BACKLOG OF ONLINE PUBLISHED PAPERS OF IETEJR**

9.1 Informing about the massive backlog of online published papers, the Chairman informed that IETE JR now has content for over 9 volumes, which means that any paper submitted in 2021 will not appear in an issue until 2030, unless we decide to rush it ahead of the others. As a result, another manuscript will have to wait even longer than its turn. If any special issues arise in the period, the publication time will be extended even further.

9.2 He further added that IETE's decision to increase the page budget for IETE JR and IETE TR starting in 2022 might help a little, but T&F's proposals point to many additional possible space-saving measures:

a) In the case of special issues, IETE can take the position that all special issues should first be suggested as supplements-either open access or subscription. Supplements are funded and exist apart from the main page budget, allowing regular journal material to continue uninterrupted while also bringing in additional cash in the form of supplement revenue. For a few years, IETE may want to do this until the backlog is reduced.

b) Another option would be to limit the journal’s acceptances for the next few years while the backlog reduces over time. The journal’s submissions have been rapidly increasing in recent years, and the acceptance rate has risen as well. IETE could suggest that members of the Editorial Board be more selective in the content they approve.

c) Since IETE has been granted authorization to go over page budgets by up to 10% in 2021, IETE can incorporate some additional content to ensure that the page budgets are exceeded a little bit. At this point, IETE is still working on some of the issues remaining to go. IETE can add around 90 pages to the 2021 edition of IETEJR and approximately 66 pages to the 2021 volume of the IETE TR, both of which have backlogs.

9.3 According to the Chairman, Prof S K Koul emailed to raise few issues relating to the increasing number of submissions received in a year and the delay in their consideration by IETE due to shortage of dedicated trained staff. He too was of the opinion that publishing

of more articles per issue and subject matter considering a rise in Issue numbers was called for.

9.4 After reviewing all of the suggestions, the committee recommended to implement the majority of them, except for increasing the number of issues in the journal each year, which entailed cost / RNI Implications.

9.5 In light of the death of a staff member and another scheduled to retire next month, the Committee strongly advised that the section be strengthened by required manpower.

9.6 This is for the approval of the Governing Council.

**ITEM-10 INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR IETE PUBLICATIONS**

10.1 A suitable periodic increase in subscription prices was computed and submitted to the Committee directly, in accordance with the previous Committee's recommendations. Though it was supposed to be submitted to the Sub-Committee constituted earlier to investigate the subject before putting it up for debate at the meeting. But it couldn't be done due to a variety of reasons listed in the agenda.

10.2 The Committee was informed that the most recent increase in Subscription rates came in 2020, with a 20% increase. In previous years, rates were hiked by 20 percent to 50 percent, as seen in the table below.

Year	JR&TR ( in combo)	JR (single)	TR (single)	JE (single)
2020	4100	2700	2700	1100
2018	3375	2250	2250	900
2014	2250	1500	1500	600
2012	1500	1000	1000	400
2010	1000	750	750	250
2007	750	500	500	150

10.3 The following rates were proposed for consideration by the Committee, with increases of 20% and 25%, to be implemented beginning in 2022:-

IETE Journals	Current Subscription rate INLAND  PRINT COPY in (Rs)	PROPOSED		Current rate  PRINT+E- JOURNALS In Rs (Rs)	PROPOSED	
		RATES @20% PRINT COPY	RATES @ 25% PRINT COPY		RATES @20%	RATES @ 25%
<i>IETE Journal of Research&amp; IETE Technical Review in combo for paid subscribers</i>	4100	4920	5125	6700	8040	8375
<i>IETE Journal of</i>	2700	3240	3375	4400	5280	5500

<i>Research (single)</i>						
<i>IETE Technical Review (single)</i>	2700	3240	3375	4400	5280	5500
<i>IETE Journal of Education (single)</i>	1100	1320	1375	1800	2160	2250
<i>IETE Journal of Education for Corporate Members of IETE</i>	300	360	375			

10.4 The Committee suggested a 20% increase in subscription prices starting in 2022. This will also include a subscription discount if the organization signs a multi-year agreement, such as a 10% discount for three years and a 15% discount for five years in 2022.

10.5 After careful consideration, the committee also suggested that the extra page rates be increased from Rs 1000 to Rs 2000 for Indian authors and from US\$ 50 to US\$ 75 for overseas authors to compensate accommodating more articles per issue as suggested under Item 9.

10.6 This is for the approval of the Governing Council.

#### ITEM-11 REQUEST FOR IETE'S PARTICIPATION IN REMOVAL OF PLASTIC

11.1 The Chairman informed the Committee that T&F had raised IETE's attention to the use of plastic on its journals, which has a negative influence on the planet, animals, and water sources. The plastic isn't totally biodegradable and can't be recycled consistently or properly.

11.2 The following are the two areas in which plastics are utilised in IETE journals:-

- a) in laminated journal's covers, and
- b) in the paper envelopes with inside plastic lining that we use to distribute print copies to Paid subscribers.

11.3 To meet global mailing requirements, T&F proposed the following changes to the journal covers: -

- To remove the plastic lamination (both gloss and matte) from the outside covers;
- To remove all content from the outside back cover (C4). The C4 page must be completely white, except for IETE's (society's) or T&F logos, to allow for the inclusion of the recipients' addresses and any additional local mailing information. As such, elements such as Tables of Contents would need to be relocated inside the journal.

11.4 The Committee discussed the issue and concluded that IETE would first double-check its plastic usage and all other mandates against RNI Office guidelines before communicating with T&F.

11.5 This is for the approval of the Governing Council.

ITEM-12 VOTE OF THANKS

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

Ref: IETE/J-266/3<sup>rd</sup> (2020-21)/PUBS

Date: Aug 2021

Pankaj Kumar Sharma  
Secretary General

**Distribution:**

Chairman and Members of the Publications Committee  
President and Members of the Governing Council