

51st Meeting of the Board of Management, VSSUT BURLA



MINUTES

Date: 11.03.2026

Time: 11.00 AM

Venue: Board Room, VSSUT, Burla.

MEMBERS PRESENT

- 1 Prof. Dipak Kumar Sahoo, Vice-Chancellor, VSSUT, Burla, **Chairman**
- 2 Prof. Amiya Kumar Rath, Vice-Chancellor, BPUT, Odisha (Online)
- 3 Shri Pradeep Dang, OAS(SAG), Registrar, VSSUT Burla, **Convenor-cum-Secretary**
- 4 Prof. Sarat Kumar Swain, VSSUT-Vice Chancellor's Nominee 1
- 5 Prof. Siddharth Panda, VSSUT-Vice Chancellor's Nominee 2
- 6 Prof. Rabindra Kumar Sahu, Academic Council's Nominee 1
- 7 Prof. Sanjay Agrawal, Academic Council's Nominee 2
- 8 Er. Brahmananda Mishra, Alumni Representative 1
- 9 Prof. Manoranjan Parida, Alumni Representative 2 (Online)
- 10 Prof. Sukumar Mishra, AICTE Nominee (Online)

MEMBERS ABSENT

- 11 Secretary to the Govt., SD&TE Dept. Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar
- 12 Secretary to the Govt. Finance Department, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 13 Director, Technical Education & Training, Odisha, Killa Maidan, BuxiBazar, Cuttack - 1
- 14 Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao, Director, NIT, Rourkela
- 15 UGC Nominee
- 16 Shri Irasis Acharya, MLA, Representative of the Government
- 17 Shri Prakash Chandra Sethi, MLA, Representative of the Government

[Signature]

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VEER SURENDRA SAI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY BURLA

Minutes of 51st Meeting of the Board of Management

Date: 11.03.2026, Time: 11.00 AM (Hybrid Mode) Venue: Board Room

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOM:51-01	<i>To confirm the Minutes of the 50th meeting of the Board of Management held on 15.01.2026 in the Board Room at VSSUT, Burla.</i> Resolution: Confirmed with one modification. The last sentence "The period of suspension from 13.08.2025 to 23.12.2025 will be treated as on duty" in the Resolution of Item No. BOM:50-02 was deleted.
BOM:51-02	<i>The Action Taken Report on the 49th and 50th Meeting of the Board of Management held on 23.12.2025 and 15.01.2026 in the Board Room at VSSUT, Burla, is placed for the kind information and approval of the Board.</i> Resolution: Approved.
BOM:51-03	<i>Minutes of the 30th Finance Committee meeting held on 09.03.2026 are placed for information and approval of the items recommended to the Board of Management.</i> Resolution: The Board approved the Budget for the Financial Year 2026-27 (see Annexure for a brief), the 28th Building and Works Committee (BWC) minutes, and the 30th Finance Committee minutes.
BOM:51-04	<i>Proposal for Appointment of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for VSSUT, ASSIST.</i> The Board of Directors of VSSUT-ASSIST, in its meeting held on 29.01.2026, recommended the appointment of a full-time dedicated Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for VSSUT-ASSIST. The CEO will be responsible for the overall management, strategic planning, coordination, and smooth execution of all activities of the TBI Centre. With a management degree and at least five years of relevant experience, and demonstrated expertise in fundraising and grant management, the CEO will mobilize government funding, industry partnerships, and investor linkages, while establishing formal mechanisms for startup selection, monitoring, and evaluation. The role shall include, but not be limited to: • Overseeing day-to-day administrative and operational functions of the incubator. • Facilitating startup incubation, mentoring, and industry linkage


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	activities. • Coordinating with funding agencies, government bodies, and institutional authorities. • Ensuring compliance with statutory, financial, and reporting requirements. • Supporting innovation, entrepreneurship development, and outreach programs. • Strengthening collaboration between VSSUT, industry partners, and incubated startups. • Educating and mentoring students, with a focus on fostering startup awareness, entrepreneurial thinking, and motivation to pursue new venture creation. The appointment of the CEO would significantly strengthen the governance structure and contribute to the sustainable growth and long-term objectives of VSSUT-ASSIST. Resolution: Approved. The Board suggested to make the appointment of CEO through VSSUT-ASSIST, following due procedure. The University may provide Rs. 15 Lakh as loan to the VSSUT-ASSIST, repayable within 5 years, towards the remuneration and accommodation of the CEO and other related expenditure. The SD&TE Department shall be intimated for approval and placement of funds, pending which the University will give the loan from the University fund.
BOM:51-05	<i>Issue related to the unpaid civil works of the University.</i> There are 163 nos. of different civil works categorized as A, B, C & D, which have been executed departmentally by the University and the R&B Division-II, Sambalpur. Though the works are executed earlier, payment have not been made. It involves certain procedural violations. Most of the works were executed during the NAAC & NBA Expert Team visit, the Hon'ble President's visit, which also include some other repair and maintenance works of residential and non-residential buildings. The PIC, Civil Works, was entrusted to make a physical verification of all the above projects, and he has submitted the verification report. Further, a Committee comprising of the senior faculty members has also verified the list under A,B, C, and D category and submitted their recommendations. Also, two faculty members of the Civil Engineering Department verified the works in the approved list of Buildings & Works Committee and Finance Committee. After verification, they have submitted the report. Resolution: A detailed summary of the works in question along with four recommendations was presented. The Board resolved to approve the first three recommendations and disapproved the recommendation-4 on ad-hoc payment.




	The estimates of the list-D (R&B) works will be approved and deposits will be fully released for the completed R&B works and 50% for those in progress. The Board resolved to ratify the action taken for the payment of 8 paid works in List-A. Regarding the 63 unpaid works under Lists A, B, and C, a Committee appointed by the Board will examine the modalities of settlement within 45 days. The Committee will be chaired by Er. Brahmananda Mishra, Hon'ble member of the BOM, and two other external experts, one with experience in audit and the other with experience in administration of Civil Works, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The Board directed to fix responsibility for the procedural lapses and impose appropriate punishment with at least a warning. The Board also directed to issue necessary orders to all concerned to ensure that such procedural violations do not recur in the future.
BOM:51-06	<i>Implementation of the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) in the University.</i> The Finance Department, Government of Odisha, has notified vide notification No.FIN-CS3-PEN-0009-2024/9364/F dated 21.03.2025 that the Unified Pension Scheme shall be applicable, w.e.f. 01.04.2025, to such state government employees who are covered under the National Pension System and who choose this option under the National Pension System. The Faculty members and staff who have joined the University after 2005 are included under the National Pension System. In the meanwhile, the employees of Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar, who are appointed in regular establishment on or after 01.01.2005 and are covered under the National Pension System, are included in the Unified Pension Scheme. A proposal for the implementation of Unified Pension Scheme for the faculty members & staff who are now covered under National Pension System may be submitted to the SD&TE Department for consideration. Resolution: Approved. The SD&TE Department will be requested to take necessary decision.
BOM:51-07	<i>Disciplinary case against one faculty member (Agenda recorded separately due to confidentiality)</i> Resolution: Recorded separately, considering the confidentiality of the matter.
BOM:51-08	<i>Interview under Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for Assistant Professor Stage-I(Level-10, Entry Pay 57700/-) to Stage-II (Level-11, Entry Pay 68900/-) and Assistant Professor Stage-II (Level-11, Entry Pay 68900/-) to Stage-III (Level-12, Entry Pay 79800/-).</i> A good number of Assistant Professors have submitted their representations for promotion to the post of Assistant Professor Stage-I to


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Stage-II and Assistant Professor Stage-II to Stage-III under Career Advancement of Scheme (CAS).

A legal opinion had been sought from Shri Nirod Kumar Sahu, the empanelled Advocate of the University as to whether the interview under Career Advancement of Scheme (CAS) for Assistant Professor Stage-I to Stage-II and Assistant Professor Stage-II to Stage-III can be conducted as per the revised guidelines issued by the SD&TE Department vide letter No.SDTE-HTE-HTE-II-0082-2021/5135/SDTE dated 15.07.2023.

It is to be mentioned that the above guidelines was under challenge in W.P.(C) No.30307 of 2023 (Manas Ranjan Senapati & others-Vrs- State of Orissa & Others). The Hon'ble High Court of Orissa disposed of the case on 19.12.2023 directing the University to conduct promotion under CAS following the AICTE Regulation in all respect except fixing the cut off score at 60. Challenging this decision of the Hon'ble High Court, a writ appeal bearing No.816/2024 dated 04.04.2024 was filed by the University before the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa and the matter is subjudice as on date. Shri Nirod Kumar Sahu, empanelled Advocate has intimated that the Hon'ble Division Bench has issued notice vide order dated 15.07.2024 in W.A. No.816 of 2024. Thus the judgement dated 19.12.2023 passed in W.P.(C) No.30307 of 2023 has not reached its finality in view of the fact that the writ appeal against such judgement has been admitted for hearing.

He has also further clarified that judgement dated 03.04.2025 passed in W.P.(C) No.16124 of 2022 (Padmanav Dash & Others –Vrs- State of Orissa & Others) will not operate as a bar to follow the guidelines prescribed under the VSSUT Act for promotion of Assistant Professor as per the revised guidelines dated 15.07.2023 issued by the SD&TE Department. He has opined that the University may proceed now to conduct the above interview following the guidelines approved by the Government.

After having discussed the matter with the Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, SD&TE Department another clarification was sought from Shri Nirod Kumar Sahu, the empanelled Advocate as to whether the leave of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa is to be taken at this stage as the interview will be conducted as per the revised guidelines dated 15.07.2023 approved by the SD&TE Department which is under challenge in W.P.(C) No.16124 of 2022 and W.A. No.916 of 2024 is also pending.

The Advocate has clarified that the pendency of W.A. No.916 of 2024 filed before the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa relates to the promotion of Associate Professor to the post of Professor. Hence, the pendency of the aforesaid writ appeal will not act as a bar to proceed with the process of promotion within Assistant Professor.

The SD&TE Department has been intimated accordingly.

The University now proposes to conduct the interview under Career Advancement of Scheme (CAS) within Assistant Professor Level from Stage-I to Stage-II and Stage-II to Stage-III in accordance with the revised guidelines





	issued by the SD&TE Department vide letter No.SDTE-HTE-HTE-II-0082-2021/5135/SDTE dated 15.07.2023. Resolution: The Board approved to conduct CAS promotion interviews at all levels through separate notifications. The process for promotions within the Assistant Professor level will be taken up immediately, as it is already in an advanced stage. The Vice-Chancellor is authorized to conduct the interview through the duly constituted Selection Committee as per the revised guidelines dated 15.07.2023 approved by the SD&TE Department. The other promotions can be taken up subsequently.															
BOM:51-09	<i>To approve the filling up of vacant teaching and non-teaching posts for recruitment/promotion.</i> A. Teaching Post <table><tr><th>Sl.No.</th><th>Designation</th><th>No. of Vacancy</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Professor (Electrical Engg.)</td><td>01</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Professor (Mechanical Engg.)</td><td>01</td></tr></table> B. Non-Teaching Post <table><tr><th>Sl.No.</th><th>Designation</th><th>No. of Vacancy</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Laboratory Attendant</td><td>01</td></tr></table> Resolution: The Vice-Chancellor is authorized to take up the recruitment process by adding to the above the previous vacant posts and also future vacancies of teaching and non-teaching posts arising during the next 6 months.	Sl.No.	Designation	No. of Vacancy	1	Professor (Electrical Engg.)	01	2	Professor (Mechanical Engg.)	01	Sl.No.	Designation	No. of Vacancy	1	Laboratory Attendant	01
Sl.No.	Designation	No. of Vacancy														
1	Professor (Electrical Engg.)	01														
2	Professor (Mechanical Engg.)	01														
Sl.No.	Designation	No. of Vacancy														
1	Laboratory Attendant	01														
BOM:51-10	<i>MoU with World Skill Centre.</i> The Board is requested to consider and approve the signing of an MoU between World Skill Center (WSC), Government of Odisha, and Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla. The MoU aims to enhance the employability of final year students through industry-relevant technical and employability skills training, along with placement support and certification. It also provides for customized faculty development and Train-the-Trainer programmes on mutually agreed financial terms. Resolution: Approved.															
BOM:51-11	<i>Promotion of Mechanic Grade-II to Mechanic Grade-I</i> As per the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee held on 02.02.2026, Shri Simanchal Mohapatra, Mechanic Grade-II, is to be promoted to the post of Mechanic Grade-I against the vacant post from the UR category. Resolution: Approved.															

BOM:51 Table Agenda-1	Status of Writ Appeal case No.959 of 2025 (Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology- Vrs- Dr. Sasmita Kumari Padhy). Dr. Sasmita Kumari Padhy, Ex-Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering had been given Compulsory retirement on 03.10.2023 as per the decision taken in 45th Meeting of the Board of Management for violation of Rule-3 and 4, i.e., failure to maintain absolute integrity, decorum of conduct and devotion to duty, failure to discharge duties properly and disobedience of order of higher authority and failure to carry out order/instructions of the superior authorities. Dr. Sasmita Kumari Padhy filed a writ petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa vide W.P.(C) No.34700 of 2023 challenging the Disciplinary Proceedings initiated vide Memorandum dated 27.04.2023 and office order dated 03.10.2023 passed by the Vice-Chancellor, VSSUT, Burla wherein punishment of Compulsory Retirement had been imposed. The Hon'ble High Court disposed of the said writ petition on 14.05.2025 and passed the judgement to quash the order of punishment passed against Dr. Sasmita Kumari Padhy vide order dated 03.10.2023. Further, the Hon'ble High Court directed the University to re-instate Dr. Padhy in service with passing of an appropriate order with in a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of the order. Being aggrieved, the University filed a writ appeal before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa vide W.A. No.959 of 2025. During hearing of the appeal on 17.02.2026, the Hon'ble High Court wanted to settle the case amicably and asked the advocate appearing for the University to take the opinion of the University. Mentioning the past indiscipline and disobedience, the authority offered its views to re-instate Dr. Sasmita Kumari Padhy showing respect to the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa if she accepts the following conditions in toto: 1. The period from the date of compulsory retirement to the date of rejoining on reinstatement will not be counted for salaries, allowances, increments and pension. However, she will remit the dues for the period for the official residence under her occupation. 2. She will give an undertaking not to resort to any form of defiance of the authority, indiscipline or internal disturbances in future; submit her pending annual performance appraisal reports (APAR) prior to compulsory retirement; submit annual appraisals regularly; and improve her job performances within a period of two years. 3. Upon rejoining, she will continue to be under the service rules including all rules concerning annual performance appraisal which will determine her future increment, promotion, continuation in service etc.
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	Due to the urgency of the matter, the above views were conveyed by the University to the Hon'ble High Court through our Advocate. On 09.03.2026, the Hon'ble High Court disposed of the appeal and passed an order to reinstate Mrs. Padhy sans back wages. Mrs. Padhy shall maintain good demeanor and conduct whilst in service without giving any room for any type of complaints or allegations. Further, she shall submit the pending APARs within three months for consideration by the University. Discussed the matter with our Advocate who opined that there is no scope or use in appealing to the Supreme Court because Mrs. Padhy has accepted our conditions, which are noted by the Hon'ble Court in the order itself. Under the above circumstances it is proposed to reinstate Mrs. Padhy, subject to her fulfilling all the conditions laid down by the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa. Resolution: The Board approved to reinstate Mrs. Sasmita Kumari Padhy sans back wages subject to the conditions laid down by the Honourable High Court of Orissa in its order dated 09.03.2026.
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REGISTRAR
 Convenor-cum-Secretary,
 Board of Management, VSSUT, Burla


VICE-CHANCELLOR
 Chairman,
 Board of Management, VSSUT, Burla