

**Special Olympics Bharat, New Delhi**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 23 March 2021**  
**at 11 am at SO Bharat National Office, New Delhi**

The meeting was attended by the following members:

1. Mr. Satish Pillai, Chairman
2. Dr. Mallika Nadda, Vice Chair
3. Dr. Amitav Mishra, General Secretary
4. Ms. Neeti Saxena, Treasurer
5. Gr. Capt. B. Sekhon, Member
6. Fr. Sabastian Roy, Member
7. Dr. Anjana Goswami, Member
8. Mr. D K Bedi, Member
9. Mr. Dipankar Banerjee, Member

Sl	Agenda Items	Decision taken
1	<p><b>To confirm the Minutes of the last Board Meeting held on 29 August 2019:</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were revisited by the members of the Board. Dr. Malika Nadda wanted to know about the status of Dr. Katikeyan Saini in the Board and the actions that was supposed to be taken as desired by the Ministry because of lapses during the march past held in Abu Dhabi for the 2019 World SO Summer Games. In response to that, General Secretary mentioned that the matter was discussed during the Board Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and his resignation from the post of Chairman was accepted as he desired to step down voluntarily by submitting a written request to CEO.</p>	<p>In view of no observations received, the Minutes of the meeting of 29 August 2019 were approved.</p>
2	<p><b>To report events and activities organized during last one year and approve the Annual Report:</b></p> <p>Details of events and activities were reported. The efforts of the National Directors as well as state committees of some states were appreciated for organising several webinar's during the lock down.</p>	<p>The draft annual report was approved.</p>
3	<p><b>To discuss the policy document for Selection of Coaches for International Competitions:</b></p>	<p>After detailed discussion, General Secretary was requested to expedite action on this and to finalize within 2 months' time by coordinating with Mr. Victor Vaaz, (National Director Sports), Mr. Harpreet Singh, (Director Sports) and Dr. D.G. Choudhury, (Chair of the drafting Committee).</p>
4	<p><b>To discuss the status of Special Olympics Tamilnadu state chapter and the issued pending with State Commissioner of Disabilities:</b></p>	<p>It was decided that Air Commodore Lalit Sharma (National Director-Admin &amp; Fin) of national office shall follow up the issue with State Commissioner of Disabilities of</p>

	<p>Details of action taken for forming a new State Committee and regularize the activities in the state was discussed. Despite after several follow ups, the Committee so far has not formed.</p>	<p>Tamilnadu and organize online meeting(s) with him to restore the regular functions and activities in the state. If required he may request General Secretary and other members to be part of the meeting.</p>
5	<p><b>To discuss the strategies to accelerate SO activities in smaller states including north-east states:</b></p> <p>The progress as well as challenges of small states including north east was discussed in detail. Dr. Anjana Goswami discussed the issues of north east states and suggested to revive monthly stipend if any to activate their effort.</p>	<p>It was decided that the national office shall accelerate communication and monitor the activities in such states where activities are not satisfactory. Mrs. Mukta Narain Thind (National Director- OD) of national office shall review the support to such states and suggest strategies within 3 months for promotion of SO activities and revive immediately the stipend if any.</p>
6.	<p><b>To discuss the pending financial issues with state chapters:</b></p> <p>It was reported that due to delay in release of balance funds of completed events by the Central Government, the payment to the states is usually delayed. It was also reported that the delay is further aggravated as certain states make extra ordinary delay in submitting bills and financial reports.</p>	<p>It was decided that such states should be identified and shall not be considered for allotment of future national camps by the national office. It was also decided to form a committee under General Secretary and Mr. D.K. Bedi to review and resolve such issues from time to time.</p>
7.	<p><b>To report the elections held at state chapters and district levels:</b></p> <p>It was reported that till the deadline fixed for completion of elections i.e., 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2020, only 09 states had completed the elections. Due to Covid and other difficulties, some more states could complete but it was after 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020; hence their results are on hold as the constitution of SOB was under revision. The Hon'ble Court has given 1 year time to complete the election process.</p> <p>Further Dr. Nadda raised her concern about exclusion of Mr. Amarender, Sports Director of Karnataka state chapter from the election process. She recommended that an inquiry may be conducted for the fact finding and necessary action may be taken.</p>	<p>It was decided that the General Secretary shall undertake the inquiry about exclusion of Mr. Amarender, Sports Director of Karnataka Chapter from the election process and submit a report within a month time.</p>
8.	<p><b>To assess and discuss the Fund- situation and consider the urgency of fundraising:</b></p> <p>The financial status and constraints were reported and discussed in detail. It was discussed that the Board needs to take steps to raise funds for the year 2021 – 2022.</p>	<p>It was decided that under chairpersonship of Dr. Malika Nadda and Mr Bedi as member, the national office shall make a concerted attempt to raise funds especially for the states and the national office.</p>
9.	<p><b>To discuss and consider strategies to reduce the operational costs at national office:</b></p>	<p>It was decided that the national office shall reduce the operational costs and particularly administrative costs. It was decided that</p>

	The administrative and program related expenditures were reviewed and the matter of cutting operational costs was discussed in detail. Chairman also mentioned that a mail was sent to the CEO and the finance director to initiate steps for cost reduction, however no response has been received.	issues shall be reviewed by the Chairperson and the General Secretary in coordination with Air Commodore Lalit Sharma (National Director-Admin & Fin) on quarterly basis.
10.	<b>To discuss and approve last financial reports of Special Olympics Bharat:</b>  Air Commodore Lalit Sharma (National Director-Admin & Fin) said he would share the financial statements and reports with the members of the Board by email after the meeting.	It was decided that after the receipt of observations from the members of the Board on the financial statements and reports after receiving the same from National Director-Admin & Finance. The agenda item shall be considered for approval through email circulation or in the next meeting.
11.	<b>To discuss the preparations for Winter Games to be held in Kazan, Russia in 2022:</b>  A brief presentation was made regarding the preparations so far made. The cost and issue of procuring equipment and kitting were discussed.	It was discussed that national office shall follow up with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports/SAI for financial support in procuring the equipment and kits. Mr. Harpreet Singh, Director Sports and In-charge of Winter Games shall coordinate for the matter.
12.	<b>Any other matter with permission of Chair:</b>  Shri Satish Pillai desired to demit the office voluntarily because of his personal domestic commitments as he will be in the USA for a major part of the year. He proposed that the Vice Chair, Dr Mallika Nadda may be considered to assume the duties and the responsibilities of the Chairperson with immediate effect. He said that he has full faith and confidence in her leadership and competency to lead the Board and contribute towards growth of Special Olympics in the country.  The proposal was seconded by Sri Dipankar Banerjee and was welcomed by all members.	It was decided that Vice Chair Dr. Mallika Nadda shall assume the duties of the Chairperson with immediate effect. It was also decided to place gratitude on record for contribution made by Shri Satish Pillai for the growth of Special Olympics during his tenure as Chairman of the Board.

Dr. Mallika Nadda assumed the Chair and conveyed her gratitude to Air Marshal Denzil Keelor, Founder and CEO of SO Bharat for his continuous encouragement and mentorship. She also thanked Shri Satish Pillai and the Board members for reposing faith in her to lead the Special Olympics Bharat. She mentioned that she would continue to work for the growth of Special Olympics activities and to promote its movement with the support of all stakeholders.

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



General Secretary, Special Olympics Bharat