

SOUTH ZONE CULTURAL CENTRE (SZCC), THANJAVUR

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF SZCC, THANJAVUR FOR 2024-25,
HELD ON 06TH DECEMBER 2024 AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI @4.00 PM**

The following members from the Member States and Union Territories were present in person:

1. Shri R.N. Ravi, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu and the Chairman of SZCC, (the Chairperson of the Meeting)
2. Smt. Rekha Rani, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government & Commissioner of Handlooms and Textiles, Government of Andhra Pradesh
3. Shri. Vishwa. M, Vice Chairman & Managing Director AP Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited, Vijayawada, Government of Andhra Pradesh
4. Smt. R. Tamilarasi, Additional Director, Department of Handlooms, Govt of Tamil Nadu Chennai (Representing Director, Department of Handlooms)
5. Shri S.Ramachandran, REACH Foundation, Tamil Nadu
6. Shri Durga Prasad Inada, Singer, Andhra Pradesh
7. Smt. Sangeetha Dash, Odissi Dancer, Puducherry
8. Kalaratna Dr. Vanaja Uday, HoD (Dance), PS Telugu University, Hyderabad
9. Shri P.Senthil Kumar, [Artist – Painter], Andaman & Nicobar Islands
10. Shri K.K.Gopalakrishnan, Director, South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur (the Member-Secretary of the Meeting)

The following members attended online:

1. Smt. Amita Prasad Sarbhai, IRAS, Joint Secretary (ZCC), Govt of India, Ministry of Culture
2. Dr Chandramohan B, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government Tourism & Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu
3. Shri. Nedunchezhiyan, IAS, Secretary to Government, Department of Art & Culture, Government of Puducherry
4. The Director, Cultural Affairs Department, Government of Kerala (Representing Dr. Rajan.N. Khobragade, IAS, Addl Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala.)
5. Shri R. Mallikarjuna Rao, Director, Dept of Tourism, Culture, Archaeology & Museums, Government of Andhra Pradesh (Representing Shri. Vinai Chand IAS, Secretary, Culture, to Government of Andhra Pradesh)
6. Dr N. Manjula IAS, Secretary, Kannada and Culture Department, Govt. of Karnataka
7. Smt. Priyanka Kumari, DANICS, Director, Art & Culture Department, UT of Andaman and Nicobar Administration (Representing Shri. Neeraj Bharthi IAS, Secretary to Government, UT of Andaman and Nicobar.
8. Shri. Shrikant Tapdiya DANICS, Director Representing Shri. Awanish Kumar IAS Secretary, Art and Culture, Lakshadweep Administration
9. Smt. Shailaja Ramaiyer, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government & Managing Director, Telangana State Handicrafts and Commissioner of Handlooms and Textiles and Export Parks, Government of Telangana
10. Smt. Amirtha Jothi IAS, Managing Director, Handicrafts Development Corporation, Government of Tamil Nadu.
11. Shri. Anil Kumar K S, Director of Handloom and Textiles, Government of Kerala
12. Deputy Director Representing Prof. B.V. Sharma, Director, Anthropological Survey of India, Government of India
13. Brahmachari Yogi Shrikrishna (ShrikrishnanSampagaonkar), Karnataka
14. Shri. Ramakrishnan Kuzhalmannam Gopalakrishnan, Kerala
15. Ms. Asha Suresh Nair, Kerala

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निदेशक Director
दक्षिण क्षेत्र सांस्कृतिक केंद्र, तंजावूर
South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur

The Director, SZCC, welcomed the Chairperson, Hon'ble Members of Board of Governors for the meeting for the financial year 2024-2025. Subsequently, with the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman, the Director took the agenda items one by one for discussion.

AGENDA – I

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF SOUTH ZONE CULTURAL CENTRE, THANJAVUR FOR 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 HELD ON 26.12.2023 AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI

Decision: Approved.

AGENDA – II

REVIEW ON THE ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF SOUTH ZONE CULTURAL CENTRE, THANJAVUR FOR 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 HELD ON 26.12.2023 AT RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI

Decision: Approved.

JS (ZCC) suggested that the Director of SZCC explain the efforts SZCC made to support vanishing art forms, including Nagaswaram and Kamba Ramayana. The Hon'ble Governor explained the necessity of supporting Nagaswaram and Kamba Ramayana and stated that SZCC may conduct more programs in various parts of Tamil Nadu. The director reflected that the SZCC had already started the focused support for Nagaswaram by including it as the first segment since July 2024 in the weekly festival at the campus, conducted every Friday evening. During the Kamban Day celebration, SZCC proposed to conduct a festival of Kamba Ramayana and made a plan for a year to disseminate it all over Tamil Nadu demonstrating the collective commitment of SZCC to preserving these art forms.

The JS and the Hon'ble Governor suggested creating a plan for three years.

AGENDA – III

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2023-2024

Decision: Approved

AGENDA-IV

ADOPTION OF THE POLICY FOR PAYMENT TO ARTISTS ENGAGED FOR DIFFERENT FESTIVALS/ PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED BY AUTONOMOUS BODIES UNDER MINISTRY OF CULTURE BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Decision: Approved

AGENDA-V

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE CENTRE

Decision: Approved

The Hon'ble Governor expressed his concern on non-remittance of Corpus Fund dues by Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and opined the representatives of the States concerned to take it up.

AGENDA-VI

STATEWISE EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2023-24 AND STATEWISE ALLOCATION OF FUND FOR THE YEAR 2024-25

Decision: Approved

AGENDA-VII

BUDGET ALLOCATION WITH PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL TARGETS FOR 2024-25 BY THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Decision: Approved

AGENDA - VIII

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PROGRAMME COMMITTEE, FINANCE COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2024-2025

Decision: Approved

Shri Vishwa. M (Vice Chairman & Managing Director AP Handicrafts Development Corporation Limited, Vijayawada, Government of Andhra Pradesh) and Shri P.Senthil Kumar (Painter), Andaman & Nicobar Islands, respectively, suggested having more programs in Andhra Pradesh and Andaman. The director SZCC reflected that the funds to be spent for sponsoring programs in the Member States are to be in proportionate to the Corpus Fund remitted, and the Corpus Fund from these two Member States, along with Telangana, are still to be paid, and SZCC is already losing an annual interest of about Rs. 25.90 lakhs. The Hon'ble Governor has directed to improve the resources through ticketing of various programs and by auctioning items identified by SZCC.

AGENDA - IX

SUBMISSION OF CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS OF SZCC FOR THE FIN. YEAR 2023-24

Decision: Approved

AGENDA - X

EXTENSION OF TENURE OF CENTRE'S AUDITOR FOR THE FIN. YEAR 2024-25

Decision: Approved the extension of the Centre's Auditor's tenure for the fin. year 2024-25.

AGENDA - XI

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATION BLOCK, TAGORE COMPLEX, OPEN AUDITORIUM STAGE & OLD OPEN STAGE COVERING WITH GI SHED FOR SZCC

- (i) The application for the new Administrative Block (Total. 34320. sq. ft. (17160 + 17160=34320 sq. ft G+1 Floor – Rs. 20.53 Crores) and Borewell (Rs. 15 lakhs) with the CPWD approved plan and estimate to the ZCC.
- (ii) The application for Tagore AC Auditorium Complex (Total 38,080 Sq.ft.) Rs.34.00 Crores with the CPWD approved plan and estimate as per extant guidelines.
- (iii) The application for the Open Auditorium Stage (with green room), Total Sq ft : 5600 Sq ft., Rs.1.50 Crore and the covering the existing Open Stage with GI shed (8050 Sq.ft., Rs.1.00 Crore) with the CPWD approved plans and estimates for financial support under Building Grant.

Decision: Approved

Director, SZCC, expressed the interest to have an herbal plant garden in the campus. Hon'ble Governor suggested to seek the help of Raj Bhavan to get the help of professionally competent persons in building the herbal plant garden.

AGENDA - XII

PROPOSAL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PENSION SYSTEM (NPS) IMPLEMENT AT THE SZCC

Decision: Approved

AGENDA - XIII

PROPOSAL FOR INSTALLATION OF SOLAR SYSTEM IN SZCC

Decision: Approved

The Hon'ble Governor suggested to see the possibilities of tying it up with the State Electricity Board in due course to sell the excess of electricity produced.

AGENDA - XIV

DEPARTMENTAL ENQUIRY REPORT AGAINST SHRI G MEENAKSHI NATHA PILLAI

Shri G Meekakshi Natha Pillai, Accounts Unit Officer, was suspended w.e.f 08.11.2023 for six serious charges such as fraud, violation of rules and gross misconduct. The Departmental Enquiry was conducted with Col. Raghunathan (Retd) as the Enquiry Officer. The Director of SZCC briefed before the Board of Governors the charges and the recommendation of the Enquiry Officer in his Report and reflected that the delinquent officer may be dismissed from the service in the best interest of the institution.

Decision: After a detailed discussion, the board authorized the Director, SZCC, the disciplinary authority, to take an appropriate decision as per rule and also to go for a CBI enquiry.

AGENDA - XV

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CHAIR.

The Hon'ble Governor opined that the Centre should conduct painting exhibitions and generate revenue. The Director said the Centre has been doing so since the revaluation of artefacts and the last BoG meeting of the SZCC. The Hon'ble Governor suggested that painting exhibitions be held at Raj Bhavan while the SZCC conducts programs there during special occasions.

The Hon'ble Governor informed that as the country celebrates the 75th year of adoption of the Indian Constitution, new art choreographies in regional languages highlighting the preamble, spirit, and various aspects of our Constitution may be made and presented in various parts to increase the literacy and awareness of the Constitution among the general public.

Ms Asha Suresh Nair, Kerala, expressed her concern that her request to conduct a festival under the aegis of an NGO was not considered by the Director, SZCC, irrespective of the fact that she is a BoG member. The Director reflected that on the same day of receipt of the proposal, he sent a reply mail requesting further details about the logistics and the nature of support from the State Government departments mentioned in her proposal to place before the then ensuing Finance Committee, but there was no response.

The Joint Secretary (ZCC) informed the member that, as per norms, proposals from NGOs are to be routed through the Department of Culture of the State concerned with their recommendation. Ms Asha Suresh Nair also expressed her anguish at not being invited to the SZCC's programs in Kerala. The Director explained that all the information is provided on the Centre's website. The Hon'ble Governor and the Joint Secretary opined that the Centre may also send it to members by email.

The meeting ended with the consent of the Chair and the Director, SZCC, expressing Vote of Thanks to the Hon'ble Governor and all the members who attended the meeting.

K.K.Gopalakrishnan
Director & Member Secretary
SZCC, Thanjavur

Sd/-
Shri R.N. Ravi
Hon'ble Governor of Tamil
Nadu and Chairman, SZCC,
Thanjavur.