



**DEPARTMENT OF RUBBER & PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY
MIT CAMPUS, ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHROMEPET, CHENNAI – 600 044**

**MINUTES OF THE DEPARTMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (DCC) MEETING
HELD ON 01.10.2015 AT 3.00pm**

The Department Consultative Committee was convened on 1st October 2015 at 3.00 pm to discuss the following agenda:

1. Passing of B.Tech. Syllabus
2. DST-FIST Grants
3. RPS Scheme
4. Filling up of Vacant Post
5. Advancement of Electives in Sem VI and VII under R-2012

The members present in the DCC meeting were

1. Dr.B.Kothandaraman - Convener/Head
Professor & Head,
Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology
MIT Campus
2. Dr.B.Mohan - DCC Member
Professor & Head
Department of Mechanical Engineering
CEG Campus, Anna University
3. Dr.B.T.N. Sridhar - DCC Member
Professor & Head
Department of Aerospace Engineering
MIT Campus.
4. Dr. V.Subrahmanian - Member
Professor
Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology
MIT Campus
5. Dr. N.Natchimuthu - Member
Professor
Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology
MIT Campus

6.	Dr. K.Ravichandran Professor Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology MIT Campus	-	Member
7.	Dr.L.S.Jayakumari Associate Professor Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology MIT Campus	-	Member
8.	Dr.K.Elangovan Asst. Professor Dept. of Rubber & Plastics Technology MIT Campus	-	Member

1. **Passing of B.Tech Syllabus:** The Curriculum and Syllabus for the B.Tech (Rubber and Plastics Technology) R-2015 were passed. The necessary amendments in the curriculum has been explained in **Annexure-I**
2. **DST-FIST grants:** The members were informed about the status of the FIST programme grants received. The members were informed about the equipment to be purchased. The first instalment of the funds was released after DST was given budgetary quotations, with the short specifications of the equipment.
3. **RPS scheme:** The members were informed that a new grant was sanctioned by UGC under RPS scheme, to the tune of Rs 1.30 crores in June 2015
4. **Filling up of vacant post:** The specialization for which the new recruitment to be made, for the post of Assistant Professor which fell vacant due to elevation of Dr.L.S.Jayakumari to Associate Prof level, were discussed. It was felt that a person with Mechanical Engineering / Rubber & Plastics Technology background may be needed for taking up the class works for UG and PG courses.
5. **Advancement of electives in Sem VI and VII under R-2012 regulations:** Recently, the University has stipulated rules regarding advancing elective courses to earlier (VI and VII) Semesters by students to enable them spend the entire VIII Semester in an Industry outside Chennai. The DCC felt that the new rule will affect the placement prospects of the students of B.Tech (Rubber and Plastics Technology).

The DCC requests that Centre for Academic Courses reconsider these rules. The discussions are given in Annexure-II

The Convenor thanked the members for their participations and suggestions.

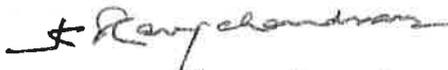
Dr V.Subrahmanian



Dr N.Natchimuthu



Dr K.Ravichandran



Dr L.S.Jayakumari



Dr K.Elangovan



Dr B.T.N.Sridhar



Dr B.Mohan



Dr B.Kothandaraman (Convenor)



ANNEXURE-I

Amendments made in Curriculum and Syllabus for R 2015 B.Tech (Rubber and Plastics Technology course:

S.No.	Sem	Subject added/ deleted/ shifted	Changed to/ shifted to	Reason
1.	III	i)Fundamentals of Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics(deleted) ii)To fill up this slot, Theory of machines and mechanisms <i>is shifted from Sem IV to Sem III</i>	Thermodynamics portions included in Fundamentals of Chemical Engg Operations Fluid Mechanics included in a new paper "Fluid Mechanics and Rheology" in Sem IV	External members suggested strongly, that, Rheology should be introduced somewhere in the syllabus
2	V	i)Rubber Processing and Machinery shifted to Sem VI and Polymer Characterisation Techniques <i>shifted from Sem VI to Sem V</i> ii)Plastics Materials in Sem IV split into 2 papers-Plastics Materials I and II	ii) Plastics Materials-II introduced in VI Semester	Since Plastics Materials paper got split into 2, it was felt that Plastics Materials-II should be covered in the next sem after Plastics Materials-I(which is covered in Sem IV). In view of the above, one subject ie Rubber Processing and Machinery is shifted to VI Sem ii) Members felt that Plastics Materials need to be covered in greater depth. Hence, this subject should be studied in 2 parts as done in the previous regulations
3	VI	i)Rubber and Plastics Testing ii)Mould Design Laboratory	i) <i>shifted from Sem V to Sem VI</i> ii) <i>renamed and shifted to Sem VII(Mould and Product Design lab)</i>	Plastics Materials-II had to be accommodated in Sem V
4	VII	Design Project <i>replaced by</i> Mould and Product Design lab		This subject was replaced in Sem VI as it got replaced by a theory paper.

It is requested that these changes get incorporated and ratified in Board of Studies and Academic Council meetings.

ANNEXURE-II

Advancing electives of VIII Semester to earlier semesters:

In the past 20 years, a good number of students of the B.Tech (Rubber and Plastics Technology-RPT) have been pursuing their Final Semester Project Work in industries often outside Chennai and even outside Tamil Nadu at various Rubber/Plastics Industries. This has not only given them a better understanding of the industrial atmosphere, but also has improved their placement prospects considerably (since many of them got the jobs mainly because of doing their projects in the industry). Further, this feature has evinced favourable comments from NBA teams which visited our Department in the past.

A good number of students who join B.Tech RPT are from rural and poor background and are in a dire need of getting placed in the industry immediately after completing their B.Tech programme. Of late, most of them are interested only in jobs in the core sector. Hence it is imperative that our University extends them all facilities so as to enable them reach this goal.

The new rules regarding the above subject will be an impediment to our students who wish to get a placement in the Core sector. A few industries in the past, have mentioned that it will be better if students do the Project with them for 4-6 months continuously as it gives them better exposure to their problems. The Department explained the difficulties in implementing the new rules during various meetings.

One condition stipulated is: **Permission to advance the electives must be obtained prior to VI semester itself**

The core industry cannot give consent for doing project work in their industry one year ahead of schedule. Hence this rule is not practicable.

The other conditions imposed newly are: i) minimum 7.5 CGPA ii) no standing arrears at the end of V semester. As explained already, a good number of students who get admitted to B.Tech RPT are from poor and rural background-they have difficulties in fulfilling these two conditions. Due to this, they need to be encouraged to take up projects in industries so that their employment prospects are improved considerably. More than academic performance, hard work, diligence and sincerity play a great role in improving the chances of their getting placed in the industry. Doing a Project in an Industry gives a chance for them to display these characteristics. It is not fair to penalize students for not performing well in academics.

In view of the above, the above rules may please be waived for our B.Tech(RPT students) doing Final semester project in Industry (this is not to be considered a privilege or luxury). The new rules may be **retained for Internship in industry**(this can be considered a luxury and hence such a rules may be necessary).