

Minutes of the 24th. Annual General Meeting of Coal Ash Institute of India(CAII) held at B. E. College Ex-Students' Club, CK-14, Salt Lake City, Sector – 2, Kolkata – 700091 on 4th. December, 2021(Saturday) from 11:00 a.m. onwards.

The following members participated in the meeting :-

- (1) Mr. Samar Guha Ray**
- (2) Mr. Kaushik Nag**
- (3) Mrs. Madhuri Bhattacharyya**
- (4) Mr. Debajit Chattopadhyay**
- (5) Dr. Partha Chakravarty**
- (6) Mr. Dipta Sundar Mallick**
- (7) Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur**
- (8) Mr. Siddhartha Biswas**
- (9) Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya – Secretary**
- (10) Mr. Gautam Dasgupta**
- (11) Mr. Amar Jayaswal**
- (12) Mr. Surajit Basu**
- (13) Mr. Anirban Banerjee.**

1. Mr. Samar Guha Ray was proposed to be the Chairman of this Annual General Meeting by the Hony. Secretary, as the President – Mr. D. K. Sett could not attend the meeting due to some other pre-occupation. The motion was seconded by Vice President – Mr. Gautam Das Gupta and hence accepted by all present. The meeting was initially started at 11:00 a.m. but had to be adjourned for want of quorum. The meeting was re-started at 12 Noon with attendance of members present as per bye-laws of the Institute.
2. The Secretary read out the Annual Report for the F.Y. 2020-21 of the Institute. The audited accounts were considered by the august house. Both the Secretary's Report and audited accounts for the F.Y. 2020-21 were taken to be unanimously accepted by the members.
3. The Statutory Auditors – M/s. S. Bhar & Company had retired during the last financial year and new auditor was to be appointed. The matter was deliberated at length and it was unanimously **"RESOLVED"** that M/s. S. Bhar & Company, Chartered Accountants, 40A, Abinash Sasmal Lane, 2nd. Floor, Kolkata – 700010 is re-appointed as Statutory Auditors of the Institute for the next financial year i.e. F.Y. 2021-22 on annual remuneration of Rs. 6,000/- (Rupees Six Thousand only)."
4. Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur sought the permission of the Chair to bring forth the contents of email communications originating from Mr. Surajit Basu and Mr. D. K. Sett, wherein Mr. Sett brought some personal allegations in his email dated : 26/11/2021. The Chairman permitted Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur to present his issue before the august house.

Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur read out the contents of recent email dated : 26/11/2021 of Mr. D. K. Sett, present President of CAII, wherein he had accused in person Mr.

Debashish Bhattacharyya and Mr. Benimadhab Kumar, which amongst other included an allegation of taking nearly a lakh rupees towards taxi fare for visiting Jadavpur University without taking approval from the Governing Body and not completing the accounts for the financial year in time bound manner.

Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur read out the Minutes of Governing Body Meeting held on 01/12/2018 under the Chairmanship of Mr. D. K. Sett wherein at Item No – 3 it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya and Mr. Surajit Basu would get suitable remuneration and reimbursement of their out-of-pocket-expenses after leaving Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) for CAII. Mr. Basu Thakur clarified that even the amount of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) for CAII was reduced to Rs. 80,000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand only) at the Governing Body Meeting held on 02/02/2019 and which was duly recorded in the Minutes as Item No – 7. This amount of Rs. 80,000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand only) was further approved at the 22nd. Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 23/02/2019 and duly recorded in the Minutes as Item No – 3. Thus it was opined that the allegation that there was post facto approval of the said payment , as alleged by Sri Dilip Sett in his above referred email, is mis-representation of facts.

With respect to timely completion of annual accounts of the Institute, Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur informed the members present that though initially there were some delay due to various unforeseen circumstances, for the past three financial years i.e. F.Ys. 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 not only accounting was completed in time bound manner but also the Institute's Income Tax Return was filed for the first time in 24 years' of its existence during F.Y. 2018-19, which was duly acknowledged and recorded in the Minutes of Governing Body Meeting held on 30/11/2019 under the Chairmanship of Mr. D. K. Sett at Item No – 4 of said Minute Book. Hence this allegation was also not correct.

Mr. Sudipto Basu Thakur then moved a motion with relation to the email dated : 26/11/2021 from Mr. D. K. Sett.

The motion moved by Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur was unanimously accepted by all members after some minor modification and the said motion was adopted as under :-

“This August House requests Mr. Dilip Kr. Sett to formally withdraw his email dated : 26th. November, 2021, before convening of next Governing Body Meeting of the Institute as the personal allegations levelled against Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya and Mr. Benimadhab Kumar have been found to be false and the tone and tenor of his said email is unethical and not conducive for smooth running of the organization.

The house agreed that in case of failure of Mr. Dilip Kr. Sett to withdraw his above referred email within the timeline stipulated hereinbefore, under such circumstances, the house unanimously condemns his such action in the strongest terms.

The house requests all members to further adhere to the proper mode of communication and not indulge in baseless personal accusation/s in the future.”

5. Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur drew the attention of the members to the resolution passed at a Special Annual General Meeting held on 24/08/2019, which entitled every Governing Body member attending any Board meeting of the Institute to reimbursement of Rs. 500/- (*Rupees Five Hundred only*) towards travelling expense. The matter was again deliberated and it was opined by Mr. Gautam Dasgupta that as there are limited opportunities at present with regards to generation of funds for the Institute during the last few years, the said earlier resolution should not be put in effect as of now. The same was appreciated by Mr. Dipto Sundar Mullick and others.

However, most members felt that since the erstwhile resolution was unanimously passed, such reimbursement ought to be made at least upto the date of this Annual General Meeting with retrospective effect and thereafter the matter be kept in abeyance till the income of the Institute improves or any other alternate decision is arrived at by the Governing Body subsequently. Hence it was unanimously **“RESOLVED** that the present Secretary and Treasurer be and hereby authorized to release the accumulated payments towards travelling expenses to each and every Governing Body Member for having attended any Board Meeting after 24/08/2019 till 04/12/2021 at the rate of Rs. 500/- (*Rupees Five Hundred only*) for each day of such physical attendance, and thereafter the same shall be kept in abeyance, till the Governing Body decides to revive the same based on the issues mentioned above.”

6. The Chairman drew attention of the members to the next important agenda about appointment of new Governing Body, as the tenure of present Governing Body had expired but the process of fresh appointment could not be taken up due to the restrictions imposed by Government in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic against public gatherings, which prevented the holding of meeting by physical presence. However, since the call was already taken at the 23rd. Annual General Meeting held on 06/03/2021 to form new Governing Body at the earliest available opportunity, the same needed to be completed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Siddhartha Biswas, thereafter Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya, the present Secretary, read out the names of members proposed to be taken in the Governing Body :-

- a) Mr. D. K. Sett
- b) Mr. Gautam Das Gupta
- c) Mr. Samar Guha Ray
- d) Mr. Sandip Sinha
- e) Mr. Dipto Sundar Mallick
- f) Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya
- g) Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur
- h) Mr. Kaushik Nag
- i) Mr. Samir Kumar Sadhu
- j) Mrs. Madhuri Bhattacharyya
- k) Mr. Siddhartha Biswas
- l) Mr. Amar Jayaswal

- m) Mr. Benimadhab Kumar
- n) Mr. Surajit Basu

The members present supported the motion and it was unanimously “**RESOLVED** that the names as proposed under serial nos. (a) to (n) be and hereby accepted as Governing Body Members of the Institute with immediate effect.”

“**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governing Body Members would select the new President, Vice President/s, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and other office bearers from amongst the new members mentioned hereinbefore at the next Governing Body meeting of the Institute and said details be circulated to all members of the Institute accordingly.”

“**ALSO RESOLVED** that Mr. Samar Guha Ray be and hereby appointed as Convener to convene the 1st. meeting of new Governing Body members for selection of post holders within 15 (*fifteen*) calendar days from conclusion of this Annual General Meeting.”

7. Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur proposed that the Institute had several learned, experienced and aged members, who could act as Advisors and share their knowledge and wisdom in lending direction to fulfill the objects of the Institute. After detailed deliberation, it was unanimously “**RESOLVED** that an Advisory Committee and Technical Committee be and hereby formed through selection of members to bring momentum in working of the Institute.”

Advisory Committee of CAII

- a) Dr. Anjan Kumar Chatterjee – Chairman
- b) Mr. Dipta Sundar Mallick – Vice Chairman
- c) Mr. D. R. Sengupta – Member
- d) Mr. Santosh Kr. Banerjee – Member
- e) Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya – Convener

Technical Committee of CAII

- a) Mr. Dipta Sundar Mallick – Chairman
- b) Mr. Sumantra Sen – Vice Chairman
- c) Mr. Gautam Das Gupta – Member
- d) Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya – Convener
- e) Dr. Partha Chakravarty – Member
- f) Prof. (Dr.) Mainak Ghosal – Member
- g) Mr. Sandip Sinha – Member
- h) Mr. Amar Jayaswal – Member
- i) Mr. Debjit Chatterjee – Member
- j) Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur – Member
- k) Mr. Surajit Basu - Member

8. The Chairman drew the attention of the members present to the objectives of the

Association as mentioned at Clause 3 pages 1 and 2 of Rules and Regulations of Coal Ash Institute of India, which mostly relates to pulverized coal ash of thermal power stations. The Chairman explained that though the Institute has been successful in fulfilling its main objects and contributed proactively for turning coal ash into a resource material at present from being a waste by-product generated by thermal power stations, the time has come for the Institute to direct its attention and resources to other issues affecting the energy sector as well as contribute meaningfully to the transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy, which may necessitate reviewing the Memorandum of the Institute. The matter was discussed at length by the august house and it was unanimously agreed and “**RESOLVED** that a Committee be and hereby formed by selecting members as named hereinafter to review the Memorandum, Rules and Regulations of Coal Ash Institute of India and put forward their valued suggestions to the Governing Body of the Institute for further action as may be necessary.”

Constitutional Committee of CAII

- a) Mr. Dipta Sundar Mallick
- b) Mr. Gautam Das Gupta
- c) Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur
- d) Mr. Sumantra Sen
- e) Mr. Sandip Sinha
- f) Mr. Surajit Basu

9. Mr. Gautam Das Gupta proposed that the expenditure budget of the Institute for the year 2021-22 be finalized at this Annual General Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Amar Jayaswal. After detailed deliberation, it was unanimously “**RESOLVED** that the expenditure budget for F.Y. 2021-22 be presently pegged at 20% escalated value with respect to that of previous financial year’s expenses , subject to review by the new Governing Body, if felt necessary during course of the year.”
10. Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya, present Secretary of the Institute, informed the members that Bank account of the Institute was currently with Punjab National Bank, High Court Branch, Kolkata, which was a great distance from the registered office of the Institute at Barrackpore and creating inconvenience for undertaking banking transactions. Mr. Debashish Bhattacharyya proposed that the account be shifted to Barrackpore branch instead to facilitate smooth banking operations of the Institute. The matter was discussed and it was unanimously “**RESOLVED** that the Secretary and Treasurer of the Institute be and hereby authorized to shift the current account of Coal Ash Institute of India from High Court Branch, Kolkata to Barrackpore Branch at their earliest convenience.”
11. Mr. Sudipta Basu Thakur informed the members present that necessary work for re-instating the website of Coal Ash Institute of India has already been taken up through a proper agency and it is expected that the new website of the Institute would become operational on and from 26/01/2022. The members complimented Mr. Basu Thakur for his efforts and requested the Secretary to inform all the

members no sooner said website of the Institute becomes functional.

12. Mr. Kaushik Nag delivered the “ Vote of Thanks” and mentioned that in order to energise the activities of the association, more proactive involvement of all members is desired.
13. The Minutes of 23rd. Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 06/03/2021 was taken as read by the members present and noted to be fair and proper record of the proceedings.
14. There being no other business to transact, the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.