

Turf war with director: IIM-C board hires legal firm to look into 'issues'

Synopsis

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Feedback



Indian Institute of Management Calcutta

In an unprecedented move, the board of the **Indian Institute of Management Calcutta** (IIM-C), the country's oldest national-level B-school, has hired a legal firm to look into what it calls issues arising from the **conflict of interest** involving the CEO/director, and to interpret the **IIM** Act rules in connection with the autonomy of the institute.

IIM-C, considered the bastion of finance across Asia's money hubs, is currently in the midst of a turf war over the role of the chairman and the director, with the chairman reportedly excluding the director from several committees, including one tasked with fundraising, and changing the audit committee overnight. Several resolutions, too, were reportedly forwarded to the board, although no agenda papers were produced, reflecting poor governance, said officials close to the development.

In one of the latest developments, the **Board of Governors** (BoG) at the institute has reportedly divested director **Anju Seth** of her powers to make appointments and initiate disciplinary action. Seth is the first woman to lead **IIM Calcutta** in its six-decade history.

Earlier, according to a news report, the board had passed a resolution against Seth for writing directly to the government against Board Chairman Shri Krishna Kulkarni and for allegedly not collaborating with the faculty.

The director of IIM Calcutta and the chairman of board of governors have apparently been having strong disagreements on several issues.

Seth had earlier written to the ministry of education that board chairman had restricted her functioning. Several members of the faculty have also been complaining about not getting the freedom to perform as scholars and had sent a letter to the ministry.