MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IASST), AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DST), GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (GOI).

Chairperson	: Dr. T. Ramasami
	Secretary, DST, GOI
Venue	: Technology Bhavan,
	New Delhi
Date	: December 14, 2009
Time	: 15:00 Hrs

The following members attended the meeting:

- 1. Dr. T. Ramasami, Secretary, DST, GOI (Chairman)
- 2. Prof. Sibaji Raha, Director, Bose Institute, Kolkata
- 3. Prof. A. N. Rai, Vice Chancellor, Central University, Aizwal
- 4. Prof. R. N. Pal, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata
- 5. Sri K. P. Pandian, Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser (JS & FA), DST, New Delhi
- 6. Prof. Joyanti Chutia, Director, IASST, Guwahati (Member Secretary)

Prof. O. K. Medhi, VC, Gauhati University and Sri N. Verma, Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Science and Technology Deptt., Guwahati could not attend the meeting due to unavoidable circumstances.

Dr. P. Asthana, Advisor AI, Mrs. Suman K. Agrawal, Deputy Secretary AI, and Sh. Deepak. Rattanpal, Under Secretary AI also attended the meeting as special invitees.

Agenda ITEM NO. 1:

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Welcome and introductory remarks by the Chairman.

The Chairman, Dr. T. Ramasami welcomed the members of the Council present in the meeting. He also welcomed the Institute into the fraternity of DST as an autonomous Institute. The Chairman expressed the view that the establishment of IASST as National Institute under the ASSAM ACCORD must fulfil the expectation of the scientific community by translating vision into reality with a pragmatic approach in interdisciplinary areas of research. IASST requires achieving criticality with quality research work and manpower.

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Agenda ITEM NO. 2:

Discussion on Bye-laws, Rules & Regulations and Staff Rules of IASST:

The Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations and Staff Rules of IASST were discussed and comments from members were accepted. The Bye-laws shall be effective from 14th December, 2009. However, the conversion of IASST into an autonomous Institute under DST, GOI had been effected from 9th March, 2009.

The JS & FA, DST specifically pointed out that the medical facilities of the employees of IASST will be covered under CGHS. Prof. A. N. Rai also suggested that CGHS is available at Guwahati and IASST may avail this facility.

The JS & FA, DST also pointed out that employees of IASST shall be covered under CPF scheme and New Pension Scheme will be effective for those who joined the Institute after 01-01-2004.

The Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations and Staff Rules of IASST were then approved by the Council with the above modifications. The Council also approved that the pay scale of the employees will be effective from 9^{th} March 2009 (date of approval of conversion of IASST into an autonomous Institute under DST, GOI) as per sixth Central Pay Commission (6^{th} CPC).

Agenda ITEM NO. 3.:

Constitution of Finance Committee:

The Council approved the composition of the Finance Committee as laid down in the Rules and Regulations and suggested to induct one Finance & Accounts Officer from either Assam Agricultural University or from Gauhati University as member of the Committee.

Agenda ITEM NO. 4:

Constitution of Scientific Advisory Council:

The Council approved the composition of the Scientific Advisory Council by reducing the number of members from eight to six in the category of Eminent Scientists from outside IASST. There will be two scientists from the Governing Council in this category. The Governing Council thereafter authorised the Chairman to finalise the members of SAC in discussion with the Director, IASST.

Agenda ITEM NO. 5.

Approval of Annual Budget 2009-2010:

Provisional budget of Rs. 7.7 Crores for the current financial year (2009-10) was approved, out of which, Rs. 6.5 Crore had been released. The Chairman emphasised that the current year expenditure should be minimised.

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Agenda ITEM NO. 6.

Approval of Annual Report (2008-09):

The Council approved the annual report. The efforts on this account were appreciated by the Governing Council. It was suggested that the Hindi version of the annual report must be published from next year onward.

Agenda ITEM NO. 7.

Appointment of Auditor:

The Council suggested that C & AG should be approached for obtaining a panel for appointment of auditors.

Agenda ITEM NO. 8.

Discussion on new recruitment:

The Council opened the discussion on new recruitment for the approved 11 (eleven) new posts. The Chairman suggested that:

- 1. The post of Registrar should be advertised immediately.
- 2. The posts of Assistant Professors are also to be advertised in the thrust areas of research of IASST.

The advertisement for the posts of professors and Associate Professors should be made as per guidelines and directions of the Scientific Advisory Council. The Council suggested that PS to the Director may be appointed on contractual basis at present. The recruitment rules of IASST will be followed in the appointment of all the posts and the selection should be on all-India level.

The Chairman/Council suggested that there must be a clear vision of the Institute in interdisciplinary research programmes. The Institute should serve as an interdisciplinary Institute of National Character for research activities. The Chairman advised to evolve three major integrated projects based on the achievements of last five years so as to clearly define the deliverables. The guidelines for preparation of the projects will be provided by the Scientific Advisory Council. The Chairman also suggested that ADVANCED MATERIALS should be considered as an area of focus and this would encompass biomaterials, nanomaterials, computational and mathematical modelling etc.

Agenda ITEM NO. 9.

Resolution for Society Registration of the New Council:

The Council decided to adopt the Resolution in the next Council meeting on or before April, 2010.

Agenda ITEM NO. 10.

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Under AOB, the Director, IASST apprised the Council that steps for constructing a Students' Home cum Guest House had been initiated and requested the Council to constitute the Building and Works Committee. The Council advised the Director to constitute the Committee taking the Chief Engineer, CPWD or his nominee and a Professor from Civil Engineering Deptt. of IIT Guwahati as members.

The Director, IASST sought suggestion from the Council regarding induction of JRF for its Ph. D. programme (2010-2011). It was decided that five numbers of JRFs may be appointed for the coming academic year. Total number of JRF should not exceed twice the registered Ph. D. guides at IASST.

There being no other item, the meeting ended with a vote of thank to the Chair.

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