

# MINUTES OF THE $16^{TH}$ MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL HELD ON $14^{TH}$ OCTOBER, 2022

### Institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology (IASST), Guwahati

#### Members present in the meeting:

1	Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar	Chairperson
	Secretary, DST, New Delhi	
2	Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma	Member
	DG, NECTAR	
3	Prof. Pulok Kumar Mukherjee	Member
	Director, IBSD, Imphal	
4	Prof. Tanushree Saha Dasgupta	Member
	Director, S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata	
5	Mrs. LoyaMadduri	Member
	Commissioner, Secretary to the Government of Assam, S&T Department	
6	Dr. Manoranjan Mohanty	Special invitee
	Head, AI Division, DST, New Delhi	
7	Professor Ashis Kr. Mukherjee	Member Secretary
	Director, IASST	
8	Dr. Diganta Goswami	Special invitee
	Registrar, IASST	

#### Leave of absentia granted to:

- 1. Prof. P J Handique, Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University
- 2. Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, DST, New Delhi

### Agenda Item No: GC.16/2022/1/1.1: Welcome to membersand opening remarks by the Chairman, GC

Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar, Chairperson, Governing Council of IASST and Secretary, DSTwelcomed the members and apologized for not being able to be physically present because of some other urgent commitments. He requested Director, IASST, to start and conduct the meeting.

## Agenda Item No: GC.16/2022/1/1.2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 6th December 2021.

Minutes of the 15th meeting of GC were circulated to all the members and no comments were received from the members. The minutes are approved by the Chairman, GC. The minutes are placed in Annexure I. Minutes were submitted for confirmation by the Governing Council.

**Decision**: The Minutes were confirmed by the Governing Council.

## Agenda Item No:GC.16/2022/1/1.3: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes of the 15th meeting of the Governing Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

The Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 15th GC is as under:

Agenda item No.	Item no./reference to para of the minutes of 14 <sup>th</sup> GC	Action taken/proposed to betaken	Remarks (if any)
GC.15/2021/2/1.1	Welcome to members and opening remarks by the Chairman, GC	Noted	Action taken report is accepted
GC.15/2021/2/1.2	Confirmation of the Minutes of the 15 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Governing Council held on 6th December 2021.	Noted	Accepted
GC.15/2021/2/1.3	"Action taken report" on recommendations of 15 <sup>th</sup> meeting of GC held on 6th December 2021.	Noted	Accepted
GC.15/2021/2/1.4	Consideration of the recommendations/deliberatio ns of the 15 <sup>th</sup> meetingof the Finance Committee of IASST held on 12 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 at IASST, Guwahati.	The Member Secretary, GC, summarized the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 17.11.2021. The Governing Council, after discussion, approved the recommendations of the meeting of the 14 <sup>th</sup> Finance Committee with the following minor changes: As the major equipment of more than 50 lakhs to be purchased is examined and approved by the SAC and the budgeting for the items is done by placing before	Accepted

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		the Finance Committee and subsequently in the GC, there is no need to send the list of major and minor equipment to be purchased in the financial year 2022-2023 with a tentative cost to DST for approval/necessary action. However, before purchasing major foreign equipment, it should be placed in the DST for approval. The committee suggested that the matter of construction of the 100-bedded Women Hostel be expedited by pursuing the matter with the Chief Engineer, CPWD, Guwahati. Regarding the framing of amended "Recruitment and Promotion Rules," the committee suggested the Member Secretary circulate the amended rules to the members for comments. The pending grievance cases about	
		anomalies in pay fixation are to be taken up with	
		DST for rectification.	
GC.15/2021/2/2	Items for approval/ ratification in the 15 <sup>th</sup> GC meeting		
	2.1. Renaming of CIF /SAIF to SAIC and appointment of a Head	Following the suggestion of the DST, the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF) of IASST, which was named SAIF, was renamed as Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Center (SAIC).  The scattered pieces of equipment housed in various laboratories were relocated to the SAIC. Further, Dr. Arup R. Pal, Associate Professor, Physical Sciences	Ratified

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	Division, has been entrusted the position of Head, SAIC, without any extra remuneration to look after the functioning of SAIC.	
2.2. Constitution of the Academic Advisory Committee and revised rules for student admission and programme	The composition and revised Academic Rules of the Academic Advisory Committee (for research scholars of IASST) were approved in the 15 <sup>th</sup> GC.	Ratified.
2.3. Granting of lien to FAO	On his request after selection as Financial Controller of National Institute of Design, Jorhat, Assam, the Finance and Accounts Officer of IASST, Mr. PradyutBorkataki was granted lien for two years to enable him to join in his new assignment. However, he has revert back to his position in the month of July, 2022.	Ratified.
2.4. Lien application of Prof. Heremba Bailung, Physical Sciences Division	After getting selection as Professor in Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, Assam, Prof. H. Bailung has applied for lien of 2 years to enable him to join in his new assignment.	Ratified.
2.5. Approval of MoU with Deakin University, Australia for a joint Ph.D. programme with IASST	GC approved the MoU for further communication to DST.	Communicated to DST for approval. A reminder was also given, but the reply is yet to be received.
2.6. Regularization contractual appointment of Shri LelinGogoi, Superintendent to Director	After a threadbare discussion on the merits of the case, the committee opined that the process of regularization of Shri Lelin Gogoi to the post of Superintendent was irregular as this was not done by following the proper procedure of	He has been informed about the decision of the committee. The committee noted

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	selection through open advertisement and suggested that he may be asked to resign from the position. However, to run the functioning of the Director's Office, a post of PS to the Director on a contractual basis is necessary. The post of Superintendent may be advertised, and recruitment may be done following proper procedure as per rule.	
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2.7.Restructuring and revival of lapsed faculty positions	The Committee noted the lack of applications received for the advertised vacancies (3 nos.) arising due to superannuation, technical resignation, and the resignation of faculties and suggested that the areas of specialization for the positions should be generalized to attract more applicants.  Further, for the vacant positions for more than two years but less than five years (deemed abolished posts), approval of DST is requested.  Regarding the abolished posts (8 nos.), the Committee suggested that IASST may start the process of the revival of the posts and pursue the matter with DST and the Ministry of Finance diligently.  Considering the need for	Request for creation/revival of the posts were made to DST. Regarding the downgrading of the posts, the AI division suggested placing the matter before the GC in its next meeting. The decision /recommendatio n of the GC be forwarded to the DST for recommendation and further necessary action. Accordingly, the matter is placed in this (16th meeting) of the GC for consideration. The matter was discussed as part
	more faculty positions, the Chairman, GC suggested that the Institute prepare a project report to expand research to niche areas and	of Agenda Item No. GC.16/2022/1/2.

GC.15/2021/2/3	Paparting itams with the	restructure the existing research areas to justify the request for additional human resources. Because the revival of abolished posts is complicated and time-consuming; therefore, creating new and cutting-edge science faculty positions should get more human resources.	
GC.13/2021/2/3	Reporting items with the permission of Chair 3.1. Discussion on achievements of targets set for the year 2020-2021	The Committee noted the achievements with satisfaction and praised IASST for its societal welfare activity.	Accepted by the committee.
	3.2. Resignation of Dr. Rahul PralhadHepat, Astt. Professor, IASST.	The Committee noted the resignation.	Accepted by the committee.
	3.3. Delegation of financial powers to the AIs	The Committee noted the decision.	Accepted by the committee.
	3.4. Recent achievements (February-October, 2021)	The committee expressed satisfaction on the output and awards/recognitions/achie vements of IASST scientists.	Accepted by the committee.
GC.15/2021/2/4	A.o.B: The Director, IASST informed the house that the term of this GC is expired and new GC will be formed very soon. He expressed his thankfulness to the GC for their constant support and guidance for the growth and development of IASST. The members congratulated the Director, IASST, for his sincere efforts to bring the Institute in the limelight and suggested that IASST prepare a short-term and extended academic and research vision for the next 5-10 years, respectively. Also, initiatives would	As per the decision of the DST, the new GC was formed with the following members: Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar, Secretary, DST, GoI, New Delhi - Chairperson Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, DG, NECTAR, Shillong - Member Prof. Pulok Kumar Mukherjee, Director, IBSD, Imphal - Member Prof. Pratap J. Handique, VC, Gauhati University, Guwahati - Member Shri Vishvajit Sahay, AS&FA, DST, GoI, New Delhi - Member Prof. Tanusri Saha Dasgupta, Director, S. N.	

attract 1	bright	young	Bose National Centre for	
candidates t	_	, ,	Basic Sciences, Kolkata -	
	3		Member	
			Shri Gyanendra Dev	
			Tripathi, IAS,	
			Commissioner &	
			Secretary to the Govt. of	
			Assam, Sci.& Technology	
			Department, Guwahati -	
			Member	
			Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee,	
			Director, IASST,	
			Guwahati - Member	
			Secretary	

**Decision**: Prof. Ashis Kr. Mukherjee, Director, IASST & Member Secretary, GC elucidated on the action taken on the decisions of the last GC meeting. Accordingly, the Chairman and members of the GC noted the action taken report on each item of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GC, and expressed their satisfaction with the action taken as per the recommendation of the committee.

Agenda Item No:GC.16/2022/1/1.4: Consideration of the recommendations/deliberations of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee held on 12th August 2022

#### The highlights of deliberation/recommendations of the committee are as follows:

#### 1. Action Taken Report:

The Member-Secretary appraised the details of actions taken for implementation of recommendations of the 14<sup>th</sup>Finance Committee Meeting. The Finance Committee noted the action taken report. Regarding the revision of the original budget estimate of capital expenditure from Rs. 12.77 Crores to Rs. 31.80 Crores, the Committee suggested expediting the process of obtaining vetting of the revised estimate submitted to the Civil Engineering Dept. of IIT Guwahati and submitting the same to the Program Division, i.e., DST for obtaining post-facto approval.

Regarding the Setting up of 33/0.422 kV substation and associated cable distribution work at IASST, Member Secretary informed that IASST had submitted all the details to DST, AI Division against the Administrative Approval received for implementation of 33/0.422 KV Substation at IASST, for release of fund. However, the AI Division asked for some more information/clarification, which is under process for submission. The Committee suggested obtaining separate financial sanctions for expenditure to be incurred for the Setting up of 33/0.422 KV substation rather than utilizing the regular Capital Cost budget of the Institute for this purpose.

Regarding the Construction of 100 Capacity Women Hostel, Director IASST and Chairman of the Committee have nicely and elaborately explained the necessities of the Women Hostel. All the members agreed to his remarks and suggested obtaining Administrative Approval from DST for the same.

As per the suggestion and recommendation of the 14th Finance Committee Meeting, bifurcation of Capital and Corpus Fund incorporated in the Annual Accounts for the Financial Year (FY) 2021-22 has been noted by the Committee members.

Member Secretary informed the members that booking of the fellowship of Institutional Fellows and monthly payments paid to Contractual Employees under "General" head instead of "Salary" head had been

implemented from the FY 2022-23 based on the recommendation of the 14th Finance Committee. For this purpose, reallocation of the budgetary Head from "Salary" to "General" is requested. The Committee suggested submitting a proposal to DST for fund reallocation under these two heads.

#### 2. Information regarding the current financial status of the institute

Member Secretary appraised the members about the allocation of grand-in-aid of Rs. 33.00 Crores for the FY 2022-23 at the budgetary stage against the budget estimate of Rs. 40 crores approved by the GB, IASST. However, considering the outflow of the fund during previous months of the current FY and to achieve the planned and committed targets of the Institute, it was requested to allocate the approved budgetary limit of Rs. 40.00 Crores in total. To meet the differences between the approved budget estimate and allocation, Member Secretary requested to recommend using the unspent balance of Rs. 7.81 Crores of the previous FY in addition to the current year allocation. The committee suggested submitting a proposal at the appropriate time, i.e. at the RE stage with the commitment that the allotted grant will be utilized fully during the current FY.

#### 3. Consideration for the introduction of research fee

Member Secretary briefed the structure of the revised studentship fee, and it was informed that this revision of fee structure is proposed to make it uniform for all categories of Research Scholars. Committee noted the same and approved the revised fee structure.

### 4. Consideration for payment of remuneration to an external expert foracademic progress evaluation

The committee recommended the maximum ceiling of Rs. 4000/- for payment of remuneration to an external expert based on the ceiling of Sitting Allowance fixed as per OM No.19047/10/2016 E-IV dated 12.04.2017, Government of India, MoF, Department of Expenditure. The committee also suggested exploring some avenues giving remuneration to the visiting faculty/ expert, invited from the abroad for delivering lecture, or for evaluation of thesis/progress reports of faculty etc. These remuneration slabs should be based on the remuneration structure adopted by nearby Universities/ Research Institutes. A committee may be constituted to look into the above issue and fix the upper ceiling of remuneration (within Rs. 4000/-) depending on the work to be performed.

### 5. Consideration of proposal for payment of overtime allowance to operative staff and staff car drivers

Committee recommended and approved the rates of the Overtime Allowance payable to Operative staff and Staff Drivers as follows:

- (i) Operative Staff (on regular basis): For working days: Rs.15.85 per hour; For Sundays, Holidays: Rs.21.15 per houror as per the Government of India rules.
- (ii) Operative staff/driver (casual/contractual employees Casual/Contractual employees drawing minimum wages as notified by the Ministry of Labour/ UT Administration, whichever is higher):  $\frac{1}{8}$  th of the daily wage as an hourly rate of OTA. Here operative staff includes Electricians, Plumbers, and Animal Keepers.
- (iii) Staff car drivers (Regular/ drawing Emoluments Rs. 2,201 and above):Up to the first one hour in excess of the prescribed hours of duty: Nil; after that @ Rs. 16.50/per houror as per the Government of India rules.

Further, the member from IFD, DST appraised the concern of the Ministry of Finance over recruiting staff through an outsourcing agency and advised to procure such services through GeM.

#### 6. Information regarding GeM procurement

Member Secretary briefed on the GeM purchase in the last financial year and current year. The house was informed about the frequent supply of low-quality products by the vendors, non-co-operation of GeM Vendors regarding the return of defective items, and the non-responsiveness of vendors regarding buyer's complaint redressal. The committee noted the information submitted regarding GeM procurement and difficulties/problems faced by the Institute for GeM procurement. It was suggested to bring these issues to the notice of GeM Authority copy of such Communication may be forwarded to AI, Division.

# 7. Compliance of verdict of Honourable Gauhati High Court in the case of Juri Pathak vs UOI & Ors. regarding her pay fixation

Committee members noted the compliance submitted. However, it was noted that another court case has been filed by Mrs. Juri Pathak, Technical Officer. The Committee recommended that draft reply of the Respondents on this court case may be vetted by DST before filing before the Hon'ble Court. On the query of the member representing Head, AI Division on how pay fixation was made for the employees at the time to conversion of IASST in 2009, it was explained that pay was fixed after due examination and recommendation by a committee set up for the purpose. Thus, the Committee finds it inappropriate for the concerned employees to represent against such fixation of pay after a lapse of more than 10 years and reopen the cases. However, in cases of representations and court cases on the matter, the Committee recommends that institute will re-examine and if any anomaly is found, the matter may be referred to DST.

#### 8. Information regarding procurement of major equipment

Member Secretary submitted a list of 3nos. Major Equipment to be procured during the F.Y. 2022-23 with tentative cost and informed that this list and the list of minor equipment have already been submitted to DST at the time of proposal submission for grant of 2nd Instalment of G.I.A. The committee members requested that they recommend separate budget allocations to procure these 3nos. Major equipment, namely (i) Isothermal Titration Calorimetry (ITC) (ii) Spectroscopic Ellipsometry and (iii) for exchange of existing XRD with a new one costing Rs. 4.27 crores as recommended by Scientific Advisory Council (SAC). Member of the Committee recommended the proposal for separate budget allocation for this procurement subject to the availability of funds of the project division.

#### 9. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

# (a) Unsettled audit paras raised by Principal Accounts Office (Internal Audit Wings of Ministry of Science and Technology) upto FY 2019-20 and by Audit and Accounts Department (Office of Director General of Audit, Environment and Scientific Department, Kolkata upto the FY 2020-21)

The Committee suggested and recommended to set a target for settling the Audit Paras raised by both Internal Audit Wings of Ministry and CAG. Member Secretary informed that the replies are under process and sent them to the concerned department at the earliest.

The Committee also recommended to place the progress of disposal of audit paras in the FC meetings as agenda item.

(Copy of approved Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Meeting is attached at Annexure II).

**Decision**: The Member Secretary, GC summarized the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 12th August 2022 and the Governing Council after discussion approved the recommendations of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee.

#### Agenda Item No:GC.16/2022/1/2: Items for consideration and approval in 16<sup>th</sup>GC meeting

#### 2.1. Staff quartersallotment rules

The Staff quartersallotment rules of IASST are placed in Annexure III for deliberation by the members and approval.

**Decision**: The Governing Council, after deliberations, approved the Staff quarters allotment rules of IASST.

#### 2.2. Faculty entrepreneurship rules

The Faculty entrepreneurship rules of IASST are placed in Annexure IV for deliberation by the members for approval/further decision.

**Decision:** The Committee highly appreciated the Faculty entrepreneurship rules prepared by the IASST, and in principle, such an endeavor was approved by the Committee. A brainstorming discussion was held on this issue, and the Committee opined that sharing profits from such ventures should be on a 60:40% basis (60% profit to the entrepreneur and 40% profit to IASST). The Committee also suggested including "the unique situation in North East India vis-a-vis the other parts of India" and focusing on the sustainable use of abundant resources along with the Corporate Social Responsibility of the Institute.

After modification, the Faculty entrepreneurship rules of IASST should be circulated to the Members of the Governing Council for remarks. The rules may be implemented without waiting for the next Governing Council meeting.

#### 2.3. Collection of fees from students:

The Academic committee in its meeting held on 26/04/2022 proposed the following fee structure for the research scholars of the IASST, which was also ratified at the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FC. The matter is placed for ratification/approval.

Particular Fee	Mode	Hosteller	Non-hosteller
Research/Laboratory Fee	Per Semester	6000/- (@1000/month)	6000/ (@1000/month)
Library Fee	Per Semester	1200/- (@200/month)	1200/- (@200/month)
Infrastructure and amenity	Per Semester	600/- (@100/month)	600/- (@100/month)
Sports and Gymkhana facility charge	Per Semester	600/- (@100/month)	600/- (@100/month)
Misc. charges	Per Semester	600/- (@100/month	600/- (@100/month
<b>Total semester Fee</b>	Per Semester	9,000/-	9,000/-
Medical (optional)	Per Semester	1740/-	1740/-
Hostel Fee	Per Semester	Applicable HRA or @ Rs.12000/(@2000/month)	-
Admission fee	Once on admission	1000/-	1000/-
Library Caution Fee (refundable without interest)	Once on admission	2000/-	2000/-
Laboratory Caution Fee (refundable without interest)	Once on admission	3000/-	3000/-
Identity Card (refundable without interest)	Once on admission	1000/-	1000/-
Hostel caution deposit	Once on	Rs.5000/-	NA
(refundable without	admission		
interest)			
Mess Fee	Per Semester	As applicable	NA
Total fee at the time of	Fee to be paid at	21,000/-	16,000/-

admission including 1st	the time of	(excluding medical fee	(excluding medical fee)
semester fee	admission	and hostel fee)	

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee approved the proposed fee structure.

#### 2.4. Performance parameters of research achievements

The MoU with DST is placed at Annexure V for perusal of the members.

Request for ratification.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted and appreciated the achievements.

#### 2.5. Draft Annual Report 2021-22 with audited accounts statement of IASST

The Draft Annual Report 2021-22 with audited Accounts statement of IASST is placed in Annexure VI for perusal and comments.

Request for approval.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted and approved the Annual Report 2021-22.

#### 2.6. Restructuring and revival of lapsed faculty positions

The Committee, in its meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup>December 2021, noted the lack of applications received for the advertised vacancies (3 nos.) arising due to superannuation, technical resignation, and the resignation of faculties and suggested that the areas of specialization for the positions should be generalized to attract more applicants. Further, for the vacant positions for more than two years but less than five years (deemed abolished posts), approval of DST is requested.

Regarding the abolished posts (6 nos.), the Committee suggested that IASST may initiate the revival of the lapsed posts and diligently pursue the matter with DST and the Ministry of Finance for immediate revival. Accordingly, the process was initiated.

On our request for down-gradation of the posts, DST suggested that the matter be placed in the next meeting of the GC and its decision/recommendation be communicated to DST.

Considering the need for more faculty positions, IASST requests the permission/ approval of the GC to downgrade the lapsed/abolished faculty positions (Professor-II: 2 positions; Professor-I: 2 positions) to Assistant Professor-II level to attract promising researchers.

Details of Vacant Academic Staff Positions of IASST, Guwahati, with pay structure details and proposal for down gradation

S. No.	Existing Post In Pay Level	No. of Po sts	Vacan t from	Experie nce require d	Gross Salary (Rs.)/P M	Proposed Downgrada tion to Post in Pay Level and experience required		ce	Remark
01	Professor- II; Pay Level-	2	One since 2009-	16 years post Ph.D.	2,88,46 4	Assistant Professor-II; Pay Level-	1,31,0 30	1,57,161	No. of Posts to be downgraded

	14,		10 &			11;		will be as
	GP-		One			4 years post		per the
	10000/-		since			Ph.D.		POST- based
			2011-					ROSTER
			12					
02	Professor-	2	One	14 years	2,48,52		1,17,220	
	I;		since	post	3			
	Pay Level-		2009-	Ph.D.				
	13A,		10 &					
	GP-8900/-		One					
			since					
			2010-					
			11					
03	Associate	1	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	10 years	2,33,69		1,02,394	
	Professor-		2019	post	7			
	II;			Ph.D.				
	Pay Level-							
	13,							
	GP-8700/-							
04	Associate	1	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	8 years	1,51,60		20,297	
	Professor-		2018	post	0			
	I;			Ph.D.				
	Pay Level-							
	12,							
	GP-7600/-							

The matter is placed for consideration.

**Decision/Remarks:** The committee discussed the matter of downgrading the vacant/abolished faculty positions and found it to be appropriate. The committee approved that the posts be downgraded. Dr. M. Mohanty, Head AI Division, informed IASST to submit the proposal to DST for the down-gradation of posts with due approval of the GC. The Director should distribute the vacant faculty positions into different subject areas per the Institute's requirements. Moreover, scientists on a contractual basis can be engaged in the interim while the posts are advertised and the recruitment process is on.

#### Agenda Item No:GC.16/2022/1/3:Reporting items with the permission of the Chair

#### 3.1.Discussion on achievements of targets set for the year 2021-2022

The achievements are shown in Annexure VII.

Parameters	The target for 2021-22	Achieved
Paper/scientist/year	5	5.036
Impact factor/paper	2.5	2.84
EMR funding obtained	400	409.25
Patent granted/scientist/year	0.05	0.1117
Consultancy/Scientist/year	0.02	0.0218
Database created	2.2	2.25
The majorresearch facility run	1	3.5
Research facility established	2	3.75
Patent filed	5	5

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee noted and appreciated the achievements.

#### 3.2. Recent achievements (December 2021 – August 2022):

#### **3.2.1 Output Indicators:**

Publications	39
(Peer-reviewed journals)	
Patents	2
Book chapters	3
Book	0
PhD produced	2

#### **3.2.2** Awards/recognitions/Achievements:

• IASST Guwahati has been conferred the prestigious State Science Award 2020 from the Govt. of Assam for its immense contribution to promoting, disseminating, and popularizing science in Assam and its outstanding contribution through top-class research, committed outreach, and value-based enterprise development. The award was received by Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee, Director, IASST from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Dr.Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Hon'ble Union Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India-Shri Dharmendra Pradhan on 20th May, 2022 held at Guwahati Biotech Park.

#### • Prof.Ashis Kumar Mukherjee, Director, IASST:

- (i) elected as Fellow of Indian Academy of Science, Bangalore, for 2022.
- (ii) is appointed as a member of the Scientific Committee of the 21st World Congress of the International Society on Toxinology, to be held at Abu Dhabi.
- (iii) received SFE-ZANDU Award 2022 by Society for Ethnopharmacology, Kolkata, India (constituted by Emami group of companies) for contribution towards drug development from traditional medicines and natural resources for treating snakebite and cardiovascular disease during 9th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India held on April 22-24, 2022.
- (iv) Advisory Committee Member, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research-TePP Outreach cum Cluster Innovation Centre (DSIR-TOCIC), Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India.
- **Dr. Mojibur R. Khan, Associate Professor, Prof.Ashis K. Mukherjee, Director**, and their research scholars Mr. Arun Kumar and Ms. Tulsi Joishy & Prof. M. C. Kalita, Gauhati University discovered a next generation probiotic bacterium *Lactobacillus plantarum* JBC5 from a dairy product that shows great promise in promoting healthy aging.
- **Prof. Joyanti Chutia, former Director, IASST** has received the Award for "Lifetime Achievements in Scientific Research &Innovation for the year 2020" from Govt. of Assam.
- **Dr. Ananya Barman,** an incubatee of Bio-NEST IASST, has received the Best Young Women Innovative Research and Entrepreneur Award from the Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma.
- **Prof. Devasish Chowdhury**, Physical Sciences Division has been admitted as a Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry, London (FRSC).

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee appreciated the achievements.

#### **3.3. Promotion of faculty members:**

Two numbers of Academic Staff have been promoted after following proper procedure (1<sup>st</sup> level Internal and 2<sup>nd</sup> level external screening) under Modified Flexible Complementing Scheme as below:

S. No	Name	Existing post	Promoted to	From
1	Dr.Devashish Chowdhury	Associate Professor –II	Professor-I	01.01.2022
2	Dr.Rajlakshmi Devi	Associate Professor –II	Professor-I	01.07.2022

The promotions were communicated to the Chairman of the Governing Council and his approval was obtained before issuing office order.

Placed for ratification.

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee ratified the promotions.

#### 3.4. Renewal of registration of IASST under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860:

The validity of registration of IASST under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 is expiring on 21.01.2023. The change in the Governing Council members vide reconstitution in January 2022 also needs to be communicated to the Registrar of Societies.

Placed for information and approval of renewal of registration.

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee approved the renewal of registration of IASST under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

#### 3.5. Scientific Advisory Council meeting

The 12<sup>th</sup>Scientific Advisory Council was held at IASST on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2022. The approved minutes would be circulated to the members soon.

Placed for information.

**Decision/Remarks:** The Committee noted the holding of the SAC meeting.

#### 3.6. Annual Report 2021-22

The draft Annual Report for the year 2021-22 was circulated to the members of the Governing Council and their comments were noted. The report was placed before the Chairman, GC for approval and approval was received. The Report has been sent to press for printing for onward submission to DST.

Placed for information.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted the information.

#### 3.7. Induction of non-academic manpower in vacancies arising due to superannuation

The following posts were filled up in vacancies arising due to superannuation after following proper procedures:

S. No	Name of the post	Name	Joining date
1	Assistant-I	Mr. HemantaSarma	30/11/2021
2	Assistant-I	Mr. IndrajitSarma	01/02/2022
3	Technical Assistant-I	Mr. DipankarKalita	15/12/2021

4	Driver	Mr. Lachman Thapa	02/02/2022
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Placed for information.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted the appointments.

# 3.8. Proposed additional requirement of manpower included in the DPR for National Science and Technology Research University (NSTRU)

As per Cadre Committee report the following posts were proposed for IASST. The report was submitted to DST on November 12, 2021.

Sl. No.	Post	Nos.
1	Scientist-C	1 post
2	Senior Technical Assistant	1 post
3	Sr. Administrative Officer (Academic)	1 post
4	PS	1 post

Placed for information.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted the information.

#### 3.9. Promotion of Administrative and Technical Staff under MACP:

The following employees were promoted under MACP after following proper procedure:

Sl. No	Name	Post held	Date of effect
1	Niranjan K Bhagobaty	Technical Officer-B	01/09/2022
2	Nirab C Adhikary	Technical Officer-B	08/10/2022
3	Suresh Sharma	Section Officer	01/01/2023
4	NimaiHazam	Driver	01/06/2022
5	Sabin Kalita	MTS	01/10/2022
6	MadhuramKalita	MTS	01/10/2022
7	RatulBaishya	MTS	01/10/2022
8	Binoy Kr. Choudhury	MTS	01/10/2022

Placed for information.

**Decision/Remarks:** The GC noted the information.

#### 3.10. Bye-laws and staff rules of IASST:

As per the letter No. AI/1-26/Admn/IASST/2009 Dated 20/09/2012 received from DST, it was suggested to submit the Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations and Staff Rules of IASST to the Office of the Registrar, Co-Operative Societies, Guwahati and thereafter the adoption of these papers be placed in the Governing Council for ratification.

Action Taken: The Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations and Staff Rules of IASST were submitted to the Registrar of Firms and Societies, Guwahati, Assam dated 22/12/2012. However, due to some inadvertent mistake, the matter was not ratified in GC.

The matter is now placed for ratification.

**Decision/Remarks:** The matter is ratified.

# 3.11. Regarding Recruitment and Promotion rules of IASST

The framing of Recruitment Rules for the different posts of IASST was discussed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of Governing Council held in February, 2012 vide resolution No. 10.

The Chairman of the GC assured that the Recruitment Rules of IASST will be examined and approved by DST and he further entrusted the task of scrutinizing the Recruitment Rules of IASST for finalization to

The revised draft Recruitment Rules were placed before the 8th Governing Council meeting held on December 2015. The Governing Council resolved that the draft rules must be sent to the Administrative Ministry, i.e., DST for processing and approval.

In pursuance of that, the draft Recruitment and Promotion Rules of IASST was sent to the then Head of AI Division, DST, Dr. Praveer Asthana vide letter no. IASST/771/16-17/4460 dated 18/07/2016. DST vide letter No. AI/18/3/IASST/2016 dated 20/03/2017 raised a few queries which were replied vide letter no. IASST/771/17-18/8459 dated 14/09/2017.

However, we have not received any communication from DST and the Recruitment and Promotion Rules of IASST is still not approved. Previous communications are attached in Annexure-VIII.

The Governing Council is requested to give us further necessary direction regarding this matter.

Decision/Remarks: The members discussed the matter, and it was clarified by Dr. M. Mohanty that the Recruitment Rules for all staff, other than the Director, should be as per the DoPT guidelines. IASST may prepare the RR Rules for all the staff/scientists and submit to DST for approval.

## 3.12. Participation of Prof. A. K. Mukherjee, Director IASST, in an International Conference organized by the International Society on Toxinology in Abu Dhabi.

Prof. Ashis K Mukherjee, Director, IASST is scheduled to attend an International Seminar to participate as an invited speaker in 21st World Congress of the International Society on Toxicology at Abu Dhabi during 16 to 20 October 2022. Necessary approval from the Chairman, GC has been obtained for a visit abroad.

Placed for information.

Decision/Remarks: The GC noted the matter.

### Agenda Item No:GC.16/2022/1/4: AoB

1. Matters relating to grievances of staff regarding promotion, scale of pay etc.: The members discussed the matter and Dr. M. Mohanty requested to forward such grievances to DST for advice.

As there was no other matter to discuss, the meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Chairman

**Governing Council** 

Director, IASST Member Secretary

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