



**INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE UNDER DST, GOVT. OF INDIA)**  
**PASCHIM BORAGAON, GARCHUK**  
**GUWAHATI- 781035**

**MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) OF THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IASST), GUWAHATI, HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016 IN THE TECHNOLOGY BHAVAN, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, NEW MEHRAULI ROAD, NEW DELHI.**

**Members present**

- |    |   |                  |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Prof. Ashutosh Sharma<br>Secretary, Department of Science & Technology<br>New Delhi | Chairman         |
| 2. | Dr. Mridul Hazarika<br>Vice Chancellor, GU<br>Guwahati                              | Member           |
| 3. | Prof. Sibaji Raha<br>Director, Bose Institute<br>Kolkata                            | Member           |
| 4. | Dr. Rabindranath Pal<br>Senior Professor, SINP<br>Kolkata                           | Member           |
| 5. | Prof. Sri Krishna Srivastava<br>Vice Chancellor, NEHU, Meghalaya.                   | Member           |
| 6. | Dr. N.C. Talukdar<br>Director, IASST  | Member Secretary |

Mr. K. K. Dwivedi, IAS, Commissioner and Secretary, Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Assam and Mr. J. B. Mahapatra, Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser, DST, Govt. of India couldn't attend the meeting due to their preoccupation. Dr. Diganta Goswami, Registrar, IASST and Mr. Pradyut Borkataki, Finance and Accounts Officer, IASST also attended the meeting with the permission of the Chairman.

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**Agenda item No.5 Report on the recommendation /deliberations of the Eighth meeting of the Finance Committee of IASST held on 10.11.2016**

The eighth meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 10.11.2016 at DST, New Delhi and following were the major recommendations.

1. The Committee recommended Revised Estimate of `33.56 crore for the financial year 2016-17 subject to availability of fund.
2. The committee also recommended budget estimate of `33.02 crore for the financial year 2017-18.
3. The committee prioritised the construction proposal of 2016-17 as below:
  - (i) Dedicated power supply connection
  - (ii) Separate building structure for sophisticated instrument facility.
  - (iii) Residential accommodation for young scientist
  - (iv) Construction of Scientist quarter

The Governing Council after discussion approved all the recommendations of the 8<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee meeting.

**Agenda item No.6: Report of Approval of 2015-16 Annual Report of IASST by the GC members**

The IASST Annual Report 2015-16 was sent to the Honourable members of the GC and the members sent written note of approval with suggestions for minor changes which were incorporated and sent to the DST for approval and further follow-up and necessary action. Few suggestions on get-up and presentations for future made by member are noted and will be implemented during preparation of Annual Report 2016-17. The Governing Council noted the approval of the Annual Report 2015-16.

**Agenda item No.7: Regularization/Promotion of Faculty staff considered by the concerned Assessment Committees.**

The Assessment Committee of the Institute constituted as per its Recruitment Rule met on 08.07.2016 to consider the following cases.

- (i) **Regularisation of the services of the following Academic staff on completion of initial five years of their contract service**
  - (a) Dr. M.R. Khan, Assistant Professor II, LSD
  - (b) Dr. Munima B. Sahariah, Assistant Professor II, CCNS
  - (c) Dr. Debajit Thakur, Assistant Professor II, LSD
  - (d) Dr. Sarathi Kundu, Associate Professor I, PSD

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### **Agenda item No. 1: Welcome address and opening remarks by the Chairman**

First of all, Dr. N. C. Talukdar, Director, IASST welcomed Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Chairman and the members of the Governing Council and requested Professor Sharma to chair the meeting.

Professor Ashutosh Sarma, extended a hearty welcome to all the members present in the meeting. In his speech, the Chairman mentioned that the association of IASST to DST fold was rather new. He also recalled his visit to IASST during December, 2015 and interaction with the faculties and students and saw huge potential of research for utilization of local resources particularly research on agar plant and sericulture etc. He stressed on involvement of govt. departments, non-government and other development agency for carrying the benefit of IASST research to common people. He also suggested engagement of expert consultant for technology transfer.

### **Agenda item No. 2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Governing Council meeting held on Dec 25, 2015**

The minutes of the Eighth meeting of the Governing Council were circulated to the members earlier for comments, if any. No comments have been received on the minutes. The members discussed and approved the minutes of the 8th Governing Council meeting.

### **Agenda item No. 3: Action Taken Report on the decisions/deliberations as per minutes of the eighth meeting of the Governing Council**

The Director informed that actions were taken on all the decisions of the last Governing Council meeting. Regarding relinquishment of lien of Dr. N. C. Talukdar, Director on his post at IBSD, Imphal and his permanent absorption at IASST, the committee decided to take up the matter as per provision of Recruitment Rule of IASST which is pending at DST for approval. On promotion case of Dr. S.C. Bordoloi from level of Professor I to Professor II, the committee after discussion approved her promotion w.e.f. 23-02-2016 i.e. date of selection committee's recommendation. The Governing Council also noted action taken on the other items of the eighth meeting of the Governing Council.

### **Agenda item No.4: Progress of Research and Academic Activity of IASST**

The Director, IASST made a presentation before the members on the progress of research and academic activity. The Director in his presentation gave an accounts of research man powers, publications along with major research achievements, various other academic activities and outreach programmes. The Council appreciated the progress in the research and academic activities of the Institute. The Chairman suggested to concentrate on research on local materials which are available in bulk quantity. Since, current faculty strength is small, focus research involving scientists from across discipline is likely to yield better result. Based on the current strength of the Ph.D. students (above 100) in the Institute, the chairman saw the potential of the institute to be Deemed University in the future. A huge quantity tea dust generated as waste after processing of tea and the chairman suggested that Advance Material Science scientists may take a project to develop super activated carbon nanopowder from the tea waste of its potential in water purification system or in other application.

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regular basis. Creation of posts with appropriate Govt. approval on the recommendation of the Governing Council is a time consuming process, the Institute would, therefore, propose engagement of the suitable persons through contract engagement for the following posts

1. System Administrator
2. Academic Registrar
3. Scientist for Mathematical and Computational Program ( MCP)

**1. System Administrator:**

The post is required for taking charge of the Computer System and networking facilities, data management for support to research activities as well as System Administration of Administrative services like finance, stores purchase, personnel records etc.

**2. Academic Registrar:**

The Recruitment Rules submitted to the DST for approval, inter alia, provide for a post of Deputy Registrar (Academic). With the present load of Academic administrative jobs concerning Research Fellows, summer trainees, other short term courses, there is an urgent need to engage a person on contract to take care of the Administrative and financial works of the scholars and trainees, visiting students from different Science College of NE India.

**3. Scientist for Mathematical and Computational Program ( MCP)**

There is a need to induct a scientist in the MCP, due to vacuum created due to joining of Dr. Binod Chandra Tripathy on lien in another organisation. The person will be taken on Contract and at level equivalent to Assistant Professor II, with usual term and conditions of contract service at IASST.

The Governing Council approved engagement of a Scientist of Mathematical and computational Science Program on contract basis against lien vacancy and suggested to engage consultant for the work of System administrator and Academic Registrar.

**Agenda item No.10: Reconstitution of the second Governing Council of IASST**

The tenure of the Governing Council has come to an end on 31.08.2012 and as per provision of rule 5.1 of Byelaws (Annexure III) of IASST, the Governing Council shall continue to function till it is formally reconstituted. In terms of provisions of the Memorandum of Association IASST, Secretary, DST is the Chairman of Governing Council, IASST or a eminent scientist selected by the Government. In other words, the Secretary, DST is not an "Ex-officio" Chairman nominated. The Secretary, DST has been the Chairman of the Governing Council of IASST since it was taken over from the State Govt of Assam in 2009. It is therefore, proposed that the secretary DST may kindly take step for reconstitution of the GC keeping Secretary DST as chairman. Further the members of the GC requested the Secretary to continue as the Chairman of the reconstituted GC so that the growth momentum of the IASST reach a stronger footing. The Chairman agreed to take initiative for constitution of the second Governing Council of IASST.

**Agenda item No.11: Extending the benefit of comprehensive Medical Scheme (CMS) of IASST to ex-employees of IASST**

The Comprehensive Medical Scheme (CMS) of IASST for the employees has been approved in the IASST Medical Committee held on 01.09.2015. The said scheme is on the



As per Institute rules, an employee who successfully completes 5 year contract service, is due for regularization and continue in service till the age of superannuation. The Committee found all the above named incumbents suitable for regularization. The recommendation of the committee has been duly accepted by the appointing authority.

(ii) **Promotion cases under Modified Flexible Complementing Scheme (MFCS)**

The committee recommended the following promotions on the basis of their performance review and personal interview

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Post</u>	<u>Recommended Promotion to</u>
1. Dr. Munima B. Sahariah	Assistant Professor II	Associate Professor I
2. Dr. M.R. Khan	Assistant Professor II	Associate Professor I
3. Dr. Debajit Thakur	Assistant Professor II	Associate Professor I

The appointing authority, namely Director, IASST has approved the above promotions recommended by the committee. The above stated regularization and promotions have been effected as per relevant rules. These are reported to the Governing Council for information. The Governing Council noted the regularisation and promotion cases.

**Agenda item No.8: Recruitment of Academic staff against existing vacancies**

Several Academic positions currently lying vacant due to retirement of scientists and other reasons, need to be filled up to meet the demands of Academic and Research commitments under various programs which are on a growing curve. The Institute's Annual Report 2015-16 captures and records activities carried out in different fronts during the year. The Institute witnessed nearly doubling of activities and output in a number of fronts. Maintaining this tempo and sustaining the present research and teaching activity and growth requires the immediate steps to fill up the following posts against vacant positions.

1. Associate Professor II in Natural Product Chemistry (one post)
2. Associate Professor II in Aquatic & Wetland Eco-system research speciality(one post)
3. Associate Professor I in Sericulture (one post)
4. Assistant Professor II in Plasma Physics (basic)(one post)

The educational and other qualification requirement and job description for the posts specified shall be as per the Institute's draft Recruitment Rules now pending with the DST for approval. The posts shall be advertised in important national dailies & scientific journals for wide publicity. The Council after discussion approved the recruitment of the proposed academic staff.

**Agenda item No.9: Proposal for contractual engagement of personnel for different divisions**

The institute was taken over by DST in 09.03.2009 and has been making steady progress in its Research & Development activities and able to achieve a visibility in the region and outside. Currently it is on the expansion phase both in terms of infrastructure and academic program development. Expansion of research and academic activities demand matching manpower. The manpower of the Institute that is included in its Recruitment Rules are essentially those that existed on 09.03.2009. There is need to create additional posts on

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lines of the Central Govt.'s contributory Medical Attendance Scheme which is also available to the employees who have retired from Central Govt. service and are contributing to the scheme by paying the contributions.

The IASST's Comprehensive Medical Scheme are also available to its staff members who retired on or after 09.03.2009 and who contribute to the scheme as per norms.

As it is, all members who were on the staff list of IASST under the State Govt. dispensation as on 09.03.2009 are eligible to become members of the medical attendance scheme. This leaves only three members listed below who were employees of the IASST who retired before 09.03.2009

1. **Dr. Mahanta Kumar Kalita – retired as registrar on 31.12.2003**
2. **Dr. Ganesh Chandra Das – retired as professor on 02.01.2004**
3. **Dr. Padum Azad – retired as Associate Professor on 30.04.2007**

These three ex-employees have requested that they do not have any medical coverage whatsoever under the State Govt, and may be allowed to avail the IASST medical attendance benefits. These persons being ex-employees of IASST it becomes moral responsibility of IASST to provide them the basic welfare measure, namely medical attendance benefit. The Council after discussion suggested to send the proposal to Internal Finance wing of IASST or to place in the next Finance committee meeting.

#### **Agenda item No.12: Reconstitution of Scientific Advisory Council**

The Institute vide letter No. IASST/1041/16-17/ 3013 dated 15.06.2016 addressed to the Chairman, Governing Council sent the final list of member of the reconstituted second Scientific Advisory Council of IASST as approved in the meeting of the GC held on 28.12.2015 in IASST. As for the chairman of the reconstituted SAC, the Secretary, DST would write to Professor Balaram, Former Director, IISC, Bangalore. The Council discussed the matter and left the issue to the Honourable Chairman for finalisation.

#### **Agenda item No.13: Any other Agenda with permission of Chair**

The chairman enquired about salary of Dr. Sourav Kundu for the period starting from the date of joining to the date of sanction of grant from SERB. Dr. Kundu joined on his own interest although it was duly written from Funding Agency in its sanction order the effective date of implementation. In view of Dr. Kundu's leaving IASST to join another Institute, the committee did not accept Dr. Kundu's request for salary of said period from IASST's core budget.

There being no other item for discussion, the meeting ended with thanks from the Chair.



Chairman,  
Governing Council, IASST



Director, IASST  
Member Secretary.