



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

Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 29.08.2024

Members present in the meeting:

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| 1. Prof. Abhay Karandikar
Chairman, GC and Secretary, DST, GoI | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma
DG, NECTAR, Shillong | Member |
| 3. Prof. Pulok Kr. Mukherjee
Director, IBSD, Imphal | Member |
| 4. Shri Vishvajit Sahay
AS & FA, DST, GoI | Member |
| 5. Prof. Tanushri Saha Dasgupta
Director, SN Bose Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata | Member |
| 6. Smt. Laya Madduri, IAS
Secretary, Science Tech & Climate Change Deptt., GoA | Member |
| 7. Dr. Manoranjan Mohanty
Scientist-G and Head, AI Division, DST, GoI | Special Invitee |
| 8. Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee
Director, IASST, Guwahati | Member Secretary |

Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanta, VC, Gauhati University could not attend the above meeting due to his prior commitments.

Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Chairman, Governing Council of IASST & Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, welcomed the members and requested the Director, IASST, to start the proceedings.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/1.2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 23rd September, 2023

The minutes of the 17th meeting of GC were circulated to all the members of the GC, and no comments were received. Therefore, the minutes of the 17th GC were confirmed by the Governing Council.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/1.3: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the Governing Council held on 23rd September, 2023

The Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 17th meeting of the GC was noted by the Council and the Council also appreciated the initiatives taken by IASST based on the recommendations of the last GC.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/1.4: Consideration of recommendations/deliberations of the 17th meeting of the Finance Committee held on 12 July 2024.

Director, IASST informed the Council about the recommendations of the Finance Committee in respect of the following agendas

- *Audited Accounts for the Financial Year 2023-24 for approval.*
- *Budget Estimate for the Financial Year 2024-25 and present financial status of the Institute.*
- *Proposal for procurement of Major Scientific Equipment during the financial year 2024-2025.*
- *Draft Rule for creation/Operation of Corpus Fund of the Institute.*
- *The draft rule for disposal of surplus, obsolete, unserviceable, and scrap items and submission of draft manual for approval.*
- *Current construction status of a Women's Hostel at IASST.*
- *Outstanding Audit Paras.*
- *Discussion on the increase in various allowances (HRA, CEA, etc.) consequent upon an increase in DA to 50%*

Decision/Remarks: The Council approved the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

The Committee suggested the Institute to purchase the equipments as per the delegation of financial power (DST OM No. AI/5/2/2021 dated 23rd March, 2021). However, equipment costing more than 50 lakh must be approved by the Scientific Advisory Council and the Finance Committee by following the GFR-17 rules.

The GC adopted the revised order of DoE, Government of India regarding enhancement of salary and allowances.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2: Matters for deliberation/approval of the GC

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2.1: Adoption of New Rules and Regulations, Bye-laws/MOA in r/o IASST, Guwahati

The DST, New Delhi, vide letter no.AI/8/7/IASST/2020(E-29419) dated 05.02.2024 forwarded the Rules and Regulations, Bye-laws/MOA in r/o Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology(IASST) Guwahati, duly approved by the competent authority. This by-law will replace the earlier By-laws communicated by DST via letter dated 20.09.2012.

Vide the DST letter referred to above, IASST Guwahati is requested to take necessary action to notify and implement these Bylaws in the Institute, as per the procedure in para 57 of these bye-laws. After notifying these byelaws; a copy will also be submitted to the office of Registrar, Co-Operative Societies, Guwahati.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the Bye Law for adoption with some minor modifications as mentioned below:

1. The Chairman of the Governing Council will also be the President of the Society of IASST.
2. **Further, Clause 15-ix(b)**, Outstation Tour should be read as "the permission of the Chairman, GC shall be obtained in the case of the tour of the Director of the Institute exceeding 5 working days (excluding journey period) in a month in a single visit, ".
3. **Chapter IV: Clauses 27, 28, 29 and 30:** A committee under the chairmanship of the Director will frame the guidelines for the minimum eligibility criteria for selecting Professor of eminence, Science chair professorship, Adjunct faculty, visiting scholar and visiting scientist at IASST. The GC will approve the guidelines.

The adopted rules will be submitted to the Registrar of Societies, Assam, for acceptance, after which they will be implemented at IASST.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2.2: Revised Draft Recruitment Rules of IASST

The Director informed the committee that IASST constituted several committees to draft new revised recruitment rules for the IASST as per DOPT guidelines. The latest draft recruitment rule was sent to the DST in July 2024. After receiving comments from the Members of the Governing Council, the Revised Recruitment Rules would be forwarded to DST for ratification.

Decision/Remarks: The GC recommended the revised Recruitment Rules and suggested sending it to the DST for approval.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2.3: Proposal for creation of Corpus fund-IASST out of the internal revenue resources- Finalization of guidelines based on Model guidelines received from DST

The IASST sent a proposal to DST to create a Corpus fund out of internal accruals. Accordingly, DST drafted a model guideline and sent a copy to the Institute. The Institute deliberated and finalized the guidelines for creating Corpus Fund-IASST with minor changes based on the requirement/need of the Institute, keeping the basic structure of the Model guidelines intact. The same was discussed during the recent FC meeting of the IASST. The finalized guideline for creating Corpus Fund-IASST may be submitted to DST.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council deliberated and approved the Guidelines for sending the proposal for creating Corpus Fund, IASST, to the Min. of Science and Technology for approval.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2.4: Adoption of Ph.D. Students Entrepreneurship Policy

A draft policy document to encourage Ph.D. scholars to become self-reliant, named "Ph.D. Students Entrepreneurship Policy of IASST" was deliberated among the members.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council highly appreciated and approved the "Ph.D Students Entrepreneurship Policy at IASST" with the following modifications:

1. Clause 9(A); Instead of PI of Bionest, IASST, the PI of the incubation Centre will be one of the mentors.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/2.5: Proposal for formulating rules for disposal of surplus/obsolete/unserviceable and scrap items

A draft policy document for formulating rules for the disposal of surplus, obsolete, unserviceable and scrap items named "Disposal Manual of IASST" was circulated for the kind deliberation of the members. The 17th Finance Committee has deliberated on the policy document and suggested that it may be placed in the GC meeting.

Decision/Remarks: The GC approved the draft Disposal Manual of IASST.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/3: Matters for ratification/approval of the GC

3.1: Approval of the Annual Report of IASST for the year 2023-24

The draft Annual Report of IASST for 2023-24 and audited statements of accounts were circulated for comments.

Decision/Remarks: The GC approved the Annual Report for 2023-24, along with audited statements of accounts.

3.2. Recent achievements: 1 January – 15 August, 2024 Output indicators

Publications (Peer-reviewed journals)	80
Total Impact Factor	328.2
Impact factor per paper	4.1025
Patents filed	2
Patents granted	3
Book chapters	7
Books	1
PhD produced	19
EMR funding obtained (in Rs. Lakh)	175.65

Decision/Remarks: The GC appreciated the research output including quality of publications and patents generated from IASST.

3.3. Promotion of faculty members:

The following faculty were promoted in-situ under MFCS:

Name	Current position	Promoted to	W.E.F
Dr. Jagat Chandra Borah	Associate Professor-II	Professor-I	01.01.2024
Dr. Arup Ratan Pal	Associate Professor-II	Professor-I	01.01.2024
Dr. Mojibur Rahman Khan	Associate Professor-II	Professor-I	01.01.2024
Prof. Neelotpal Sen Sarma	Professor-I	Professor-II	01.07.2024
Dr. Santu Das	Assistant Professor-II	Associate Professor-I	01.07.2024
Dr. Kamatchi Sankaranarayan	Assistant Professor-II	Associate Professor-I	14.08.2024

Decision/Remarks: The GC ratified the promotions.

3.4. Regularization of service of faculty members:

The service of the following faculty members was regularized after serving the contract period of 5 years:

1. Dr. Biswajit Choudhury, Associate Professor-I
2. Dr. Santu Das, Associate Professor-I
3. Dr. Kamatchi Sankaranarayan, Assistant Professor-II

Decision/Remarks: The GC ratified the Regularization of service.

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3.5. Lien application of Prof. Jagat Chandra Borah

Prof. Jagat Chandra Borah has applied for lien to join as Professor (Pay level 14) at the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati.

Decision/Remarks: The Committee ratified the lien application.

3.6. 14th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council of IASST

The 14th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council was held on 18th and 19th December, 2023. The minutes was circulated among the members.

Decision/Remarks: The Committee ratified the minutes.

3.7. Visit of Prof. A. K. Mukherjee abroad

Prof. A. K. Mukherjee visited the National University of Singapore, Singapore, during 21-25 May 2024 to attend 22nd World Congress of the International Society of Toxicology as an invited speaker with due approval of Chairman, GC

Decision/Remarks: The Committee noted the above visit.

3.8. Appointment of Head, B R Ambedkar Centre for Community Empowerment (BRACE)

IASST has a vision 'To emerge as a centre of excellence in frontier research areas of Physical and Life Sciences with international visibility and building human resources towards advanced scientific knowledge for societal development' with a mission 'Generation of technology from natural resources of NE region and their application for socio-economic upliftment' and objective 'To spread awareness for growth of science and technology in the region through societal interventions.' Therefore, there has been a particular emphasis on societal empowerment through Science and Technology (S & T). To fulfill the vision and the Institute's focal effort, a cell with the approval of GC was established on 13.10.2023, named B. R. Ambedkar Centre for Community Empowerment (BRACE).

Professor Mojibur Rahman Khan has been appointed Head, BRACE to look after the cell's activities.

Decision/Remarks: The Council ratified the appointment.

3.9. Reconstitution of Scientific Advisory Council of IASST

The current Scientific Advisory Council of IASST was constituted on 22.06.2021 and has completed its term of 3 years on 21.06.2024. The Re-constitution of Scientific Advisory Council was proposed with the following members:

Prof. Amitbha Patra, Ph.D., FNA, FNASc Director, Institute of Nanoscience and Technology, Mohali	Chairperson
Prof Sandeep Verma, Ph.D., FNA, FASc, FNASc, FNAE Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT, Kanpur	Member
Prof. Arindam Ghosh, Ph.D. Professor of Physics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Member
Prof. Amita Das, Ph.D., FASc Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Member
Prof. Durga Charan Dalal, Ph.D. Professor, Department of Mathematics, IIT Guwahati	Member

Signature

Prof. Sanjay M. Jachak, Ph.D. Head, Department of Natural Products, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali	Member
Prof. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Ph.D. Director, Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru	Member
Prof. K. Dharmalingam, Ph.D., FNA, FNASc Director – Research, Aravind Medical Research Foundation, Madurai & DBT Distinguished Biotechnology Research Professor	Member
Prof. Sudip Chattopadhyay, Ph.D. FNA, FNASc, FASc, Professor, Department of Biotechnology, National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	Member
Director, IASST	Member (ex-officio)
Head, Life Sciences Division, IASST	Member
Head, Physical Sciences Division, IASST	Member
Head, R & D Division, IASST	Member
Prof. Arup Ratan Pal	Member Secretary

Decision/Remarks: The Council members deliberated and approved the reconstitution of the Scientific Advisory Council.

Agenda Item No.G.C.18/2024/1/4: AOB

4.1. Appointment of a waitlist candidate in a vacant position created due to the promotion of one of the internal candidates (by direct recruitment) from the interview panel to a higher post.

The GC did not approve the proposal, considering the process would violate the DoPT guidelines. A fresh advertisement for the vacant lower position would be necessary.



Chairman,
Governing Council, IASST



Member Secretary
Governing Council, IASST