



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

Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 28.03.2025 at 11:00 am at IASST Guwahati

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| 1. Prof. Vinod K Singh
Institute Chair Professor
Department of Chemistry
IIT Kanpur | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. (Dr.) Tanuja Manoj Nesari
Director
Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda
(ITRA), Jamnagar, Gujarat | Member |
| 3. Prof. Gopal Das
Dean Academic Research, IIT Guwahati
(Nominee of Director, IIT Guwahati) | Member |
| 4. Prof. Nanigopal Mahanta
Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University, Guwahati | Member |
| 5. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh
Director (Finance), IFD, DST, New Delhi
(Nominee of Financial Adviser, DST, New Delhi) | Member |
| 6. Dr. Prashant Dhakephalkar
Director
Agharkar Research Institute, Pune | Member |
| 7. Shri Manoj Kumar Baruah, ACS
Additional Secretary, Science Technology
& Climate Change deptt. (STCCD), Govt. of Assam
(Nominee of Secretary, STCCD, Govt. of Assam) | Member |
| 8. Dr. Usha Dixit
Scientist-F, AI Division
DST, New Delhi | Representative of Secretary DST |
| 9. Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee
Director, IASST Guwahati | Member Secretary |

Agenda Item No. G.C.19/2025/1/1.1 Welcome to members and remarks by the Chairman, Governing Council.

Decision/Remarks: Professor Vinod K. Singh, Chairman of the Governing Council of IASST, welcomed all members of the newly constituted GC on behalf of the Council and DST. In his address, the Chairman conveyed his pleasure and satisfaction regarding the Institute's overall progress and development, including its infrastructure, publication quality, and research activities.

Ashis K. Mukherjee

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/1.2 A brief presentation by the Director, IASST, on the progress of the Institute since the 18th GC meeting.

Decision/Remarks: Professor Ashis Kr. Mukherjee, Director of IASST, provided an overview

of the Institute's progress in research and administration, highlighting key achievements in recent years. The Council acknowledged the advancements achieved by the Institute during the tenure of the present Director.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/1.3 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 18th meeting of the Governing Council held on August 29, 2024

Decision/Remarks: The minutes of the 18th meeting of the GC were circulated to all the members of the GC, and no comments were received. Therefore, the minutes of the 18th GC were confirmed by the Governing Council.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/1.4 Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 18th meeting of the Governing Council held on August 29, 2024

Decision/Remarks: The Council acknowledged the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 18th meeting and expressed appreciation for the Institute's initiatives in addressing the previous meeting's recommendations.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/1.5 Consideration of recommendations/deliberations of the 18th meeting of the Finance Committee held on March 28, 2025 at 10 am.

Decision/Remarks: The Director of IASST presented the recommendations from the Finance Committee meeting held before this Governing Council meeting. The Governing Council ratified the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/2 Matters for deliberation/approval of GC

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/2.1 Modification in Byelaws: Contributory Medical Scheme instead of CS(MA) 1944 in the amended Byelaws-2024

Decision/Remarks: The Council recommended submitting the proposal to the DST for approval, including a clear justification for the modification.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/2.3 Interdisciplinary Research Cell-adoption of guidelines. The Institute prepared a draft Framework and guidelines for the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (CIR), which was placed in the GC for kind consideration.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (CIR) guidelines and suggested renaming it the Interdisciplinary Research Cell (IRC).

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/3 Matters for ratification/approval of GC.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/3.1 Performance parameters of IASST for the last three years 2024-25, 2023-24 and 2022-23.

Ashis Kr. Mukherjee

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council reviewed the Annual Performance Parameters of IASST for the year. The Governing Council evaluated and acknowledged the performance of IASST over the past three years.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/3.2 Significant achievements since August 2024. The Director of IASST presented the significant achievements of the Institute.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council acknowledged and commended the achievements of IASST and congratulated the Director and the faculty for their efforts.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/3.3 Promotion of faculty members after following the due procedures and receiving the approval of the Chairman, GC.

- 3.3.1. Promotion of Dr. Munima Bora Sahariah from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.2. Promotion of Dr. Sarathi Kundu from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.3. Promotion of Dr. Debajit Thakur from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.4. Promotion of Dr. Lipi B. Mahanta from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.5. Promotion of Dr. Arundhuti Devi from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.6. Promotion of Dr. Gautam Choudhury from Associate Professor II to Professor I
- 3.3.7. Promotion of Dr. Subir Biswas from Assistant Professor-II to Associate Professor-I

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council ratified the faculty promotions.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/3.4: New appointments.

3.4.1: Appointment of Faculty

- 1. Biswajit Choudhury (Unreserved)
- 2. Ragini S. Bodade (SC)

3.4.2. Appointment of Administrative staff:

- 1. Pinky Taye (Assistant)
- 2. Madan Kumar Das (MTS)

Decision/Remarks: The GC ratified the appointments.

3.5. Approval of bilingual Logo of IASST

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the bilingual logo (In English and Hindi) of IASST Guwahati.

3.6. Reconstitution and 15th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council of IASST

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the minutes of the 15th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council, conducted on February 11th and 12th, 2025, at IASST.

Agilis K. Mulcharia

3.7. Reconstitution of the Finance Committee of IASST

The three-year term of the current Finance Committee, constituted in 2021, ended. The composition of the Finance Committee, as detailed in the bye-laws of IASST with proposed new membership, is as follows:

01	Director, IASST	Chairman (ex-officio)	Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee
02	Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser, DST, Govt of India or his nominee	Member (ex-officio)	
03	Head (Autonomous Institutions) DST, Govt of India	Member (ex-officio)	
04	One Senior Scientist of IASST nominated by the Director	Member	Prof. Devashish Chowdhury
05	One Finance & Accounts Officer from a local R&D institution	Member	Dr. Brajabandhu Mishra, FO, Tezpur University
06	Finance & Accounts Officer, IASST	Member-Secretary (ex-officio)	Mr. Pradyut Borkataki

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the reconstitution of the Finance Committee with new members

3.8. Creation of Administrative posts

Following approval from the Governing Council, the Institute submitted proposals to the DST for creating 13 administrative posts, including a Junior Hindi Translator. However, the decision has yet to be received from DST.

Decision/Remarks: As these proposals are pending with the DST, the Council recommended that the Institute follow up with the DST and submit a revised proposal, if necessary, to expedite the process.

3.9. Extension of the tenure of the present Director for one year, enabling him to complete the ICMR-sponsored development of NE India snake venom antivenom Project of National Importance, BIRAC-BioNest Project and allowing the six research scholars to complete PhD under his guidance.

Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee joined as the Director of the IASST on deputation from Tezpur University, Tezpur, on November 23, 2020, during the COVID-19 period. Therefore, he will complete his 5 years' tenure on November 22, 2025. The 15th Scientific Advisory Committee meeting of IASST The Scientific Advisory Committee acknowledged Prof. Mukherjee's contributions and recommended the extension.

The Governing Council reviewed the proposal to extend the current Director, Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee's tenure. The proposal highlighted the importance of Prof. Mukherjee's continued leadership for the completion of key projects, including the ICMR-sponsored antivenom project and the BIRAC-BioNest Project, as well as to allow him to supervise the completion of the PhDs of six research scholars.

Prof. Mukherjee recused himself from the meeting during this discussion.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council acknowledged Prof. Mukherjee's significant contributions and recommended a one-year extension of his tenure, commencing on November 23, 2025, for approval by the DST.

3.10. Advertisement for the post of Director

The Council noted that the current Director's term will conclude on November 22, 2025, and that the advertisement for the position must be published well in advance. As requested by the DST, the draft advertisement for the Director post was presented to the Council for approval before submission to the DST

to facilitate a timely recruitment process.

Ashis K. Mukherjee

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approved the draft advertisement and recommended its submission to the DST.

Agenda Item No.G.C.19/2025/1/4: A.O.B.

1. Position of PS to the Director.

The formation of the office of Personal Secretary to the Director remains unresolved, notwithstanding a proposal submitted to the DST some time ago that has yet to be realized.

Decision/Remarks: The Council noted the unresolved matter of establishing the position of Personal Secretary to the Director despite a previous proposal submitted to the DST. The Council recommended that a new proposal be submitted to the DST.

2. Positions of Hindi Officer/ Hindi Translator

The Member Secretary informed the Council that IASST lacks the position of Hindi Officer/Hindi Translator, which is necessary for implementing the Official Language Policy of the Government of India. A Junior Hindi Translator position proposal was submitted to the DST and is currently under review by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Decision/Remarks: The Council acknowledged the information and recommended following up the matter with the DST.

3. Probation of Mr Sachin C. Narwadia, Scientist D

The Member Secretary reported that Mr Sachin C. Narwadia, Scientist D, appointed to a supernumerary post at IASST, was placed on a two-year probation in accordance with DoPT guidelines regarding re-employment before superannuation due to differences in job requirements. Mr Narwadia requested the withdrawal of his probation.

Decision/Remarks: The Council determined that the Director of IASST is the appropriate authority to address this administrative matter

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the GC's Member Secretary (Director).



Chairman
Governing Council, IASST

Date: March 28, 2025



Member Secretary
Governing Council, IASST

Date: March 28, 2025