Minutes of the 56th (Special) Meeting of the Finance Committee of Assam University held on 24th October 2019 at 4.00 PM at Guwahati

The following were present:

Prof. Dilip Chandra Nath
Vice-Chancellor, Assam University
Chairman

Prof. Sivasish Biswas - Member
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Assam University, Diphu Campus

3. Mr. S.K. Ghildiyal, Director (CU-I/II), MHRD - Member [Nominee of JS (CU), MHRD, GoI (Visitor's Nominee)

4. Dr. Bijoy Kumar Mohapatra - Member Director, Cuttack Campus, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, (EC nominee)

5. Mr. Bishnu Chakraborty - Member Finance Officer, K.K. Handique State Open University, Guwahati (EC Nominee)

6. Prof. Sanjib Das - Member Professor, Dept. Pharmaceutical Sciences, AUS (EC Nominee)

7. Mr. Seemanta Paul - Special Invitee Executive Engineer, Assam University

8. Prof. Sumanash Dutta - Ex-officio Secretary Finance Officer (i/c), Assam University

JS & FA, MHRD, GoI and JS (CU), UGC, New Delhi (Visitor's Nominee) could not attend the meeting due to their other engagements and was granted leave of absence. Registrar (i/c) also could not attend the meeting because of some exigency and was granted leave of absence.

The comments of JS (CU), MHRD, Dept. of Higher Education, GoI on the agenda items received from Under Secretary (CU-I), MHRD vide his e-mail dated 18th October 2019; the comments received from the Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, IFD, Dept. of Higher Education, MHRD with the approval of JS & FA,

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MHRD, GoI vide letter No. 9-9/2017-IFD, dated 22nd October 2019; and the comments of the Joint Secretary (CU), UGC received from the Education Officer, UGC vide letter No. F. 18-6/2019 (CU), dated 21st October 2019 were placed by the Finance Officer & Secretary, Finance Committee, Assam University before the Finance Committee and the members noted the comments & put on record.

The Vice-Chancellor assured that the observations of the Ministry and UGC will be strictly followed by the University in true letter and spirit.

Item No. FC: 56/01: Welcome and Opening Remarks by the Vice-Chancellor, Assam University.

Prof. Dilip Chandra Nath, Vice-Chancellor, Assam University and Chairman, Finance Committee welcomed all the members for attending the meeting. The Chairman in his opening remarks sought guidance from all the members for all round development and growth of the University. The Chairman requested the Secretary, Finance Committee to initiate the proceedings as per the agenda items.

Item No. FC: 56/02: Recommendation for approval of the Minutes of the 98th meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 20th September, 2019.

The recommendations of the Building Committee of Assam University in its 98th meeting held on 20th September, 2019 was placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item for kind recommendation to the Executive Council of the University for approval.

Resolution: The 98th Building Committee minutes, item-wise were discussed in the meeting and were approved and recommended to the Executive Council of the University with following observations for adherence and noting.

 All Major Infrastructure Projects will now be undertaken by CUs through "Project based Funding" through HEFA and not through Grant-in-aid from MHRD/UGC under OH:35.

Further, in case of minor original works/repair works for Campus Development etc, the minutes of the Building Committee may be considered for recommendations subject to:

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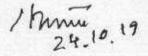
- a. Each project is fully funded and the entire funds have allocated by the University/released by UGC are available with the University for each individual project.
- b. No additionality will be sought from MHRD/UGC for these projects. Further, no part of internal receipts, UGC/MHRD Grant including interest accrued on each such grant will be utilized.
- c. Abstract Cost and Rate Conformity Certificate as also other related codal formalities for each Building Project are strictly as per relevant UGC guidelines.
- d. Award of "Civil Works" is strictly as per relevant provisions of GFRs 2017 and related CVC guidelines.
- e. The Building/Construction Works Monitoring Committee should continuously monitor the construction works, so that any cost and time over-runs should be avoided.
- f. Ratification of award of Civil Works" and execution thereof is subject to strict compliance of GFRs, 2017 and related CVC guidelines.

Moreover, regarding Progress Report of the ongoing works, as reported in the meeting on the basis of information as on 23^{rd} October 2019 provided by the executing agencies, the percentage of works executed under agenda No. 2 of 98^{th} B.C. minutes is as follows.

i.	KV School Building at AUS	65%
ii.	100 Bedded Boys' Hostel at AUS	50%
iii,	100 Bedded Girls' Hostel at AUS	55%
iv.	Vertical Extension of Non-teaching quarter at AUS	- 95%
٧.	Construction of Canteen and Departmental Store at	AUS - 90%

The Finance Officer, Assam University informed the meeting that for works under 98th Building Committee agenda item No. 6,7,8,9 and 18, fund shall be provided from Non-Salary/Other Infrastructure/Campus Development, 2019-20 allocation subject to availability of the same.

The justification of construction of additional area under 98th B.C. Agenda Item No.4 was given in the meeting by referring to requirements cited by HEFA at the time of according sanction to the project.



Item No. FC: 56/03:

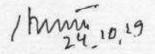
Requirement for additional fund in connection with correction from CPF to GPF-cum-Pension Scheme of the Faculty Members & Others of the University (12 cases) vide Hon'ble Gauhati High Court Case No.: WP(C) 7481/2017.

Based on UGC and MHRD's views, 41st Finance Committee resolved to refer the matter to the Assistant Solicitor General (ASG), Hon'ble Gauhati High Court and place the same in the next Finance Committee Meeting.

Considering UGC/MHRD and GOI Rules, ASG opined that the referred cases of the incumbent who joined prior to 01.01.2004 in Assam University may be considered for conversion from CPF to GPF-cum-Pension scheme subject to the approval of the competent committee and competent authority. The views of ASG on this matter were placed before 42nd Finance Committee meeting held on 28/06/2016 but resolved to defer the matter to next Finance Committee Meeting. The matter was accordingly placed before 43rd Finance Committee meeting held on 19/10/2016. The Committee resolved to refer the matter to UGC for views. Details of the agenda and along with resolution was placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item.

It may be stated here that two Writ Petitions bearing Nos WP(C)7481/2017 and WP(C)7485/2017 submitted by all the incumbents before Hon'ble Gauhati High Court on 31/05/2018. Directives of the Hon'ble Guahati High Court was to execute the switch over of CPF of all the 12 petitioners to GPF-cum-Pension Scheme within the period of 4(four) weeks from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order. The benefits under GPF-cum-Pension Scheme shall be given to petitioners within a further period of 6(six) weeks. Copies of the High Court directives were placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item for perusal.

Out of twelve such employees (Teaching & Non-teaching), Five have retired and two have expired out of twelve petitioners. They have not withdrawn CPF amount till date. Arrear pension amount of retired and expired employees shall be around Rs.313.00 lakh and monthly pension from current month i.e. October 2019 shall be around Rs.7.07 lakh. Amount involved for correction from CPF to GPF amount and Pension amount has been worked out and were placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item based on University order No.105/2/00-Pers/4860-75 dated 16/05/2019 after according approval of the Executive Council of the University in its 123rd and 124th meeting held on 27.11.2018 and 12.03.2019 respectively. Extract of the copies of the minutes was placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item. However, a letter addressed to Joint Secretary, UGC (copy was placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item) was



sent regarding implementation of orders of Hon'ble Gauhati High Court Vide Letter No. 105/2/00-Pers/Part/3214 dated 17/12/2018 but no Reply has been receipt till date from UGC.

The matter is placed before the Committee for information and approval of additional fund so that admissible pension and retirement benefits may be paid to the retired employees and nominees of the expired employees subject to receipt of fund from UGC.

Resolution: The agenda item was discussed in the meeting and resolved that this item could not be recommended and a detailed proposal with valid justification would be forwarded to UGC/MHRD as early as possible.

Item No. FC: 56/04:

Proposed Budget Estimates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 under the Head OH-31, Recurring of Rs. 2.57 crore allocated as additional funds under EWS reservation.

Proposed Budget Estimates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 under the Head OH-31, Recurring of Rs. 2.57 crore allocated to Assam University as additional funds under EWS reservation was placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item for consideration of approval.

Copy of the allocation of additional funds under EWS reservation vide No. F.81-1/2019 (CU), dated 10^{th} June 2019 received from UGC and copies of the proposal sent to UGC vide letter No. 113/54/2006-Estt/9009-12, dated 2^{nd} September 2019 for additional teaching and non-teaching staff of the University were placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item for kind perusal of the members.

Resolution: The agenda item was discussed in detailed and after threadbare discussion it was recommended subject to the condition that the estimates are based on the realistic assessment of requirement of funds for the University and also subject to availability of funds from the Govt. of India, the Budget Estimates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 under the Head OH-31 Recurring of Rs. 2.57 crore allocated as additional funds under EWS reservation.

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Item No. FC: 56/05: Utilization of Funds - An overview of the financial position of the University up to 30th September 2019 and unspent balance as on 01st October 2019.

The Utilization of Funds head-wise showing an overview of the financial position of the University up to 30th September 2019 and unspent balance as on 01st October 2019 were placed in the meeting as an Annexure to the Agenda item for perusal of the Committee.

The Revised Budget Estimates for the year 2019-20 shall be sent to UGC in compliance to their letter No.F.1-6/2019 (CU), dt. 04.10.2019 and the same shall be placed on the Table in the 56^{th} Finance Committee meeting of Assam University scheduled to be held on 24.10.2019 for approval.

Resolution: The Finance Officer briefed before the meeting the Utilisation of Funds by the University up to 30th September 2019 and unspent balance as on 1st October 2019. The members noted the briefing made by the Finance Officer subject to strict compliance of the relevant statutory provisions of the University and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission, the Utilisation of Grant as on 30th September 2019 and unspent balance as on 1st October 2019. The Finance Officer, Assam University informed that the Revised Budget Estimate 2019-20 has been sent to UGC as compliance of their letter. The same after modification in the light of decision to be obtained on agenda item FC:56/03 would be placed in the next Finance Committee for approval.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Prof. Sumanash Dutta)

/ mun 2.4.10.19

Ex-Officio-Secretary

Finance Committee

Assam University, Silchar

(Prof. Dilip Chandra Nath)

Chairman

Finance Committee

Assam University, Silchar