

**Minutes of the 68<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Finance Committee of Assam University  
held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 at 12.30 PM at DELNET Guest House, New Delhi  
in Blended Mode (Physical and Video Conferencing)**

The following were present:

1. Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant - Chairman  
Vice-Chancellor, Assam University
2. Prof. G.D. Sharma - Member  
President, Association of Indian Universities (AIU) &  
Vice-Chancellor, USTM, Meghalaya (EC Nominee)
3. Shri Subhash Chand Sharu, - Member  
Director (CU-I/II)  
Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, New Delhi  
[Nominee of Additional Secretary (CU),  
Ministry of Education, GoI (Visitor's Nominee)]
4. Dr. Mriganka Sekhar Sarma - Member  
Deputy Secretary, UGC, New Delhi  
[Nominee of Joint Secretary (CU), UGC, (Visitor's Nominee)]
5. Dr. Pradosh Kiran Nath - Permanent Invitee  
Registrar, Assam University
6. Dr. Subhadeep Dhar - Ex-officio Secretary  
Finance Officer (i/c), Assam University

**The following were attended the meeting through Video Conferencing:**

7. Prof. Sivasish Biswas - Member  
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Assam University Diphu Campus
8. Prof. N.K. Shukla - Member  
Registrar  
University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh (EC nominee)
9. Prof. Asoke K Sen - Member  
Professor, Department of Physics  
Assam University, Silchar (EC Nominee)

The Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Education, GoI (Visitor's Nominee) could not attend the meeting due to other engagements and was granted leave of absence.



The comments of CU Bureau, Ministry of Education, Dept. of Higher Education, GoI on the agenda items have been received vide F. No. 9-1/2022-CU-I, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023; the comments received from the Integrated Finance Division, Ministry of Education, Dept. of Higher Education with the approval of JS & FA, Ministry of Education, GoI vide letter F. No. 9-9/2017-IFD.pt, dated 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 and the comments received from the Deputy Secretary, UGC through e-mail dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 with the approval of Joint Secretary (CU), UGC were presented by the Finance Officer (i/c) & Secretary, Finance Committee, Assam University before the Finance Committee and the members noted the comments & which were put on record.

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

**Item No. FC:68/01: Welcome and Opening Remarks by the Vice-Chancellor, Assam University.**

The Chairman welcomed and introduced the new member of the Finance Committee of Assam University Prof. G.D. Sharma, President, Association of Indian Universities (AIU) & Vice-Chancellor, USTM, Meghalaya (Executive Council nominee to the Finance Committee of Assam University) in place of Shri Bishnu Chakraborty who has completed his term as Executive Council nominee to the Finance Committee of the University.

The Chairman also welcomed Shri Subhash Chand Sharu, Director, (CU-I/II), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, New Delhi, [Nominee of Additional Secretary (CU), Ministry of Education, GoI (Visitor's Nominee)]; Shri Mriganka Sekhar Sarma, Deputy Secretary, UGC, New Delhi [Nominee of Joint Secretary (CU), UGC (Visitor's Nominee)] and 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. He also expressed his gratitude to all the members for attending the meeting.





The Chairman then requested the Secretary, Finance Committee to initiate the proceedings as per the agenda items.

**Item No. FC:68/02: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

The copy of the Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item which was circulated to all the members through e-mail dated 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

University has not received any comments from the members. The Minutes may kindly be confirmed.

**Resolution: 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 Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were confirmed.**

**Item No. FC:68/03: Action Taken Report of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

Action Taken Report of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for information and necessary review.

**Resolution: The Action Taken Report of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were perused and noted by the members of the Finance Committee.**

Item-wise agenda with resolutions of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee of the University held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 have been discussed in the meeting.

**Agenda Item No. FC:67/04: Discussed the item and it was suggested by the members that University should operationalise the Internal Audit System by appointing an Internal Audit Officer at the earliest.**



**Agenda Item No. FC:67/09:** The item with regard to adoption of payment of Gratuity Act 1972 to NPS holders of Assam University has been discussed in detail and it was reported that the financial implications of the same has been included in the Revised Budget Estimates under Salary head for the year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates 2024-25.

**Agenda Item No. FC:67/10:** The item has been discussed in detail and it was suggested by the members that the University should seek the wage structure for casual employees in other North Eastern Central Universities and accordingly make a statement of wage structure for placing in the next Finance Committee meeting for implementation of the same in Assam University,

**Agenda Item No. FC:67/15:** Review of progress of ongoing construction activities has been discussed and the members noted the same.

**Item No. FC:68/04:** Recommendation for approval of compliances of the Separate Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Accounts of the Assam University for the financial year 2022-23.

The Audited Annual Accounts of Assam University for the Financial Year 2022-23 in a separate folder and the Separate Audit Report (SAR) along with Annexure on the Accounts of the Assam University for the financial year 2022-23 received from office of the Director General of Audit, Central, Kolkata vide Letter No. INSPECTION WING/2023-2024/DIS-1133342, dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for recommendation to the Executive Council of the University for consideration and adoption.

The compliance/reply to the Separate Audit Report (SAR) of the C&AG on the Accounts of the Assam University for the financial year 2022-23 has been sent by the University to the office of the Director General of Audit, Central, Kolkata vide letter No. AUF/715/2022-23/853, dtd. 19.10.2023 was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for approval.

**Resolution:** The members perused the Separate Audit Report (SAR) along with Annexure of the C&AG for the financial year 2022-23 in detail and recommended to the Executive Council of the University for consideration and adoption of the





**Audited Annual Accounts of the University for the financial year 2022-23 & Audit Report of C&AG for the financial year 2022-23.**

**Further, the Finance Committee recommended the compliances of the Separate Audit Report (SAR) on the Accounts of the Assam University for the financial year 2022-23 to the Executive Council of the University for approval.**

**Item No. FC:68/05: Recommendation for approval of the Revised Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates for the financial year 2024-25 under the head Salary (OH-36), Recurring (OH-31) and Capital Assets (OH-35) of Assam University.**

UGC vide letter No. F.1-6/2023 (CU), dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 requested the University to submit the information for preparation of Revised Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates for the financial year 2024-25 under Salary, Recurring and Capital Assets.

As required, the Revised Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates for the financial year 2024-25 under the head Salary (OH-36), Recurring (OH-31) and Capital Assets (OH-35) of Assam University have been prepared in the prescribed format and sent to UGC vide letter No. AUF/AC/918/2022-23, dtd.13.09.2023 (copy was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item).

The matter is placed before the Finance Committee for information and recommendation to the Executive Council of the University for approval.

**Resolution: The Revised Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates for the financial year 2024-25 under the head Salary (OH-36), Recurring (OH-31) and Capital Assets (OH-35) and the Modified Revised Budget Estimates for the financial year 2023-24 and Budget Estimates for the financial year 2024-25 under Salary and Recurring heads of Assam University was submitted to UGC vide No. AUF/AC/918/2022-23, dtd. 17.11.2023 (copy placed in the meeting) was discussed and recommended to the Executive Committee for approval.**



**Item No. FC:68/06:** Recommendation for approval of the Minutes of the 106th meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 29th August 2023 and 107th meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 9th November 2023.

The minutes of the 106<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item and the minutes of the 107<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for recommendation to the Executive Council of the University for approval.

**Resolution:** The Minutes of the 106th meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 29th August 2023 and 107th meeting of the Building Committee of Assam University held on 9th November 2023 were discussed in the meeting and recommended to the Executive Council of the University for approval.

The issue regarding slow progress of construction works was discussed in the meeting and the members suggested that the University should take up the matter with the agencies for early completion of the projects without any cost overrun.

**Item No. FC:68/07:** Matter pertaining to grant of joining time to Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant, Vice-Chancellor, Assam University.

The Finance Committee of the University vide resolution No. FC: 65/11 dated 22nd November 2022 suggested that the 3-day joining time leave (22.01.2022-24.01.2022) may be forwarded to the Ministry for taking it up with the NERIST (former employer) for grant of joining time leave as per established rule. The University accordingly has communicated the matter to the Ministry of Education for further necessary action vide letter No.103/822/2014-Estt dated 13.02.2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) and subsequent reminder vide No.103/01/2022-Estt/999-1001 dated 10.04.2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item). In this connection, Registrar, Assam University has received a copy of the letter of NERIST to the Ministry dated 14th June 2022 (copy





placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) stating that NERIST has not received any direction from the Ministry in this regard.

The matter is placed before the Finance Committee for according approval of the joining time of 03 days (22.01.2022-24.01.2022) so as to avoid the break in service of Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant, Vice-Chancellor, Assam University.


**Resolution:** The item has been discussed in detail in the meeting and it was resolved that the matter may be referred to the Ministry of Education again for taking up the matter with NERIST.

**Item No. FC:68/08:** Coverage under CCS (Pension) Rules in place of NPS.

In pursuance of the UGC letter No.F.No.25-4/2007(CU)Pt.file2 Dated 6th July,2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) and OM No. 57/05/2021-P&PW(B) Dtd.03-03-2023 of Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance & Pension, Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare, Govt. of India (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item), on coverage under Central Civil Service (Pension) Rules in place of NPS of those Central Govt. employees who were recruited against the Post/Vacancies advertised/notified for recruitment on or before 22-12-2003, a notification was issued by the Assam University vide No.105/8/2020-Estt/959-64, Dtd.30th March,2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) seeking one time option to be covered under CCS (Pension) Rules-1972 (Now-2021) within 31st August, 2023.

In response to the said notification 50 (fifty) Nos. of employees applied for incorporation into CCS (Pension) Rules-1972 (Now 2021). The University constituted a committee to examine the cases vide notification No.105/8/2020-Estt/2408-13 Dtd.4th October, 2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item). On verification of the 50 (fifty) cases, 28 (twenty eight) such cases were found to provisionally conforming to the Rules as notified for incorporation into CCS (Pension) Rules-1972. A brief of the 28 cases (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) which were found admissible by the University is forwarded for further verification and approval of UGC and MOE, Vide our letter No.105/8/2020-Estt/2698-704 dtd. 19th Oct.2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item).

Since the response in this regard from the UGC and Ministry is still awaited, the matter is reported to the Finance Committee for information and further direction, if any.



**Resolution:** The matter was discussed in the meeting and the representative of UGC opined that the matter may be taken up once the same is extended to Central Universities by the Ministry of Education.

**Item No. FC:68/09: Status of filling up of backlog vacancies.**

UGC in their letter vide No. F. 1-11/2021 (SCT), dated 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022 intimated to include an agenda item in every Finance Committee meeting of the University giving the status of filling up of backlog vacancies.

The statement giving the report about the action taken and progress made in this regard was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for necessary review.

**Resolution:** The members noted the Status of filling up of backlog vacancies and directed the University to take necessary steps to fill up the backlog vacancies on priority basis by following the instructions issued by the MoE/UGC from time to time.

**Item No. FC:68/10: Details of Public Grievances pending in the University.**

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India vide letter F. No. 13-110/220-CU-Cdn, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 communicated a Note dated 17.12.2020 of Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education with a direction to include Public Grievances pending in the Institutes as Standing Agenda items in every meeting of the Finance Committee.

In this regard, this is for information of all members of the Finance Committee that there are NO Public Grievances pending in the University.

**Resolution:** The Finance Committee noted the same.

**Item No. FC:68/11: Details of Parliamentary Assurances pending in the University.**

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India vide letter F. No. 13-110/220-CU-Cdn, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 communicated a Note dated 17.12.2020 of Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education with a direction to include Parliamentary Assurances pending in the Institutes as Standing Agenda items in every meeting of the Finance Committee.

In this regard, this is for information of all members of the Finance Committee that there are NO Parliamentary Assurances pending in the University.

**Resolution:** The Finance Committee noted the same.





**Item No. FC:68/12: Utilization of Funds – An overview of the financial position of the University up to 31.10.2023.**

The Utilization of Funds head-wise showing an overview of the financial position of the University up to 31.10.2023 and unspent balance as on 01.11.2023 under Salary (OH-36), Recurring (OH-31), Capital Assets (OH-35) were placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for perusal of the Committee.

**Resolution:** The Finance Committee perused & noted the Utilization of Funds head-wise showing an overview of the financial position of the University up to up to 31.10.2023 and unspent balance as on 01.11.2023 under Salary (OH-36), Recurring (OH-31), Capital Assets (OH-35) subject to strict compliance of the relevant statutory provisions of the University, relevant provisions of GFRs 2017 and also strict compliance of the related Govt. of India instructions and guidelines including those issued by the Central Vigilance Commission.

**Item No. FC:68/13: Review of details of the pending C&AG Transaction Audit Paras and the Action Taken to settle/liquidate the pending Paras.**

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India vide letter F. No. 13-110/220-CU-Cdn, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 communicated a Note dated 17.12.2020 of Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education with a direction to include complete details and status of audit paras as Standing Agenda items in every meeting of the Finance Committee.

The status of upto date pending Audit Paras are furnished for kind information of the members.



Financial Year	No. of Audit Paras year-wise	No. of Paras dropped/ deleted/ settled	No. of Audit Paras dropped /settled by CAG office (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item)	No. of Paras proposed for dropping in Audit Exit meeting held on 04/10/2023 ( copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item )	No. of O/S Paras as on 31.10.2023
2012-13	01	00	00	01	00
2013-14	02	01	00	01	00
2014-15	01	00	00	00	00
2015-16	19	16	00	00	03
2016-17	04	02	00	00	02
2017-18	20	13	01	00	06
2018-19	14	03	00	03	08
2019-20	13	06	00	01	06
2020-21	14	09	01	01	03
2021-22	16	00	01	07	08
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>37</b>

The details of the Transaction Audit Paras up to the financial year 2021-22 with up-to-date Action Taken (with small description of the Audit Paras) to settle/liquidate the pending paras were placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for review by the members of the Finance Committee.

Position of outstanding paras of IR for the period 2021-22 in respect of Assam University received from the office of the C&AG vide letter No. OAD/BO-GHY/UC-45/2022-23/54, dtd. 23.05.2023 (copy placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item) and the minutes of the meeting held on 04.10.2023 on outstanding paras of previous Inspection Reports on the accounts of the Assam University was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for information of the Finance Committee.

**Resolution:** The Finance Officer briefed the members about the status of outstanding Audit Paras and the action taken by the University in this regard. The members noted the same.





**Item No. FC:68/14: Review of progress of the ongoing construction activities of the University.**

UGC in the letter F. No. 1-1/2012 (CU), dated 25th August 2015 intimated that a separate agenda item on progress of Building Projects in the prescribed format of the UGC should be placed in the meeting of Finance Committee for necessary review of the overall progress of the developmental activities in the University.

The statement of progress of ongoing Building Projects was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for necessary review.

**Resolution: Progress of the ongoing construction projects of the University has been reviewed by the members and noted the same.**

**Item No. FC:68/15: Progress of infrastructure project funded through HEFA.**

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Department of Higher Education, CU Bureau vide letter F. No. 4-7/2020-CU.VII, dtd. 11.09.2020 forwarded a copy of the minutes of the meeting (through video conference) under the chairmanship of JS (CU & IISER) on 27.08.2020 to review the progress/issues of HEFA funded infrastructure project of 6 Central Universities (CUs) including Assam University.

In the said minutes, it has been directed by the Chairman that, Progress of infrastructure project funded through HEFA should be an Agenda point of every Finance Committee meeting.

In view of above, the Status of proposals funded through HEFA in respect of Assam University was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for perusal and necessary review.

**Resolution: Progress of infrastructure project funded through HEFA was reviewed in the meeting in the light of relevant provisions of GFRs, 2017 and related Government of India instructions and the members noted the same.**

**Item No. FC:68/16: Progress of infrastructure project funded under 12th Plan period/Annual Plan (2017-18).**

Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Department of Higher Education, CU Bureau vide letter F. No. 4-12/2020-CU.VII, dtd. 31.08.2021 forwarded a copy of the minutes of the meeting (through video conference) held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (CU) on 20.08.2021 to review the progress of infrastructure project of Central Universities (CUs) funded under 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period and Annual allocation 2017-18.



In the said minutes, it has been directed by the Chairman that, progress of infrastructure project funded under 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period/Annual Plan (2017-18), should be an Agenda point of every Finance Committee meeting till the completion of the Projects.

In view of above, the progress of infrastructure project funded under 12<sup>th</sup> plan period/Annual Plan (2017-18) in respect of Assam University was placed in the meeting as an annexure to the agenda item for perusal and necessary review.

**Resolution:** Progress of infrastructure project funded under 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period/Annual Plan (2017-18) was reviewed in the meeting and the members noted the same.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.



(Dr. Subhadeep Dhar)  
Finance Officer (i/c) &  
Ex-Officio-Secretary  
Finance Committee  
Assam University, Silchar



(Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant)  
Vice-Chancellor &  
Chairman  
Finance Committee  
Assam University, Silchar