

Agenda Item No. 1: Welcome Address

Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee, Director, IASST and Chairman of the Finance Committee welcomed the members of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Finance Committee (FC) of IASST. He expressed sincere thanks to the representatives of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India namely Dr. Anand Kamavisdar, Scientist F and Shri Rohit Kumar, Deputy Secretary (Finance) IFD for sparing their valuable time and making it convenient to attend the meeting. After his brief welcome address, Chairman requested the Member Secretary to start the proceedings of the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Fifteenth Finance Committee Meeting of IASST held on 12th August 2022.

Member-Secretary appraised the house that the approved minutes of the 15th Finance Committee meeting were placed in the 16th Governing Council (GC) Meeting for a recommendation, and the salient points were noted in the minutes of the GC meeting. As no adverse comment was received on the minutes of the 15th Finance Committee, the Committee confirmed the same.

Agenda Item No. 3: Action Taken Report on the decisions/ deliberations of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 17th November 2021.

The Member-Secretary appraised the details of actions taken for the implementation of recommendations of the 15th Finance Committee Meeting. The Finance Committee noted the action taken report and suggested implementing Rules & Regulations in the Institute as per prevailing guidelines of Govt. of India. The committee suggested framing guidelines for the utilisation of the Corpus Fund, the proposal for the creation of which is recently sent to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India for obtaining administrative approval. Concerning CAG/ Internal Audit Wing, Ministry of Science & Technology regarding the non-approval of additional capital cost budget, the committee suggested to re-submit the vetted proposal by IIT Guwahati to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India after obtaining vetting from Govt. Agencies/PSU who are directly involved in construction activities like CPWD, Assam PWD, etc. seeking post facto approval for the same.



Agenda Item No.4: Submission of Audited Accounts for the Financial Year 2022-23 for approval.

The Audited Accounts and Auditor's Report of IASST for the FY 2022-23 were placed before the committee for approval. The committee thoroughly discussed the submitted audited accounts and enquired about the availability of unspent balances before the TSA regime, if any, remains unutilized. Institute prepares books of accounts as per the common format of accounts to be maintained by all the Central Autonomous Institute and did not have unutilized unspent balance before the introduction of the TSA regime. The committee did not find any adverse representation in the books of accounts of IASST drawn for the financial year 2022-23 and hence recommended the same.

Item No.5: Submission of Budget Estimate for the Financial Year 2023-24 and present financial status of the Institute.

The committee recommended a budget estimate of ₹50.97 (Rupees fifty crores ninety-seven lakhs only) for the financial year 2023-2024 and suggested preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) for proposed infrastructures development works namely- the construction of a corridor to connect the old administration cum academic building with the newly constructed CIF Building, construction of campus sewerage system for disposal of rainwater and rain-water harvesting system and to submit the same to the A.I. Division, DST for obtaining administrative approval. Work relating to repairing and maintenance such as renovation of research laboratories, renovation of the conference hall (board room) and Director's office to prevent damage, etc. along with other regular maintenance work may be executed by following prevailing guidelines of Govt. of India for execution of work.

Member Secretary appraised the members about the present financial status of the Institute and considering the outflow of the fund during previous months of the current FY to achieve the planned and committed targets of the Institute, it was requested to allocate the approved budgetary limit on time.

Committee members appreciated the steps taken by the IASST through scientific interventions of the tribal population for the development of socio-economic conditions of three numbers adopted villages of the Institute and recommended for continuation of planned activities for the benefit of such people.



the mandate of the Institute, subject to the availability of funds without compromising the other developmental activities of the Institute.

(b) Enhancement of fellowship to Research Scholar/RA, etc.

The committee discussed the implementation of the revision of emoluments of Research Personnel engaged in R&D Programme in alignment with the recently published O.M. No. DST/PCPM/Z-06/2022 dtd. 26.06.2023 and it was suggested that Institute may wait for formal orders to be published by Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India in this regard.

(c) Discussion regarding payment of the Institute's share for the extramural project.

It was brought to the notice of the committee that, as per the new policy of some of the extramural project funding agencies under different departments of Govt. of India, to receive the funding Institute needs to pay a 25% share of the total non-recurring budget of the project. This has a reference in connection with the extramural project title "Quality Control and Quality Assurance Laboratory and Facilitation Centre for Pharmacopeal Standardisation of Herbals and Phytopharmaceuticals at North East India" submitted to the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India under "Sahaj Infrastructure Program" where Institute needs to pay ₹1.80 crores as applicant contribution against a non-recurring budget of ₹7.20 crores.

The committee suggested submitting a separate proposal for such funding to the A.I. Division, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India for allocation of funds.

As there is no other item(s) to discuss, the committee ended with thanks from the chair.


(A.K. Mukherjee) 18/7/2023

Chairman

निदेशक/Director
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(P. Borkataki) 18/7/2023

Member Secretary

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