



INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE UNDER DST, GOVT. OF INDIA)
PASCHIM BORAGAON, GARCHUK
GUWAHATI- 781035

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH GOVERNING COUNCIL (GC) MEETING OF THE
INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IASST),
GUWAHATI HELD ON JANUARY 2, 2014 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE TECHNOLOGY
BHAVAN, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, NEW DELHI

Members present

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| 1. | Dr. T. Ramasami
Secretary
DST, Government of India | Chairperson |
| 2. | Prof. Sibaji Raha
Director, Bose Institute
Kolkata | Member |
| 3. | Mrs. Anuradha Mitra
Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser
DST, Govt. of India | Member |
| 4. | Dr. U.N. Bora, IAS
Representative of Commissioner & Secretary
Science and Technology Department
Govt. of Assam | Member |
| 5. | Prof. Rabindranath Pal
Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics
Kolkata | Member |
| 6. | Dr. N. C. Talukdar
Director, IASST
Guwahati | Member Secretary |

Prof. A. N. Rai, Director, NAAC and Prof. O.K. Medhi, Former Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupations.

Agenda item No. 1: Welcome address and opening remarks by the Chairman, Governing Council

Dr. T. Ramasami, Honourable Chairman welcomed the members to the 6th Governing Council meeting of the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology, Guwahati and wished greetings for the New Year 2014. In his opening remark, he commented that Science should be considered not as deployment of money. Quality of science should be given more importance.

He said that Assam is the best place for doing science in few areas like muga silk and biodiversity. He said that resource crunch is not a challenge for the IASST and make sure that IASST has optimal resource. He requested to look at the R&D programmes of the Institute very thoroughly and make it highly relevant and result oriented.

Agenda item No. 2: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Governing Council meeting held on September 19, 2013

The copy of the minutes was circulated among the members. The members discussed and approved the minutes of the last Governing Council meeting. Prof. Raha pointed out that the term of GC meeting was extended for another full term in the last Governing Council meeting but minuted it as to be constituted after two meetings. It was noted to change in the minutes.

Agenda item No. 3: Action Taken Report on the decisions/deliberations as per minutes of the fifth meeting of the Governing Council

The Governing Council noted the action taken on the items of the previous meeting. However, the Chairman, advised to write action taken report only for decision items not on advices and suggestions. The meeting resolved that Head of AI Cell, DST, Govt. of India will be a permanent invitee to GC meetings of IASST and draft agenda papers of the GC meetings will be vetted by the AI Cell before it is presented in the GC meeting. He advised to rewrite the Action Taken Report on the 5th GC meeting in consultation with the Head, AI Cell, DST, Govt. of India.

Agenda item No. 4: Program of Research and Academic Activity of IASST since fifth Governing Council Meeting

Based on the suggestion of the Chairman, GC in the 5th GC meeting held on September 19, 2013, scientists and the Director of the Institute engaged themselves in several rounds of brainstorming. A colloquium of the current PhD students and the alumni of IASST was also held. Based on these exercises the research programs of the different divisions have been reorganised/regrouped into few programs where inter-divisional collaborations have also emerged. The Director, IASST made a presentation before the GC members.

The Council put on record efforts of the Director in reorganizing the R&D programs but felt that there is still need for further correlation and focus. Honourable Chairman, GC

commented that IASST consisting of eighteen scientists is not enough to design a solution of the different research

problems. The Chairman advised to make forward linkage with other institutions and focus on 2-3 fields of research of regional relevance and form identical research group for this.

The Council decided that the IASST will organise a consultation meeting of stake holders at the time of SAC meeting within next three months and attempt to find/select programmes relevant to the region. The Council resolved that the Director should consolidate the research team on reorganised programme for achieving better impacts. The Governing Council requested Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) to further examine various R&D projects of the IASST for consolidation and better effectivity.

The Council also endorsed the resolution of SAC to create an internal intermural project appraisal and selection committee to provide individual R&D grants subject to maximum of Rs. 5 lakh and encourage consolidation of research projects with a provision of multiplying R&D grants at Rs. 5 lakh per scientists for the number of scientists in the group. The SAC member present in the meeting requested to record the gratitude to Governing Council for endorsing the SAC resolution.

Agenda item No.5: Reporting the recommendations/deliberations of the fifth meeting of the Finance Committee of IASST held on 2nd January, 2014

The recommendations/deliberations of the Finance Committee meeting has been reported to the Governing Council for approval. Four proposals were placed for kind consideration of the Council, which were utmost important for smooth running and development of the Institute.

The Chairman asked the Director to internal prioritisation of the proposal for implementation and send for approval as a project. The Director then made the priorities as below:

- I. Dedicated power supply connection to the Institute.
- II. Development of the low lying area allotted by the Govt. of Assam and making boundary wall to secure the land.
- III. Construction of residential accommodation for Director, Registrar and a Scientist Suite.

The Council advised to holds on to the fourth projects on creation of special facilities viz, Central Instrumentation Facility Small Animal Research Facility for sometime. The Governing Council accepted the prioritisation of the proposals and advised to implement after making appropriate budget provision.

Regarding proposal for additional budget, the Council after discussion approved additional amount of Rs. 2.4 crores for meeting salary and pending construction bill for the remaining months of the financial year 2013-14. The Chairman advised to maintain 70% - 80% of salary as R&D expenditure and in addition to this a major equipment to be purchased as R&D expenditure.

Agenda item No.6: Approval of proposal for Recruitment of Academic Staff

The Governing Council discussed and endorsed the decision of the Scientific Advisory Council regarding recruitment of the three Academic Staff in the level of Associate Professor-II in specialised field.

Agenda item No.7: Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair

The Council discussed about the research activities of Dr. N. C. Talukdar, Director, IASST. The Chairman advised that research interest of Dr. N. C. Talukdar be promoted and suggested to transfer his research projects from IBSD. He advised for continuation of research by the Director in one division or one group at IASST and to find a collaborator scientist in the group who will co-ordinate the research of Dr. Talukdar.

There being no other item for discussion, the meeting ended with thanks from the Chair.



Chairman,
Governing Council, IASST



Director, IASST
Member Secretary.