

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHER EDUCATION, ASSAM,
KAHILIPARA, GUWAHATI-19.**

No. DHE/CE/Misc/70/2021/3

Dated Kahilipara, the 30-09-2021

From:- Sri Dharma Kanta Mili, ACS
Director of Higher Education, Assam
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19.

To,
✓ The Principal (All),
..... College,


Sub: Regarding minutes of the meeting dated 22-03-2021 in the conference hall of Block-A under the Chairmanship of Advisor, Education.

Ref: Govt. letter No. AHE.355/2020/82, dated 23-06-2021.

Sir/Madam,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I would like to forward herewith copy of minutes of the Equivalence Committee Meeting held in the Conference Hall of Block-A on 22-03-2021 under the Chairmanship of Advisor Education, Assam which is self explanatory and to request you to take necessary initiative as per the minutes held on 22-03-2021.


Yours faithfully


Director of Higher Education, Assam
✓ Kahilipara, Guwahati-19.
Dated Kahilipara, the 30-09-2021

Memo No. DHE/CE/Misc/70/2021/3-A

Copy to:-

- 1) The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6.

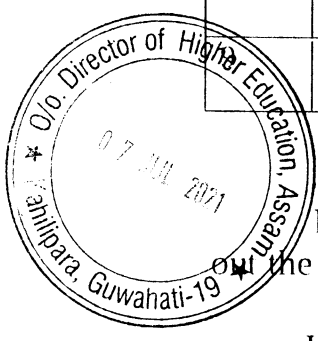

Director of Higher Education, Assam
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19.

Chinmoyee Talukdar, D.DHE
PT. DHE
6.7.2021

Minutes of the Equivalence Committee Meeting held in the Conference Hall of Block-A on 22/03/2021 under the Chairmanship of Advisor Education.

Members present :-

1	Prof. Dr. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri Adviser, Education	Chairman
2	Prof. Mukut Hazarika Representative of Dibrugarh University	Member
3	Dr. Prasanta K. Saikia HoD, Deptt. Of Zoology, G.U.	Member
4	Dr. Sarat Barkataki, Principal, Nowgong College	Member
5	Dr. Jyoti Kamal Hazarika Principal, Tezpur College	Member
6	Dr. Ashis K. Mukherjee Director, IASST, Guwahati	Member
7	Dr. Latha Rangan, HoD, Deptt. Of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT, Guwahati	Member
8	Commissioner & Secretary Higher Education Department	Member Secretary
	Director Higher Education, Assam	Convenor



Hon'ble Advisor Education welcomed all the members present and spoke on the importance of the Committee in solving this long outstanding issue.

He stated that Botany and Zoology are conventional subject. However in the late seventies, Biotechnology and Molecular Biology were invoked in a big way. A large chunk of the students of Botany and Zoology opted for Biotechnology and Molecular Biology. He stated that with the introduction of CBCS by UGC, Biotechnology was also included as the core subject. He however mentioned that though Higher Education Departments of four states have already given equivalence, there is no intention of replacing Botany and Zoology with Biotechnology.

Handwritten signature and date: 30/9/21

Prof. Saikia of Gauhati University stated that a student of Biotechnology cannot apply for Botany and Zoology. He suggested that a department of Biotechnology be opened for absorption of candidates of Biotechnology. He also suggested that one post on Botany and Zoology department may be reserved for Biotechnology or Govt. of Assam may create separate post for Biotechnology. Representative of Dibrugarh University submitted a resolution taken by the Executive Committee of Dibrugarh University on the matter.

In this regard Chairman Dr. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri stated that Govt. of Assam has no intention of converting posts from Botany and Zoology into Biotechnology. Only those qualified may be given a chance to apply. The basic wisdom of Botany and Zoology cannot be ignored, he stated.

Principal Nowgaon College, Dr. Sarat Borkatoky stated that in his college Biotechnology is a hub and they need experts of Biotechnology since Botany and Zoology are pure Sciences. Principal Tezpur College, Dr. Jyoti Kamal Hazarika suggested that at least one teacher of Microbiology may be given in every College.

Prof. Mukharjyee of IASST, Guwahati stated that he has reviewed the syllabus of all the Universities and found that there is a lot in common between Biotechnology and Zoology and Botany syllabi and hence it is high time now to change the practice and decide that Biotechnology students can also

teach a good part of Botany and Zoology. Dr. Latha Rangan Professor from IIT, Guwahati stated that the classical subjects i.e Botany and Zoology will not be replaced, but Biotechnology will complement the classical subjects.

Prof. Saikia of Gauhati University again reiterated his stand that Biotechnology is a separate branch and the Govt. of Assam needs to open a Biotechnology department in every College. He stated that basic is the base so cannot be mixed up with technology.

After a thorough discussion, it was resolved that one out of every four positions of Botany and Zoology may be reserved for Biotechnology.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks from the Chair.

(d/-
Special Commissioner
Education(Elementary/ Secondary) Deptt

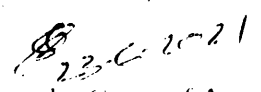
Memo No.AHE.355/2020/82-A

dated, dispur, 23rd June, 2021

Copy to :

1. Prof. Dr. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, Adviser, Education
2. Prof. Mukut Hazarika, Representative of Dibrugarh University
3. Dr. Prasanta K. Saikia, HoD, Deptt. Of Zoology, G.U.
4. Dr. Sarat Barkataki, Principal, Nowgong College
5. Dr. Jyoti Kamal Hazarika, Principal, Tezpur College
6. Dr. Ashis K. Mukherjee, Director, IASST, Guwahati
7. Dr. Latha Rangan, HoD, Deptt. Of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT, Guwahati
8. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department
9. The Director of Higher Education, Assam. He is requested to instruct all Colleges/Universities accordingly.
10. All Provincialised and Govt. Colleges- Universities in Assam.

By order etc.,


Under Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department.