



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI-110 002

A-II

422 (CPR/PV)

22-03-2022

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF EXPERT COMMITTEE REPORT -
STATE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES**

Part - I - Preliminary

(i)	Constitution of the Expert Committee	1) Prof. (Dr.) Sri Krishna Srivastava - Chairman Former Vice-Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong 2) Prof. (Dr.) Vijay Kumar Shrotiya, University of Delhi - Member 3) Prof. (Dr.) D.K. Singh Member Dean of Faculty Affairs, Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology, Gorakhpur 4) Prof. (Dr.) S.C.Bagri Member Centre for Mountain Tourism and Hospitality Studies, Garhwal 5) Prof. (Dr.) Samsher Head of AICTE team Vice-Chancellor, Harcourt Butler Technical University, Kanpur 6) Prof.(Dr.) V.K.Soni AICTE Nominee Dept of Mechanical Engineering, MANIT, Bhopal 7) Prof. (Dr.) Vinita S. Sahay AICTE Nominee Director, Indian Institute of Management, Bodh Gaya 8) Prof. Sohan Saharan AICTE Nominee Chandigarh College of Architecture, Chandigarh 9) Mr. Bhoj Chander Thakur BCI Nominee Former Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India 10) Prof. (Dr.)Latha Venkatesan INC Nominee Principal cum Professor, College of Nursing, AIIMS, New Delhi 11) Ar. Nilakshi D.Sharma CoA Nominee Architect, Jorhat 12) Dr. Mriganka Sekhar Sarma Deputy Secretary, UGC Coordinating Officer
(ii)	Date(s) of the visit	10 th & 11 th March 2022

(iii)	Any other information (Non-participation of members, any special factor or situation/ difficulties relevant to the report	Prof. Vijay Kumar Shrotiya could not join the visiting team due to his other official engagements.
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Part – II - Introduction

(i)	Brief introduction of the University (refer 1.1 of the format)	The Assam Royal Global University is a young Higher Educational Institution of the Northeast, situated in Guwahati, the gateway to the North - eastern part of the country. The university is founded under the aegis of the Gyan Sagar Foundation. It began in the year 2009 as the Royal Group of Institutions as the First Integrated Campus, approved by AICTE. Later in the year 2013, the University was established by The Assam Royal Global University Act 2013 and started functioning from the year 2017. The university campus has 27 acres of land that houses administrative block, academic blocks with laboratories, auditorium, conference hall, seminar hall, canteens, two hostels separate for male and female boarders, a moot court, studios for media, fashion, fine arts and a state-of-the-art indoor sports centre named as the Cube. It also has outdoor sports facilities such as a basketball court, tennis courts, cricket field, baseball field football field and a volleyball ground.
(ii)	Date of establishment of the University (refer 1.4 of the format)	The University was established by The Assam Royal Global University Act 2013, passed by Government of Assam and gazetted on 28.08.2013. The university started its first session from 27 th July 2017.
(iii)	Brief description of the University and its faculties/courses	The University has grown steadily since its inception and now is offering 91 courses under its 26 constituent schools. The University offers Diploma/UG/PG/Ph.D. in the following disciplines: • Engineering

		• Business Administration • Commerce • Architecture • Science • Information Technology • Psychology • Fine Arts • Fashion Design • Journalism & Mass Communication • English • Life Sciences • Bio-Sciences • Environmental & Earth Sciences • Nursing • Humanities • Hotel Management • Travel & Tourism Management • Pharmacy • Physiotherapy • Optometry
(iv)	Brief description of the Trust/Society that governs the University	Gyan Sagar Foundation, a registered society is a not-for-profit making organization solely focusing on providing quality education to the students of Assam and North East. The society established its first integrated technical campus, approved by AICTE in 2009. Thereafter it went on to establish a senior secondary school, Royal Global School, Guwahati, affiliated to CBSE. The Assam Royal Global University was established in the year 2013.

Part – III – Summary Report

A. Legal Status

(i)	Is the University duly established under the law and as required in the UGC Regulations? (refer 1.10 and 1.11 of the format)	Yes, as per the Assam Royal Global University Act, 2013
(ii)	Is the Trust/Society involved in promoting the University sufficiently focussed on educational activities and independent of their business or any other interest, if any?	It appears that the Society is fully supportive to the University and promotes it for academic development without having any business Interest.

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B. Organization Description

(i)	Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on off-campus centres Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.4 of the format)	The University does not have any off-campus centre.
(ii)	Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on off-Shore campus centres Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.5 of the format)	The University does not have any offshore campus.
(iii)	Does the University offer courses under distance mode with the approval of competent authority of the Government of India? Yes No Not applicable (refer 2.6 and 2.7 of the format)	The University does not offer any courses under distance education mode.

C. Academic Activities

(i)	Are the courses offered by the University narrowly focussed or adequately diverse?	The University is offering programmes in diverse areas like Engineering, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Law, Management, Architecture, liberal Arts and Science etc.
(ii)	Are the list of courses for the award of degree as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956?	Yes, the programmes are being offered as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act.
(iii)	Is the sanctioned intake is as per the norms/intake sanctioned by the concerned Statutory Council(s)/UGC?	Yes, the intake is as per norms.
(iv)	Whether courses run are approved by concerned Statutory Council(s)?	Yes, the courses are approved by the statutory councils like AICTE, INC, COA, BCI.
(v)	Are there adequate support facilities for students, especially for disadvantaged students? (refer 4.5 of format)	The University provides scholarships to the meritorious as well as socially and economically disadvantaged students

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(vi)	Are the students adequately informed? (refer 4.7 and 4.8 of the format)	All the relevant information are disseminated through the website, emails, messages and departmental notice boards.
(vii)	Is there a Grievance Redressal Mechanism and is that working properly? (refer 4.9 of the format)	The University has a grievance redressal committee. The Committee has not received any serious complaints / grievances till date.
(viii)	Is the University following proper procedure for formulation and revision of curriculum on periodic basis? (refer 5.1 to 5.4 of the format)	The University revises the curriculum periodically, and approval of Board of Studies and Academic Council is taken for any such revision. The Academic Council finalizes the curriculum which is submitted by the Board of Studies. The Governing Body of the university approves the minutes of Academic Council.
(ix)	How regular, fair and transparent is the examination system? (refer 5.7 to 5.14)	The examination system appears to be regular and fair. The University follows a semester-based examination system. The examination system comprises of Theory and Practical/Tutorial/Project/Studio. A full-fledged examination system with a Controller of Examinations and other staff is in place.

D. Admission Process

(i)	Does the University follow fair and transparent procedure for admission? (refer 6.1 and 6.7 of the format)	The University has adopted a merit-based admission process. Admission policy and procedures are displayed on the University website.
(ii)	Does the University follow any reservation policy?	Though the University being a private one does not follow any reservation policy, it provides relaxation in marks to the reserved category students for admissions.

E. Fee Structure

(i)	Are the students sufficiently informed about the fees and charges payable?	Yes, the University displays the fee structure on its website and the prospectus.
(ii)	Does the University follow its own declared policy in collecting any fees or charges or are there some charges over and above the publically stated fee structure?	As per available records, the University does not charge any other fees other than the publicly declared fee structure
(iii)	Is the mode of fees collection transparent or are there complaints of payments without receipts?	The fee collection method appears to be transparent as payments are made online or through drafts or PoS (swipe machine). No such complaint is brought to the notice of the Committee.

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(iv)	Are the fees reasonable compared to costs involved in running the programmes and to other similar institutions?	The fees charged by the university appear to be reasonable.
(v)	Is the fee structure based on a policy or guidelines laid down by the Government?	The fee structure is decided by the Governing Body and the Board of Management.
(vi)	Is there any indication of the University being run solely or primarily for commercial gains?	The Committee has not observed any such point which indicates that the University is run solely for commercial gains

F. Faculty

(i)	Does the University follow Pay Scales and service conditions laid down by the UGC?	As per available records, the University provides pay scale to the faculty members as per 6 th Pay Commission recommendations.
(ii)	Is the faculty well qualified and well trained for the courses? (if required, please make comments separately for each faculty/department)	The University well-qualified faculty members with 41% the faculty having Ph.D. degree.
(iii)	Is the proportion of permanent faculty adequate or is the University being mainly run by deploying contractual faculty /guest faculty/ Part-time faculty?	The University has adequate number of faculty members. All the faculty members are full-time.
(iv)	Has the University followed due process for recruitment of faculty?	As per available records, the University has followed a process for recruiting faculty that includes advertisement in newspapers, screening by the concerned schools/departments and selection by a duly-constituted Committee that includes external subject experts as well.

G. Infrastructure

(i)	Are the following infrastructure facilities adequate? ➤ Land and Buildings ➤ Class Rooms ➤ Laboratories and equipment ➤ Library ➤ Sports facilities ➤ Residential accommodation including hostels	The University has adequate infrastructural facilities in terms of building, Classroom, Laboratories, Equipments, and Library. The University has good sports facilities required for indoor and outdoor sports. The University also provides accommodation for the students inside the campus
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H. Financial Viability

(i)	Does the University have adequate and independent funds?	The University has sufficient funds to meet regular financial requirements. The University has an Endowment Fund of 2 cr. rupees. Expenses are met from the fees received from students and donations from the sponsoring society.
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I. Governance System

(i)	Are various authorities and bodies responsible for the governance of the University in place and working regularly and properly?	Yes, various bodies are in place to take care of the academic and administrative matters of the University.
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J. Research Profile

(i)	How would you rate the research profile of the University in terms of Research orientation, environment, facilities and output? (please give comments separately on faculties and departments)	The University is mentored by a number of prominent senior academicians. A few faculty members have quality research publications to their credit. The University is very new, and there is wide scope for development of a research culture in the University.
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K. Miscellaneous

(i)	Is the Non-teaching staff adequate, well qualified and paid as per the norms of the concerned State Government?	Yes, the University has adequate non-teaching staff.
(ii)	Do the academic results show evidence of independent and rigorous evaluation prior to the issue of degrees?	Yes, the University has developed a full-fledged examination system in order to maintain an independent and transparent evaluation process.
(iii)	Has the University obtained necessary and desirable accreditations?	The University is yet to be accredited by NAAC and NBA. However, as informed by IQAC, the University is preparing for submission of SSR.

L. Strength and Weaknesses of the University

(i)	Strengths of the University	- The location of the University in the heart of the city of Guwahati is a major advantage for the University. - Infrastructural facilities available in the University are very good.
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		• It is a multidisciplinary University. • The University is mentored by senior academicians and former Vice-Chancellors. • The University is well supported by the promoting Society. • The University has been able to attract young, well-qualified faculty • The University has an interactive portal, called Royal Net where the lesson plans, syllabus, reference materials, attendance etc. are uploaded. (Most of the other merits are mentioned in the observations of the Committee)
(ii)	Weaknesses of the University	• The University is yet to be accredited • The University needs to imbibe a robust research culture. Faculty members have not yet received any research projects from the funding agencies. (The other points are highlighted in the suggestions of the Committee).

Part –IV – Recommendations

A. Observations of the Committee

- Infrastructural facilities in terms of academic buildings, administrative buildings, laboratories, class rooms, Central Library, sports facilities etc. are good.
- Overall facilities for teaching, research and examination are satisfactory. The University is actively engaged in extension activities.
- The University is following due procedures for admission, teaching and examination
- Fee structure for various courses appears to be reasonable.
- Various Statutory bodies are in place to deal with academic and administrative affairs of the University.
- The faculty members possess minimum required qualifications. 41% of the faculty members possess Ph.D degree and some of the faculty members have quality research publications to their credit.
- Faculty members are provided pay scales as per 6th Pay Commission
- Academic programmes are being run with approval of the Statutory Councils.
- In order to support the meritorious students and the students from socially and economically disadvantaged section, the University offers scholarships and fee concession.

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- The University has entered into academic and research collaboration with a number of higher educational institutions of repute, such as IIT Guwahati, Tezpur University, IIM Indore etc.
- The University is engaged in various extension activities. Royal Anna Seva and Royal Swasthya Seva are important initiatives of the University.
- Though the University is a young one, the overall performance of the University is satisfactory.

B. Suggestions of the Committee which require satisfactory compliance by the University

- The University should make all out efforts to encourage the faculty members to apply to various funding agencies like DST, DBT, ICSSR etc. so as to undertake research projects
- Though the University has adequate number of Assistant Professors, efforts may be made to appoints faculty at the levels of Professor and Associate Professor.
- The University should establish active linkages with the industry so that students get opportunities for apprenticeship and placement.
- The University should participate in the forthcoming cycle of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- A full-time Head of the Department should be appointed in the department of Architecture.
- Infrastructural facilities for differently-abled students that include ramps at all entrance points, fire exit signs etc. may be improved.
- Library resources, especially in terms of number of books need to be further strengthened.
- Internet connectivity may be improved in all parts of the campus, especially in the hostels.
- The University may offer a few elective subjects in cutting edge areas.

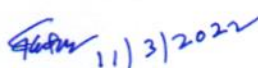
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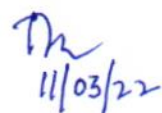
C. Final Recommendations

On the basis of the onsite visit to all the infrastructural facilities and based on the observations mentioned above, the Committee is of the view that the overall performance of The Assam Royal Global University is good. The Committee also views that The Assam Royal Gobal University, Guwahati fulfils the criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability etc. as laid down from time to time by the UGC and other concerned Statutory bodies.

Name and Signatures of the Expert Committee Members:


(Prof. S.K. Srivastava)


(Prof. Samsher)


(Prof. D.K. Singh)


(Prof. S.C. Bagri)


(Dr. Latha Venkatesan)


(Mr. Bhoj Chander Thakur)


(Ar. Nilakshi D. Sharma)