

**EXPERT COMMITTEE REPORT – PRIVATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (UST)  
KLING ROAD, BARIDUA, 9<sup>th</sup> MILE, Ri-BHOI DISTRICT, MEGHALAYA**

**Part – I – Preliminary**

|      |                                      |                                                                                                                                             |                            |                    |
|------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| (i)  | Constitution of the Expert Committee | <b>Name and Address</b>                                                                                                                     | <b>Position</b>            | <b>Contact No.</b> |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. R.P. Dahiya</b><br>Centre for Energy Studies<br>Indian Institute of Technology<br>Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110 016                   | Chairman                   | 09811502911        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. Bhargab B. Bhattacharya</b><br>Fellow, National Academy of Sciences<br>ACM Unit, Indian Statistical Institute<br>Kolkata – 700 108 | Member                     | 09831425585        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. Ramesh Chander Kuhad</b><br>Dept. of Microbiology<br>University of Delhi South Campus<br>Benito Juarez Marg, New Delhi 110 021     | Member                     | 09871509870        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. Chandana Goswami</b><br>Department of Business<br>Administration, Tezpur University<br>Tezpur – 784 028                            | Member                     | 09435180258        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. Sudarsanchakra Panigrahi</b><br>Head, Department of Education<br>(CASE)<br>The M.S. University of Baroda,<br>Vadodara – 390 002    | Member                     | 09427015175        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. R. C. Tiwari</b><br>Department of Physics<br>Mizoram University, Aizawl – 796 004                                                  | Member                     | 09862300514        |
|      |                                      | <b>Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay</b><br>Department of Education<br>University of Kalyani<br>Kalyani – 741 235                                       | Member                     | 09433517020        |
|      |                                      | <b>Dr. N. Sambandam</b><br>504 Glen Craft Cliff Avenue,<br>Hiranandani Gardens, Powai,<br>Mumbai 400 076                                    | Member<br>AICTE<br>nominee | 09619628409        |
|      |                                      | <b>Dr. N. Gopukumar</b><br>Deputy Secretary<br>UGC-SWRO, Bangalore<br>Karnataka                                                             | Coordinating<br>Officer    | 09980824269        |
| (ii) | Date(s) of the Visit                 | September 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> February, 2014                                                                                  |                            |                    |

*[Signature]*  
Barua

*[Signature]*  
Rg

1

*[Signature]*  
Dahiya

*[Signature]*  
BT

|      |                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                               |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (ii) | Any other information (Non-participation of members, any special factor or situation/difficulties relevant to the report | Prof. Bhargab B. Bhattacharya and Prof. R. C. Kuhad, did not come for the visit due to their personal reasons |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **Part – II – Introduction**

|       |                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | Brief Introduction of the University                               | The University of Science and Technology is a private University sponsored by ERD Foundation, Guwahati. The Meghalaya legislative assembly passed Act No. 6 of 2008 to establish this University. Emphasis was on providing high quality and industry relevant education in the Engineering Science, Management Science, Applied Sciences, Physical Sciences, Physical Education and Sports Sciences, Education and Teaching Technology, Media and Communication Technology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Design and Architecture, Agriculture and Food Processing Sciences, Medical and Health Sciences and other related areas of Science and Technology sponsored by Education, Research and Development Foundation, Guwahati and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. |
| (ii)  | Date of Establishment of the University                            | 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2011 ( <b>Annexure-01</b> )                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| (iii) | Brief description of the University and its faculties/courses      | The University is having six schools viz, School of Business Sciences, School of Biological Sciences, School of Applied Sciences, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, School of Engineering and Technology and School of Media and Cultural Studies. First admission in the University was made in M.Sc. (Biotechnology) for the academic session 2011-12. At present students are pursuing studies for 35 programmes at UG and PG level in these schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| (iv)  | Brief description of the Trust/Society that governs the University | Education Research Development (ERD Foundation) is one of the educational societies in North East India having objective of imparting professional and technical education. The foundation first established Central IT College, followed by Regional College of higher education. In the year 2009 ERD started an Engineering college namely Regional Institute of Science and Technology affiliated to NEHU. With the experience of managing these institutions, the ERD went for establishing the Science and Technology Private University in the Meghalaya.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

## **Part – III – Summary Report**

### **A. Legal Status**

|     |                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | Is the University duly established under the law and as required in the UGC Regulations? | Yes, The University has been established under the provisions of the University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya Act (No.6 of 2008) enacted by Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya and notified vide Gazette Notification No LL(B)87/2008/21, dated 02.12.2008 of |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|






|      |                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                             |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|      |                                                                                                                                                                          | Government of Meghalaya. The Act is enclosed as <b>Annexure-2</b>                           |
| (ii) | Is the Trust/Society involved in promoting the University sufficiently focused on educational activities and independent of their business or any other interest, if any | Yes, its focus is to promote educational activities in the North East region of the Country |

### B. Organization Description

|       |                                                                                                                            |                                                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on Off-Campus centers?                                                        | No off-campus centres have been set up by the University         |
| (ii)  | Does the University abide by UGC Regulations on Off-Shore Campus Centres?                                                  | No off-shore campus has been set up by the University            |
| (iii) | Does the University offer courses under Distance mode with the approval of competent authority of the Government of India? | No course is being offered by the University under distance mode |

### C. Academic Activities

|        |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)    | Are the Courses offered by the University narrowly focused or adequately diverse?                          | Being a newly established university it has started courses only in the last two years. List of Courses is enclosed as <b>Annexure 03</b> . The courses are in diverse disciplines     |
| (ii)   | Are the list of courses for the award of degree as per the Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956?                | Yes, except the M.M.C (Masters in Mass Communication) course                                                                                                                           |
| (iii)  | Is the sanctioned intake as per the norms / intake sanctioned by the concerned statutory council(s)/UGC?   | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| (iv)   | Whether courses run are approved by concerned Statutory Council(s)?                                        | MBA offered by School of Business Sciences is approved by AICTE for session 2013-14 ( <b>Annexure 4</b> )                                                                              |
| (v)    | Are there adequate support facilities for students, especially for disadvantaged students?                 | Some support is provided to a limited number of disadvantaged students of the region<br><br>Campus is not yet disabled friendly                                                        |
| (vi)   | Are the students adequately informed?                                                                      | Students are informed through mass media, but this needs further improvement like putting information on the University website and through wide circulations on the University campus |
| (vii)  | Is there a Grievance Redressal Mechanism and is that working properly?                                     | Yes, only for students. Such a mechanism should be established for faculty and staff as well                                                                                           |
| (viii) | Is the University following proper procedure for formulation and revision of curriculum on periodic basis? | Being a new University no need has arisen for periodic review till now.                                                                                                                |
| (ix)   | How regular, fair and transparent is the Examination System?                                               | Examinations are held regularly. Details of examination regulations are enclosed as <b>Annexure-5</b>                                                                                  |

### D. Admission Process

|      |                                                                          |                                                                                                                                    |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)  | Does the University follow fair and transparent procedure for admission? | Yes.                                                                                                                               |
| (ii) | Do any special reservation on quota clearly laid down policy?            | Yes. 33% reservation for girls, 3% for physically challenged, relaxation in marks for North East students and SC/ST/OBC candidates |

## E. Fee Structure

|       |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | Are the students sufficiently informed about the fees and charges payable?                                                                                         | Yes, by way of prospectus and notifications. Details of fee structure are enclosed as <b>Annexure-6</b> . The fee structure information must be put on the University website. |
| (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? | There are no other charges over and above the publically stated fee structure                                                                                                  |
| (iii) | Is the mode of fees collection transparent or are there complaints of payments without receipts?                                                                   | The mode of fees collection is transparent. No complaints received during interaction with students or otherwise                                                               |
| (iv)  | Are the fees reasonable as compared to costs involved in running the programmes and to other similar institutions?                                                 | Yes                                                                                                                                                                            |
| (v)   | Is the fee structure based on a policy or guidelines laid down by the Government?                                                                                  | Fee structure is based on policy formulated by its Board of Governors.                                                                                                         |
| (vi)  | Is there any indication of the University being run solely or primarily for commercial gains?                                                                      | No                                                                                                                                                                             |

## F. Faculty

|       |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)   | Does the University follow Pay Scales and Service Conditions laid down by the UGC?                                                                          | The University has not implemented the UGC pay scales and service conditions. The service conditions should be as per the guidelines laid down by the UGC. Salaries and allowances are consolidated.                             |
| (ii)  | Is the faculty well qualified and well trained for the courses?                                                                                             | All faculty members are not well qualified and well trained for the courses. Well qualified faculty should be appointed in all departments. Details of the presently appointed faculty members are enclosed as <b>Annexure-7</b> |
| (iii) | Is the proportion of permanent faculty adequate or is the University being mainly run by deploying contractual faculty / guest faculty / part-time faculty? | Permanent faculty, including the faculty members re-employed after retirement from other institutions are not sufficient. It was informed that visiting faculties were also engaged from time to time.                           |
| (iv)  | Has the University followed due process of recruitment of faculty?                                                                                          | Yes. The recruitment process is followed as prescribed in its Ordinances                                                                                                                                                         |

## G. Infrastructure

|     |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | Are the following infrastructure facilities adequate?<br><br>a) Land & Building<br><br>b) Class rooms | <br><br>The University has a land area of 121.51 acres (approx). The details of land documents and built up area are enclosed as <b>Annexure 8</b><br><br>Adequate for the existing number of students |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

  
Abulhasan



4 





|                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| c) Laboratories & Equipment                    | Laboratories are not as per the course requirements and lack in equipments. However, Biotech laboratory has some state of the art equipments which can also be used for research activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| d) Library                                     | Library space is inadequate. Substantial up gradation and improvement is required. Number of books is adequate for the present student strength. More research journals should be subscribed to cater to the needs of different academic departments                                                                                                                                                |
| e) Sports facilities                           | Some sports grounds have been earmarked, but need proper development of sports facilities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| f) Residential accommodation including hostels | Independent Girls and Boys Hostels are available on the campus. Additionally, about 150 girls are provided hostel accommodation at hostels in Guwahati city.<br>Capacity of Sir Syed Boys hostel is to accommodate 220 students (on campus)<br>Capacity of Paschecal Suchaing Girls Hostel is to accommodate 100 students (on Campus)<br><br>No accommodation is provided for the faculty and staff |

## H. Financial Viability

|     |                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | Does the University have adequate and independent funds? | The funding position is not very sound. The University does not have independent funds. Bank loans has been taken and some contribution is made by the promoters of the trust. Audit report and financial statement as on 31.3.2012 are enclosed as <b>Annexure 9</b> . Audit is in progress for FY for 2012-13 as informed by the University. |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## I. Governance System

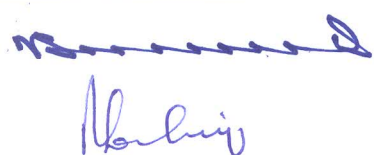
|     |                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | Are various authorities and bodies responsible for the governance of the University in place and working regularly and properly? | Yes, The statutory bodies of the University (i) Board of Governors, (ii) Academic Council, (iii) Board of Management (iv) Finance Committee are in place. Their meeting should be held regularly and minutes should be duly recorded and circulated. |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## J. Research Profile

|     |                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | How would you rate the research profile of the University in terms of Research Orientation, environment, facilities and output? | No research facility exists for Science and Technology in the campus excepting some equipment in Biotechnology laboratory can be used for research. However, a large number of Ph.D. registration has been made, reflecting the research orientation of the University. |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## K. Miscellaneous

|     |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                         |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) | Is the Non-Teaching staff adequate, well qualified and paid as per the norms of | Non-teaching staff strength is 84 including 13 outsourced security personnel. However laboratory technical staff is not |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



5




|       |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                          |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       | the concerned State Governments?                                                                            | adequate, needs training. Staff is paid consolidated salary, which is not as per State Government norms. |
| (ii)  | Do the academic results show evidence of independent and rigorous evaluation prior to the issue of degrees? | Yes                                                                                                      |
| (iii) | Has the University obtained necessary and desirable accreditations                                          | No                                                                                                       |

### L. Strengths and Weaknesses of the University

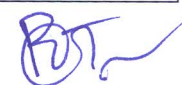
|      |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i)  | Strengths of the University  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The University campus has strategic location nearly 6 km away from the capital of Assam, which has proper connectivity by road, rail and air.</li> <li>The University when fully developed will play an important role to cater to the educational needs of the North Eastern region.</li> <li>Commitment and dedication of the top administration is reflected by the fact that distinguished persons have been included in various statutory bodies.</li> <li>The University administration and some of the academic buildings have been constructed within a period of two years, though they are located in hilly terrains.</li> <li>Some of the class rooms have been provided with LCD projectors</li> </ul> |
| (ii) | Weaknesses of the University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualified regular faculty is not available in some of the departments as per the UGC norms.</li> <li>UGC pay scales are not implemented, only consolidated salary is paid.</li> <li>Financial support and any other incentive is not provided to the faculty for participation and presenting papers in conferences and symposia.</li> <li>The University has funding constraints which may become an impediment in its further growth</li> <li>Some of the land is not yet transferred to the Trust.</li> <li>The campus being on the border of Assam and Meghalaya mobile telephone connectivity has</li> </ul>                                                                                                  |







|  |  |                                                                                                                                        |
|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  | <p>problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet facility is not provided in the departments and hostels.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

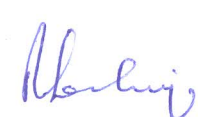
## Part – IV Recommendations

### A. General Observations and Suggestions (Please avoid repetitions of the point mentioned above)

- The student strength has steadily grown in some of the disciplines, but has declined in others like Environmental Science, Disaster Management, Computer Science and Public Relations
- The University should interact with premier institutions and corporate houses in the neighborhood and other places in the country
- Faculty Development Programmes should be organized for the pedagogical improvements.
- Research and development facilities need substantial improvement. Most of the departments do not have the congenial research environment.

### B. Operations recommendations which require satisfactory compliance by the University before issue of approval letter

- All the norms prescribed by the UGC/AICTE should be complied with.
- Well qualified regular faculty should be appointed following the UGC norms. Cadre ratio should be maintained.
- Faculty and staff should be given the UGC prescribed pay scales.
- Number of experimental set-ups should be increased in all the laboratories so that students can perform experiments in groups of two or three each.
- Internet facility needs upgradation. The connectivity should be given in all the departments and hostels.
- There are several courses which have only a few students. Such courses should be discontinued and a minimum number of students should be prescribed by the Academic Council to run a course.
- Additional hostels should be constructed on the campus.
- Library should be housed in a bigger building to provide a sufficient space for storing the books and journals and to give place for reading. Digital library should be developed.





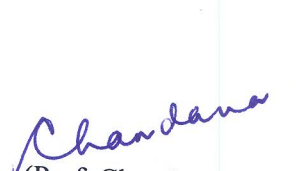
- Research facilities should be created in all the departments and National and International journals should be subscribed

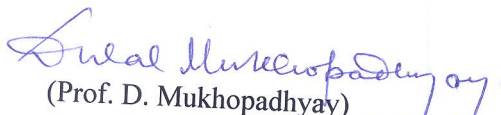
### Final Recommendations

The University should comply with the above recommendations within a period of three years and the case may be then reconsidered for approval.

 10.2.2014  
(Prof. R. P. Dahiya)  
Chairman

  
(Prof. Sudarshan Panigrahi)  
Member

 10/2/14  
(Prof. Chandana Goswami)  
Member

 10/2/14  
(Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay)  
Member

 10.2.14  
(Prof. R. C. Tiwari)  
Member

 10/2/2014  
(Prof. N. Sambandam)  
AICTE Nominee

  
(N. Gopukumar)  
Co-ordinating Officer