

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY GUWAHATI

**Proceedings of the 46th meeting of the Board of Management held on
27.08.2018 in the Conference Room of Housefed Complex, Dispur,
Guwahati at 03:00 PM**

Members Present:

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| 1) | Vice Chancellor | : Chairman |
| 2) | Prof. Munin Kakati | : Member |
| 3) | Prof. Amarjyoti Choudhury | : Member |
| 3) | Dr. Atindra Kumar Adhikari | : Member |
| 5) | Shri Ramen Sarma | : Member |
| 6) | Prof. Sudeshna Bhattacharjee | : Member |
| 7) | Ms. Krishna Gohain | : Member |
| | (Representative from Principal Secretary,
Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department) | |
| 8) | Ms. Geetanjali Ahmed Nayyar, Dy. Secretary:
(Representative from the Principal Secretary,
Govt. of Assam, Finance Department) | |
| 9) | Dean, Academic | : Member |
| 10) | Dean, Study Centre | : Member |
| 11) | Registrar (i/c) | : Member Secretary |

Shri S. N. Misra, Secretary to Vice Chancellor and Public Relations officer was present for recording the proceedings.

Item No. 1 Vice Chancellor's address of welcome and introductory briefing.

Before calling the meeting to order, the Vice Chancellor welcomed all the esteemed members of the Board of Management with special mention to Ms Krishna Gohain, Secretary, Higher Education department, who represented Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Assam. The Chairmen apprised that due to implementation of Open and Distance Learning regulation 2017, the process of admission of learners for the academic session 2018-19 has been delayed. Though the University Grants Commission permitted for 16 programmes to be conducted by the University, for the

academic session 2018-19 onwards, the UGC has discontinued 13 programmes on Master Degree which were earlier approved by UGC. On receipt of the letter from UGC the Registrar and the Director, CIQA were deputed to UGC office to ascertain the matter. Accordingly, they met the senior officers at UGC office and came to know that there has been a technical mistake which would be sorted out by UGC within the first week of September, 2018. In the mean time, the matter has been brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Education Minister, Government of Assam and the Chairmen UGC.

The Chairman then proceeded as per the agenda items.

Resolution No: BM/46/1/2018: *Resolved that the welcome and introductory briefing of the Vice Chancellor be noted.*

Item No.2 Confirmation of the Proceedings of the 44th and 45th meetings of the Board of Management

The copy of the proceedings of the above meetings was circulated to the members of the Board of Management. The members were requested to point out the mistakes, if any, in recording the proceedings.

Matter arising out of confirmation:

During the time of confirmation of the Proceedings of the 45th meeting of the Board of Management under Resolution No. BM/45/3/2018 the word "blacklisted and deregistered" should be replaced by the word "expelled".

The Board was requested to approve the Proceedings as recorded.

Resolution No: BM/46/2/2018: *Resolved that the Proceedings of the 44th and 45th meetings of the Board of Management be approved with the correction as stated above.*

Item No. 3 To apprise the Action Taken Report on the decision of the 44th and 45th Meetings of the Board of Management.

The Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 44th and 45th meetings of the Board of Management was circulated to the members of the Board of Management.

The Board was requested to consider and approve the above.

Resolution No: BM/46/3/2018: *Resolved that the action taken report of the 44th and 45th Meetings of the Board of Management be noted.*

✓ **Item No. 4** **To consider and approve the recommendations of the Selection Committee for the post of Registrar, KKHSOU.**

It is for information of the Board of Management that the post of Registrar, KKHSOU was advertised and subsequently interview was held on 27th August, 2018 at 10:30 AM. The recommendation of the Selection Committee was placed on the day of the Meeting.

As Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury, Registrar i/c was one of the candidates for the post of Registrar, he withdrew himself from the discussion of this agenda item with the permission of the Chair.

The recommendation of the Selection Committee for the post of Registrar was placed before the Board of Management. The Selection Committee recommended the name of the following candidate for the post of Registrar:

1. Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury.

The Board was requested to approve the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

Resolution No: BM/46/4/2018: *Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee for the post of Registrar be accepted and that the candidate recommended viz. Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury be appointed as the Registrar, KKHSOU.*

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms and condition of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation of the proceedings.

Resolved further that the pay of Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury be protected as he applied through proper channel. ✓

✓ **Item No: 5** **To consider the replies furnished by Dr. B R Sarma, Controller of Examinations (under suspension) and Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar, Examinations (under suspension) against Show Cause Notice issued to them.**

It is for information of the members of the Board of Management that consequent upon the decision of the 45th Meeting of the Board of

Management held on 30/07/2018 vide its Resolution No. BM/45/6/2018, Dr. Bhabaranjan Sarma, Controller of Examinations and Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar, Examinations were placed under suspension pending drawal of Departmental Proceedings.

Subsequently, both Dr. Bhabaranjan Sarma (under suspension) and Shri Arabinda Saikia (under suspension) were issued Show Cause Notices vide letter No. KKHSOU/Confidential/115/2015/21 dated 16.08.18, along with the statement of allegations and the list of documents. They were asked to submit their written reply within seven days from the date of issue of the Show Cause Notice.

In reply to the Show Cause Notices, Dr. Bhabaranjan Sarma, Controller of Examinations (under suspension) and Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar, Examinations (under suspension) vide their letters dated 21st August, 2018 tendered unconditional apology to the Vice Chancellor and the esteemed members of the Board of Management for their lapses in connection with declaration of result pertaining to degree 1st and 3rd Semester examinations held at Satya Ranjan College, Kalain, Cachar in which the examinations were already cancelled.

The Board was requested to consider their appeals and decide future course of action.

The appeal made by Dr. Sarma and Shri Saikia were placed before the 46th meeting of the Board of Management held on 27.08.2018 for kind perusal and necessary action. After threadbare discussions on the matter, the Board is of the opinion that the charges leveled against them are very serious in nature. As both of them have applied for unconditional apology and assured not to recur such type of incident in future, therefore, the Board of Management censured them without awarding any major penalty and allowed them to join in their respective duties. Accordingly, the suspension order issued to both Dr. Sarmah and Shri Saikia is hereby revoked.

Resolution No: BM/46/5/2018: *Resolved that the suspension order in respect of Dr. Bhabaranjan Sarmah, Controller of Examinations and Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar, Examinations be revoked with immediate effect.*

Resolution No: BM/46/5(A)/2018: *Resolved that Dr. Bhabaranjan Sarmah, Controller of Examinations and Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar,*

Examinations be censured for their lapses in conducting the examinations pertaining to Satya Ranjan College, Examination Center, Kalain and they are warned not to commit such mistakes in future failing which stern disciplinary action will be taken against them. ✓

✓ **Item No: 6** **To consider the Legal opinion in respect of the employees who were appointed without any appointment letters.**

The Board is aware of the fact that a Legal Opinion was sought from the Standing Legal Counselor of the University on the above matter. In the mean time, we have received the Legal Opinion, copy of which was placed before the Board of Management on the day of the meeting.

The Board was requested to consider and decide future course of action.

The Board desired that the action may be initiated as per the legal advice received from Shri L P Sarma, Advocate Gauhati High Court who is also the Standing Legal Counselor of the University.

Resolution No: BM/46/6/2018: *Resolved that the appointment letters be issued to the employees who were appointed without appointment letters as per the legal advice received from Shri L P Sarma, Standing Legal Counselor of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University.* ✓

✓ **Item No: 7** **To consider and approve the appointment of an Advocate for Title Suit Number 300/2018 in respect of Prof. Srinath Baruah – Vs – Dr. Hitesh Deka, Vice Chancellor and Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury, Dean Academic and Registrar i/c, KKHSOU.**

It is for kind information for the members of the Board of Management that Prof. Srinath Baruah, former Vice Chancellor; KKHSOU filed a Defamation case, Number 300/2018 before the Court of Civil Judge No. 1 Kamrup (M), Guwahati against Dr. Hitesh Deka, Vice Chancellor, KKHSOU and Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury, Dean Academic and Registrar i/c, KKHSOU. In this regard the University is to appoint an Advocate to defend the above mentioned case.

The Board was requested to consider and approve the matter.

The Board while considering the agenda was of the view that Advocate Pranab Jyoti Phukan, who is also the Standing Legal Counselor of our University may be appointed as the Advocate for the Title Suit Number 300/2018 as proposed.

Resolution No: BM/46/7/2018: Resolved that the Advocate Pranab Jyoti Phukan, Gauhati High Court, who is also the Standing Legal Counselor of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University be appointed as the Advocate for the Title Suit Number 300/2018 in respect of Prof. Srinath Baruah – Vs – Dr. Hitesh Deka, Vice Chancellor and Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury, Dean Academic and Registrar i/c, KKHSOU. ✓

✓ **Item No: 8** To consider and approve deduction of excess amount paid to Shri Arabinda Saikia, Deputy Registrar, Examinations and Ms. Tapashi Kashyap Das, Asstt. Prof. Computer Science.

It is for information of the Board of Management that:

1. Shri Arabinda Saikia joined as Assistant Professor on 16/05/2010 in the scale pay of Rs. 15,600/- to 39,100/- with AGP of Rs. 6,000/-. The Board of Management held on 13/05/2010 resolved under Resolution No. BM/7/8/2010 that Shri Arabinda Saikia appointed as Assistant Professor in Computer Science with the condition that he will get increments only after obtaining NET/SLET or Ph.D. However, the increments were wrongly given till he joined as Deputy Registrar (Exam) on 30/12/2013 and pay protection was given accordingly.
2. Ms. Tapashi Kashyap Das joined Assistant Professor in Computer Science on 16/05/2010 in the scale pay of Rs./ 15,600/- to 39,100/- with AGP of Rs. 6,000/-. The Board of Management held on 13/05/2010 resolved under Resolution No. BM/7/8/2010 that Ms. Tapashi Kashyap Das be appointed as Assistant Professor in Computer Science with the condition that he will get increments only after obtaining NET/SLET or Ph.D. However, the increments were wrongly given till she was awarded Ph.D. degree on 04/03/2014.

The Board was requested to consider and decide future course of action.

The Board considered the agenda and was of the view that the excess amount paid to the above two faculty members should be recovered from their monthly salary in equal suitable installment.

Resolution No: BM/46/8/2018: Resolved that the excess amount arising out of fixation of pay in respect of Shri Arabinda Saikia, Assistant Professor in Computer Science department and Ms. Tapashi Kashyap Das, Assistant Professor in Computer Science department be recovered in equal monthly installment from their salaries. ✓

Item No: 9 **To consider and approve enhancement of monthly remuneration to Shri Bhuban Choudhury, Project Manager, KKHSOU.**

On the request made by Shri Bhuban Choudhury, Project Manager, KKHSOU and considering his satisfactory service, the monthly remuneration is enhanced by Rs. 5,000/- (rupees Five Thousand) PM only with effect from 01.08.2018 pending approval of the Board of Management.

The Board was requested to consider and approve the amount.

The Board considered the agenda and considering his sincere service rendering to the University approved enhancement of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) as conveyance allowance.

Resolution No: BM/44/9/2018: *Resolved that Shri Bhuban Choudhury be paid Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) per month as conveyance allowance in addition to his fixed salary.*

✓ **Item No: 10** **To consider and approve the recommendation of the committee for awarding KKHSOU National Award, 2018.**

The recommendation of the committee for awarding KKHSOU National Award, 2018 was placed on the day of the meeting.

The Board was requested to consider and approve the recommendation.

The recommendation of the committee was placed before the Board of Management and as recommended by the committee, the Board decided that the National Award for the year 2018 be awarded to Professor. Amaresh Dutta for his immense contribution to the society.

Resolution No: BM/46/10/2018: *Resolved that Professor Amaresh Dutta, Retd. Professor, Dibrugarh University be awarded the KKHSOU National Award, 2018.*

Item No: 11 **To consider and approve the fee for framing of Service Rules as proposed by the Legal Advisor.**

The Board is aware that at present there is no service rule, the details rules pertaining to Discipline and Appeals for the employees working in various ranks. For this purpose Mr. A. C. Borbora, Senior Advocate, who is also the Legal Advisor of KKHSOU was approached for drafting a Service Rules in conformity with the similarly

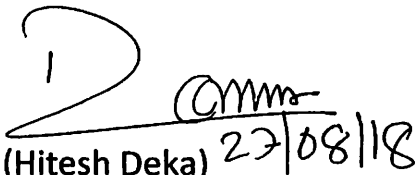
situated Universities of Assam. The Legal Advisor has now proposed that an amount of Rupees 6.00 to 7.00 lakhs would be required for the purpose.

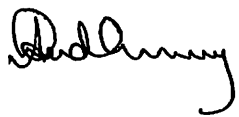
The Board was requested to consider and approve the amount.

The Board discussed the matter in detail and was of the view that the fee raised by the Advocate is too high. Therefore, the Board decided that the University should find an alternative way and in that case the University may take necessary help and guidance from the retired bureaucrats who are dealing with the matter.

Resolution No: BM/46/11/2018: *Resolved that the service rules for the employees of the University be framed in consultation and guidance from the retired bureaucrats of the Government of Assam.*

There being no other business to transact, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Hitesh Deka) 27/08/18
Vice Chancellor &
Chairman, BoM
KKHSOU


(Arupjyoti Choudhury)
Registrar (i/c) &
Member Secretary, BoM
KKHSOU