



**ASSAM UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
SILCHAR - 788011, ASSAM**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2022-2023

Annual Report of the Executive Committee

12th May 2023

Dear esteemed member,

AUTA's mandate in 2022-23 began with a big natural catastrophe in the form of destructive floods throughout the region. To the best of its abilities, the AUTA continued to serve the teachers' community. Members contributed to the aid for relief to flood victims, and AUTA presented a token of flood relief to the Chief Minister of Assam through the Vice-chancellor. The office bearers and EC members took grave risks by aiding flood victims during the devastation.

Several hearings related to the litigation for Election Duty were made at the Hon'ble Guwahati High Court through persistent follow-ups with the Law firm engaged in representing AUTA. The next hearing is scheduled for 18th May 2023. The Association worked diligently towards timely promotions and past service counting for the CAS applicants. It also focused on promoting research by enhancing the working conditions of teachers and scholars. In collaboration with the IQAC, seminars and awareness workshops were conducted. The teaching fraternity of AUS attended these workshops. AUTA also participated in developing a uniform structure for post-graduation courses under NEP-2020 and actively highlighted the need for funds for implementing NEP at the National level through FEDCUTA. An elaborate representation of pertinent issues was presented to the FEDCUTA at the National Executive Committee Meeting that was held on 25th February 2023. As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, AUTA organised sports activities for the teachers and a workshop on *Walking Our Way Towards A Healthy Heart* that included the participation of doctors and specialists from the Heart Care Society of Assam (HCSA), Barak Valley Chapter and Green Heals Hospital, Silchar.

Some of the major initiations/achievements of the Association during 2022-23 are:

1. **CAS Promotions:** About eighty-four teachers were promoted under CAS in 2022-2023 and about thirty cases are being processed. AUTA had persistently reminded and insisted upon the competent authority on CAS matters. AUTA takes this opportunity to thank the members of the CAS committee for working very sincerely to process the applications in a timely manner.
2. **AUTA Foundation Day:** AUTA Foundation Day was observed on 17th August 2022. Superannuated members were felicitated on 17th August 2022.
3. **AUTA Website:** A new AUTA website (<https://ausauta.org>) with a detailed account of the activities of AUTA was launched on 14th December 2022.
4. **Flood Relief Drive:** AUTA organised Flood Relief Drive for the Flood Victims on 31st May 2022 and 29th June 2022. Members contributed to the aid for relief to flood victims, and



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AUTA presented a token of flood relief to the Chief Minister of Assam through the Vice-chancellor.

5. **Superannuated members of AUTA to be permanent members:** It was resolved at the GB on 14-03-23 that all the superannuated members of AUTA (irrespective of their year of superannuation) would remain permanent members of the AUTA. They are not required to pay monthly subscriptions and can attend all meetings and participate in decision-making. However, voting rights will not be availed by them.

6. **AUTA Meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar, on 9th November 2022:** In the meeting held between AUTA and AUSU with the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar on 9th November 2022, a threadbare discussion was held on several agenda items:

- a) Framing and Implementation of the Annual Academic Calendar for the University
- b) Publicity and time-bound Admissions for UG and PG courses -regarding
- c) Regarding the Preponement of the PG End Semester Examination that was supposed to be held in December 2022
- d) Regarding the empowerment of the Heads of the Department
- e) Regarding the Completion of the Syllabus within 85-90 working days, as prescribed by the UGC
- f) Regarding the non-receipt of remuneration by the faculty members involved in examination-related activities for a long time
- g) Regarding Offering Internship Courses at different departments like, Lib. & Info. Science
- h) Regarding Conducting Workshops on EndNote Software
- i) Regarding Engaging PhD. Research Scholars in Teaching and Practical Training at the Departmental Levels
- j) Regarding the Vacant Seats in most of the Departments after CUET
- k) Regarding the University website and Anomalies in Admission Portal
- l) Reviving and introducing AUS Journals that can compete with standard Journals and be included in the UGC Care List.

7. **AUTA Executive Committee Meeting:** The AUTA Executive Committee Meeting held on 21st December 2022 took resolutions and met the competent Authority to address the following:

- a) The cases of missing service books and personal file records.
- *b) The interpretation of the clause on "Ph. D. Guidance" related to the requirement for promotion under CAS from Stage III to Associate Professor.
- c) Empanelment of Medical institutions/Hospitals for availing immediate medical facilities by our members.

*This matter was resolved through the intervention of FEDCUTA, who approached the UGC. The UGC finally cleared all doubts with a notification No.F.9-1/2020(PS/Misc) dated **03rd February 2023**.

8. **FEDCUTA:** The AUTA president was elected the Vice-President of the FEDCUTA at the National Executive Meeting held at Delhi University on 25th February 2023.

AUTA presented the following issues at the mentioned FEDCUTA



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meeting for implementation by UGC/MoE:

- a) Conversion of the New Pension Scheme (NPS) to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) through negotiations with MoE.
- b) Reimbursement of medical bills within the benefits of CGHS.
- c) Funding of NEP-2020 by MoE - through special grants to the Central Universities (CUs) ensuring that the admission fees are not hiked, funded research projects for the NER to be reinitiated, Article Publication Charges (APC) for funded projects to be made available for teachers to publish their articles/work through open access, provide generous need-based funds to CUs for procuring equipment and consumables.
- d) Enhance the non-NET fellowship & contingency provided for research scholars in CUs situated in the country's geographically and economically challenging areas.
- e) Adequate Seed money for research to be provided to new faculty.
- f) NEP-2020 should not dilute the core subjects or compromise the research standards.
- g) The process of CUET should allow eligible local students of the region to be enrolled.
- h) Election Duties by drafting a considerable percentage of teachers is detrimental to implementing NEP-2020. Such election duties should be prevented.
- i) Queries sent to the UGC regarding teachers' matters should receive a time-bound response.

9. AUTAs meeting with the Authority on 10th February 2023: A meeting held with the authority on 10/02/2023 at Hemanga Biswas Hall, Administrative Building, discussed and pressed upon several agenda items like:

- a) Clearing CAS applications and conducting CAS interviews on time.
- b) Promotion of research through setting up of cluster-based generators for unperturbed power supply to departments, seed-money for new teachers, timely clearance of files related to externally funded projects, water-supply, access to software like SciFinder, EndNote and many others by teachers and scholars, amongst other topics relevant to research.
- c) Formation of Committees for the monitoring of Safety, Green Audit, maintenance of waste-disposal incinerators, animal ethics committee along with animal houses and others.
- d) Policies against the prevention of disclosure of personal files of Teachers.
- e) New Pension Scheme (NPS) versus Old Pension Scheme (OPS) regarding
- f) Quarters-related issues like safety, installation of cameras and alerting the security to be vigilant.
- g) Funds for organising a Faculty Development Programme (FDP)- regarding
- h) The publication of roster 2020 at the AUS website along with derogatory remarks against teachers' names – the AUTA demanded the removal of the remarks and the names of teachers.
- i) Reimbursement of medical bills in a time-bound and simplified manner.

10. Workshop on NIRF and related NAAC components: A Workshop on NIRF and related NAAC components was organised on 6th September 2022 to create awareness amongst all stakeholders. The AUTA insisted on releasing the SSR report to the stakeholders of Assam University, and it was complied with at the Workshop.

11. Black Badge Day: A Black Badge Day was observed by the members of AUTA on 22nd August 2022 in protest against the unceremonious arrest of our fellow teacher and a College Principal by the Cachar administration.



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12. Anti-plagiarism software: AUTA proposed to have Turnitin's anti-plagiarism software replaced by the UGC-recommended software, URKUND and demanded the authority several times. The matter was discussed and resolved at the Academic Council on 11th April 2023.

13. AUTA Silver Jubilee Celebration: Silver Jubilee Sports Week of AUTA was organised from 20th February to 22nd February 2023, where fraternity members participated in many sports events. As a part of AUTA's Silver Jubilee Celebration, the Association organised a heart care Workshop to promote awareness under the caption, "Walking Our Way Towards A Healthy Heart", on 13th April 2023. Doctors and experts from the Heart Care Society of Assam (HCSA), Barak Valley Chapter and Green Heals Hospital, Silchar, along with some of our teachers and doctor from our Health Centre, delivered lectures and presentations to sensitise our teachers about heart care. A team of twelve external doctors and technicians from the HCSA, and Green Heals Hospital, Silchar, conducted free Health Check-ups of about sixty teachers on 11th May 2023 at the AUS Health Centre.

Other than that, a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) was initiated in collaboration with the Department of Education (AUS). The FDP is aimed at involving the various disciplines to benefit our fraternity. Funding agencies have been approached for the same.

Concerns related to the progress of the initiatives taken by AUTA require persuasion and vigilant monitoring that will now be forged ahead with renewed vigour by the new Executive Committee of AUTA.

Long Live AUTA!
Long Live Teachers' Unity!

General Secretary, AUTA