

- (ii) Three years Degree Course with Annual System of Examination.

Since 1993 the University had switched over to the Three Years Integrated Degree Course with Annual System of Examination and provision for movement to the Second or Third Year even without clearing the concerned examination and with the added provision for backing papers in one or all failed papers.

In the implementation of this built-in system, it is observed that the system has a great number of problems which cannot be easily overcome inspite of great efforts. It is also observed that the provision for automatic promotion does not seem in any way to be helping candidates because of the fact that the system provides unlimited backlog. Perhaps this is amply proved by the drastic drop in the performance of the candidates as per the facts of the results.

Seized by these apparent and inherent academic as well as administrative problems as also the changed scenario of the +2 stage, having been delinked from the University system, it was considered appropriate to think afresh of the system. The University, accordingly constituted a broad based committee, to look into the existing system and to suggest ways and means of improving it in the interest of every one.

The Committee, so appointed, in its meetings considered all possible aspects of the problems much in detail and came up with recommendations which are appended in the annexure for consideration of the Academic Council.

The basic points of consideration of the Committee were that the University should adopt a system that would provide greater number of teaching days while enabling the candidates to be more serious in their studies. The committee further felt that while the system should contain these two main aspects, it should also be workable, less cumbersome and acceptable by other institutions.

With these points in mind, the Committee after much thought and deliberations strongly recommended the adoption of the Three Year Degree Course with Part I Examination at the end of the Second Year, covering the

present two years course and Part II Examinations at the end of Third Year, covering the present Third Year Degree Course without backlog facilities and with Improvement facilities only on the successful completion of the Course. The details of the working system, proposed by the Committee are in the Annexure 'A'.

The matter was deliberated in the 54th Academic Council meeting held on 21st. and 22nd. Nov., 1996. The Council considered the introduction of a Two-Part System of Examination for the Three Year Degree Course and RESOLVED that the Two Part System of Examination may be introduced with effect from the next academic session and the academic and Examination system should be so structured that sufficient number of teaching days are available to the students and also that they are enabled to be more serious, internal test/ promotion test to be conducted by the College after the end of the first year and at the end of the second year Part I University examinations will be held.

The Council, further RESOLVED that:

- a) Under the proposed system, candidates will be allowed to appear for the Part II Examination only after having cleared all the papers of the Part I Examination.
- b) A candidate failing in not more than two papers will be allowed to appear in the failed paper(s) as non collegiate.
- c) Candidates, failing in more than two papers will be required to appear in all the papers as a regular or non-collegiate candidate as the concerned college may permit.
- d) A candidate will be required to clear Three year Degree Course within a span of 5 years, failing which, he/she will be required to take readmission in the first year.
- e) In order to ensure sufficient number of teaching days, Third Year Classes shall provisionally commence by the Second Monday of April after the University Examinations of the Year. In the event of a candidate failing in the Part I Examination, his/her provisional classes shall be discontinued and fromal admission of these candidates passing in the Part I Examination shall be finalised.
- f) The Second Year classes shall commence from the First Monday of April of the Year.
- g) The First Year Classes shall commence from the First Monday of July of the Year.
- h) The Examination department shall bring out all its results by 31st. May of the Year.
- i) The Examination Department of the University shall constitute a Monitoring Committee with the Principals as the contact persons, to regularly monitor the evaluation process and to ensure timely publications of the results within stipulated dates.

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- n) No forfeiture condition shall be applied to the candidates choosing to go for improvement but better of the whole shall be taken into account for the determination of the results of such candidates and certificates issued to such candidates shall carry the year during which he/she improved only.
- o) In case of improvement, the original marsheet and the marksheet of the improved examination shall both be given to the concerned candidates. However, in case of the Marksheets of the improved examination, the fact shall be clearly indicated.
- p) Dropping of Honours(Major) shall not be allowed beyond the Part -'I' Examination.

- The Council, further RESOLVED that other examination matters as follows:

- a) Unless prompted by grave necessity, too frequent changes in the syllabi should be avoided as it leads to a number of other associated problems and the syllabi once framed should as far as practicable stay at least five years.
- b) The reference books prescribed for a Course should be books that are more available than not.
- c) The Examination Department may make greater efforts through the Principals of the concerned Colleges in getting more teachers involved in the various works of examination.

The matter is placed before the Executive Council for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXAMINATION REFORMS COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 9th OCTOBER AND 6th NOVEMBER 1996.

Since 1993 admissions the University had gone for the three years integrated Degree Course with the following built-in systems:-

- a) Annual system of examinations.
- b) A candidate could go to the Second Year or Third year without clearing the previous examinations.
- c) A candidate could repeat the backlog papers of the First Year or Second Year during the Second Year or Third Year Examinations.
- d) A candidate could change or drop his/her Major during the currency of the First and Second Year Courses.
- e) A candidate could go for improvement on successful completion of the course if he/she secured less than 45%.

Over the last three years innumerable problems have been faced by the University, the Colleges and also by the candidates due to the present systems. A few of the major problems faced are listed below:-

- a) The percentage of pass has drastically dropped in the various examinations. What used to be in the 40 to 50% range has dropped to 15 to 25% range.
- b) The University, as also the Colleges, have been finding it difficult to serialise and categorise the various categories of candidates for the examinations. Some colleges even had to tackle with 50/60 categories of application forms.
- c) The number of teaching days available for the first year of the Degree Course is inadequate due to the inevitability of the late publications of the Pre-Degree results. With the +2 stage being delinked from the University system, there would be more uncertainties about the publication of the said results.
- d) Almost insurmountable amount of problems have been faced while finalising the results specially due to the backlog papers.
- e) Much delays in the finalisation of results have been experienced because of the backlog papers.

- f) For the candidates appearing in backlog papers, separate marksheets had to be issued, which would come to even nine different marksheets.
- g) As a result of (f) above some universities have expressed their inability to consider the marksheets given in piecemeal. They have instead asked for consolidated marksheets, which, under the present system is not possible.
- h) Printing of exact number of confidential papers have become difficult, resulting in possible shortfalls/excesses or even omissions.
- i) The Examination Time Table spreads over too long a period cutting into the precious limited teaching days.
- j) The Candidates do not seem to be benefitting from the existing backlog provisions as seen from the low performance in various examination results. They seem to be living on the false hope that they can give better performance in the subsequent combined examinations which is more often than not disproved by the poorer performance at the subsequent examinations. Perhaps a candidate who cannot do well in 4/5 papers of the First Year cannot be expected to do better in the combined examinations consisting of 9/10 papers in the Second Year and worse still in the Third Year combined examinations consisting of 14/18 papers.

In an effort to find some feasible solutions to the above aching problems, the University had constituted a broad based Examination Reforms Committee consisting of the following members:

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| 1.  | Prof. S.N. Dhat                  | Chairman |
| 2.  | Prof. A.C. Sinna                 | Member   |
| 3.  | Prof. A.K. Baruah                | Member   |
| 4.  | Prof. S.S. Anare                 | Member   |
| 5.  | Prof. N. Malla                   | Member   |
| 6.  | Principal, St. Anthony's College | Member   |
| 7.  | Principal, Lady Keane College    | Member   |
| 8.  | Principal, Women's College       | Member   |
| 9.  | Principal, Synod College         | Member   |
| 10. | Shri D. Choudanury, SAC          | Member   |
| 11. | Shri S. Marbanlang, SAC          | Member   |

12. Sri B.C.Goswami, SC member
13. Sri A.S.Chakraborty, SAC member
14. Dr.A.Patton, COE member/Secy.

The above committee met on 9th October and 6th November and after discussing threadbare the present system and the problems experienced with it made the following recommendations:

- a) That in the light of the changed scenario of the +2 stage, having been delinked from the University system and the same being out of its control and the problems experienced, the University will have to think afresh of its academic and examination systems to ensure that the students at the degree level have sufficient opportunities in the attainment of their academic goals.
- b) That the academic and examination system should be so structured that sufficient number of teaching days are available to the students and also that they are enabled to be more serious.

In pursuit of the above, the committee after much thought and deliberations is of the strong opinion that the university should adopt the Three Year Degree Course with Part I Examination at the end of the Second Year, covering the present 'Two Years' Courses and Part II Examination at the end of the Third Year, covering the present 'Third Year Course with provision for upward movement only after clearance of the concerned examination and with improvement facility only on the successful completion of the Course. Some of the details proposed for implementation towards improvement are:

- a) Under the proposed system, candidates will be allowed to appear for the Part II Examination only after having cleared all the papers of the Part I Examination.
- b) A candidate failing in not more than two papers will be allowed to appear in the failed paper(s) as non-collegiate.
- c) Candidates, failing in more than two papers, will be required to appear in all the papers as a regular or non-collegiate candidate as the concerned college may permit.

- d) A candidate will be required to clear Three Year Degree Course within a span of 5 (five) years, failing which, he/she will be required to take readmission in the first year.
- e) In order to ensure sufficient number of teaching days, Third Year classes shall provisionally commence by the second Monday of April after the University Examinations of the year. In the event of a candidate failing in the Part I Examination, his/her provisional classes shall be discontinued and formal admission of those candidates passing in the Part I Examination shall be finalised.
- f) The Second Year classes shall commence from the First Monday of April of the Year.
- g) The First Year classes shall commence from the First Monday of July of the year.
- h) The Examination department shall bring out all its results by 31st May of the year.
- i) The Examination Department of the University shall constitute a Monitoring Committee with the Principals as the contact persons, to regularly monitor the evaluation process and to ensure timely publications of the results within stipulated dates.
- j) The Examination Department shall work out a suitable format for issue of Comprehensive marksheet on the completion of the Course and do away with piecemeal marksheets.
- k) For the general candidates, the facility for improvement shall be extended to persons securing less than 45% in aggregate in one of the elective subjects concerned. If eligible, the candidate shall have to appear in all the papers of the concerned subject, irrespective of the marks obtained in each paper.
- l) For the major candidates, the facility for improvement shall be extended to persons securing less than 45% in aggregate in the five core major papers. If eligible, such candidates shall have to appear in all the five core major papers irrespective of the marks obtained in each paper.
- m) Candidates, choosing to go for improvement, shall be eligible for division if he/she improves in the aggregate only, for which the marks obtained in the other papers of the previous examination shall be taken into account. Such candidates shall however, not be eligible for making.

- n) no forfeiture condition shall be applied to the candidates, choosing to go for improvement but better of the whole shall be taken into account for the determination of the results of such candidates and certificates issued to such candidates shall carry the year during which he/she improved only.
- o) in case of improvement, the original marksheet and the marksheet of the improved examination shall both be given to the concerned candidates. However, in case of the marksheet of the improved examination, the fact shall be clearly indicated.
- p) Dropping of honours (major) shall not be allowed beyond the Part I Examination.

The committee further discussed other examination matters towards improvement of the system and made the following recommendations:

- a) Unless prompted by grave necessity, too frequent changes in the syllabi should be avoided as it leads to a number of other associated problems and the syllabi once framed should as far as practicable stay for at least five years.
- b) The reference books prescribed for a Course should be books that are more available than not.
- c) The examination department may make greater efforts through the Principals of the concerned colleges in getting more teachers involved in the various works of examination.

These recommendations may be placed before the forthcoming Academic Council for consideration and approval.

(Prof. S. N. Dhat)  
Chairman

(Dr. A. Patton)  
Member/Secretary

The Council, further considered the index point for determining the literacy level and RESOLVED that the percentage of the literacy level for backward areas for the Vice-Chancellor's Discretionary Quota for Post-Graduate admission may be taken at the Block Level and be certified by the Deputy Commissioner/District Collectors of the concerned District.

The Council, further considered the nomination of students by the Central Government and RESOLVED that the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development may be taken as the appropriate authority for making such nominations.

The Council, further considered the Clause on reservation for the employees with All India Transfer Liability and RESOLVED that the Clause may be read as "Children of Employees with All India Transfer Liability excluding private organisations" and the nominations for such cases will be the Department of Personnel, Ministry of Home Affairs.

(ii) Three Year Degree Course with Annual System of Examination.

No:EC:91:96:5:5: (ii): The Council considered the introduction of a Two part System of Examination for the Three Year Degree Course and RESOLVED that the Two Part System of Examination may be introduced with effect from the next academic session and the academic and Examination System should be so structured that sufficient number of teaching days are available to the students and also that they are enabled to be more serious, internal test/promotion test to be conducted by the College after the end of the first year and at the end of the second year Part-I University Examinations will be held.

The Council, further RESOLVED that :

- a) under the proposed system, candidates will be allowed to appear for the Part-II Examination only after having cleared all the papers of the Part-I Examination.
- b) A candidate failing in not more than two papers will be allowed to appear in the failed paper(s) as a non-collegiate.

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- (c) Candidates failing in more than two papers will be required to appear in all the papers as a regular or non-collegiate candidate as the concerned College may permit.
- (d) A candidate will be required to clear Three Year Degree Course within a span of 5 years, failing which, he/she will be required to take readmission in the first year.
- (e) In order to ensure sufficient number of teaching days Third Year Classes shall provisionally commence by the second Monday of April after the University Examinations of the year. In the event of a candidate failing in the Part-I Examination, his/her provisional classes shall be discontinued and formal admission of those candidates passing in the Part-I examination shall be finalised.
- (f) The Second Year Classes shall commence from the first Monday of April of the year.
- (g) The First Year Classes shall commence from the First Monday of July of the year.
- (h) The Examination Department shall bring out all its results by 31st of May of the year.
- (i) The Examination Department of the University shall constitute a Monitoring Committee with the Principals as the contact persons to regularly monitor the evaluation process and to ensure timely publications of the results within stipulated dates.
- (j) The Examination Department shall work out a suitable format for issue of Comprehensive Marksheet on the completion of the Course and do away with piecemeal marksheets.
- (k) For the general candidates, the facility for improvement shall be extended to persons securing less than 45% in aggregate in one of the elective subjects concerned. If eligible, the candidate shall have to appear in all the papers of the concerned subject, irrespective of the marks obtained in each paper.
- (l) For the Major candidates, the facility for improvement shall be extended to persons securing less than 45% in aggregate in the five core Major papers. If eligible, such candidates shall have to appear in all the five core Major papers irrespective of the marks obtained in each paper.
- (m) Candidates choosing to go for improvement, shall be eligible for division if he/she improve in the aggregate only, for which the marks obtained in the other papers of the previous examinations shall be taken into account. Such candidates shall, however not be eligible for ranking.

- (n) No forfeiture condition shall be applied to the candidates choosing to go for improvement but better of the whole shall be taken into account for the determination of the results of such candidates and certificates issued to such candidates shall carry the year during which he/she improved only.
- (o) In case of improvement, the original marksheet and the marksheet of the improved examination shall both be given to the concerned candidates. However, in case of the Marksheets of the improved examination, the fact shall be clearly indicated.
- (p) Dropping of Honour (Major) shall not be allowed beyond the Part - I Examination.

The Council, further RESOLVED that other examination matters as follows:

- (a) Unless prompted by grave necessity, too frequent changes in the syllabi should be avoided as it leads to a number of other associated problems and the syllabi once framed should as far as practicable stay at least five years.
- (b) The reference books prescribed for a Course should be books that are more available than not.
- (c) Examination Department may make greater efforts through the Principals of the concerned Colleges in getting more teachers involved in the various works of examination.

(iii) Meghalaya College Teachers' Association agitation and its effect on NEHU Examinations.

No. EC:91 : 96:5:5(iii): The Council considered the impact on the University's examinations due to the Meghalaya College Teachers' Association agitation and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to take all necessary steps so that the examination works are not hampered.

5 : 6 : - ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DEPTTS/CENTRES/COURSES -

(i) Introduction of M.A. in Mizo.

No. EC:91:96:5:6: (i) : The Council considered the introduction of M.A. in Mizo vis-a-vis the letter from the Chairperson, University Grants Commission and RESOLVED that the Courses may be started in Mizoram Campus by appointing teachers on contract for a fixed period with six months' notice for termination on either side the appointment should cease on the setting up of the Mizoram University.