DECEMBER 2022

REPORT ON NEP IMPLEMENTATION
GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

NEP 2020
RESOLUTIONS OF VCS' MEET

NEP
GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

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Implementation of National Education Policy (NEP 2020) in HEIs of Assam

Resolutions of VCs' Meet held at
Gauhati University on 28 November, 2022

Core Comittee
NEP Implementation Cell, Gauhati University

December 12, 2022

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Notes

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1 Implementation Roadmap

It has been unanimously decided that the **NEP 2020** will be implemented in all Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) of Assam from the Academic Session 2023-24 starting from August 2023. Essentially, this will start the beginning of the Four Year Undergraduate Bachelor Degree Programme (FYUGP) in all colleges and universities under the state jurisdiction from August 2023. All the subsequent programmes, which are necessary for the progression will be implemented.

Note

- *Madhabdev University has already started the **NEP 2020**-based FYUGP from the current academic session i.e. from 2022-23.*

- *Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management and Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University will implement the **NEP 2020**-based programmes only if the necessary infrastructure are in place on time.*

2 Common Course Structure

A Common Course Framework (CCF) for the FYUGP has been agreed upon with following salient features:

- The basic structure of the FYUGP will be as per the broad structure in line with the UGC's Draft Curriculum for the same. A schematic representation of the same is shown in Fig.1.

- Each year will have two semesters with total of 6 semesters for a Bachelor Degree after 3 years (with / without Major / Minor) and 8 semesters for a Bachelor Degree with Honours (or by Research) after 4 years.

- The total credit allocation to be **176** for the FYUGP with an allocation of **22** credits per semester, divided equally among the semesters. For a 3-year Bachelor Degree, the credit allocation will be **132**.

- However, for sports & other specialised universities / institutions, including Open and Distance Learning (ODL) institutions, the total credit allocation may be between **160** and **176**. In case the credit allocation is **160**, the credit allocation per semester will be **20** instead of **22**. If the credit allocation is in between **160** and **176**, the credit / semester will be equally divided accordingly.

- There will be multiple entries and exits as recommended in the UGC Draft Curriculum (see the Progression Diagram in Fig.2.).

- Admission to the FYUGP will be based on allotment of Major-leading subjects at the 1st Semester with an option to change the Major subject in 3rd Semester, subject to availability of seats.
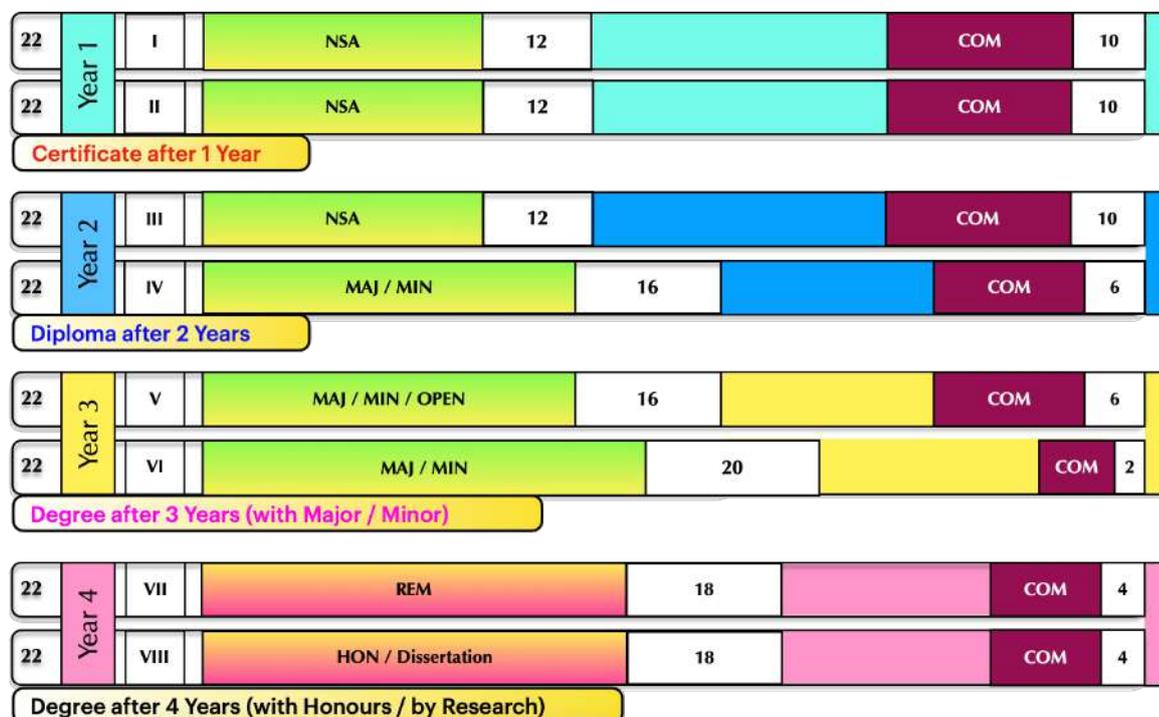

Figure 1: Broad FYUGP structure. The numbers indicate credits.

2.1 Legends & Explanation

- NSA : (*a*) Natural Science, (*b*) Social Science, Commerce, & Law, (*c*) Arts & Humanities

- COM : Common Courses including Internship and Vocational Courses

- MAJ : Major

- MIN : Minor

- REM : Research Methodology

- HON : Honours

- Open : Free course

It is to be noted that as per UGC's Draft Curriculum for FYUGP, till 3rd Semester, there will NOT be any declaration of either Major or Minor. These declaration will be made by the student only at the beginning of the 4th Semester. During these first three semesters, all students will study, basically from, two groups – (1) Group 1 : NSA group and (2) Group 2 : Common Group.

Further, in Group 1, there will be three subgroups

- **Natural Science** (comprising of all science & technology – STEM subjects such as Physics, Chemistry, Zoology, Botany, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Biotechnology etc.),

- **Social Science, Commerce, & Law** (comprising of all social science subjects like Sociology, Political Science, Economics, Psychology etc. including Commerce & Management and Law), and

- **Arts & Humanities** (comprising of all subjects like Assamese, English, Sanskrit, Bodo, History, Philosophy, Foreign Languages etc.)

In our case, we call the **Group 1** as the **NSA Group** (as shown in the Fig.1). It should however be noted that in the UGC's Draft Curriculum for FYUGP, the second sub-group i.e. Social Science Sub-Group does **NOT** mention Commerce & Management and Law. But, in view of present academic diversity of HEIs of Assam, we have included Commerce & Management and Law in the Social Science Sub-Group.

Group 2 contains all other common courses including Vocational Courses, Internship, Field Works etc. as prescribed in the Draft Curriculum.
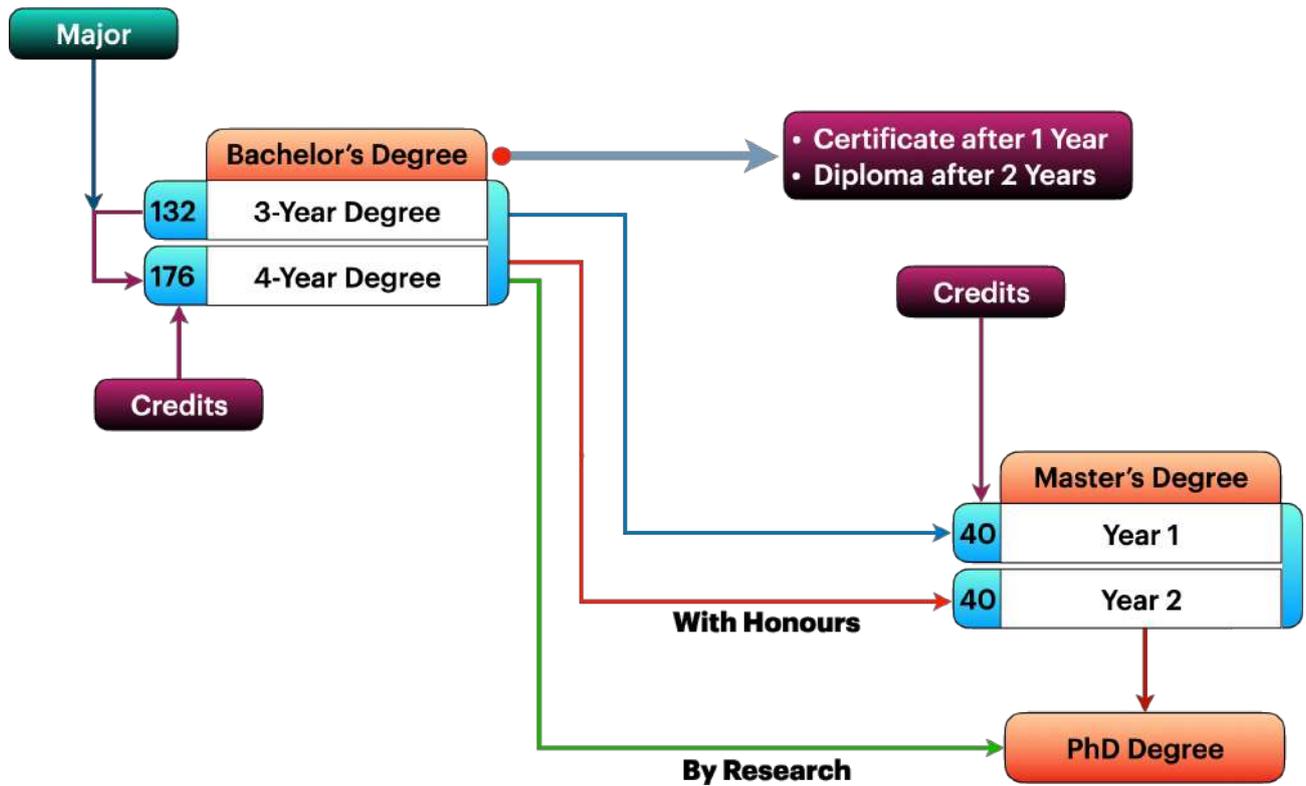
2.1.1 Progression

Figure 2: Progression of programs under FYUGP.

3 Credit & Grade System

- Credit & Grade system will be as given in the UGC's Draft Curriculum (see Fig.3).

- The procedure will also allow transfer of credits through Academic Bank of Credits (ABC).

- Regarding the transfer of credits and lateral entries & exists, it has been agreed upon that a maximum of 40% of total credits for a degree should be allowed to be transferred. A student will thus require to earn a minimum of 60% of the total credits from the degree-awarding institution.

- Modalities for lateral exits & entries are to be fixed by individual HEIs as per suitability. Certificates & Diplomas earned at the lateral exit points will act as qualifying criteria for lateral entries, related to the subjects concerned.

Letter Grade	Comment	Grade Point
O	Outstanding	10
A+	Excellent	9
A	Very Good	8
B+	Good	7
B	Above Average	6
C	Average	5
P	Pass	4
F	Fail	0
Ab	Absent	0

Figure 3: Proposed Credit & Grade system.

3.1 SGPA & CGPA

For calculation of the Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), the following formulæ are adopted as given in the Draft Curriculum.

$$SGPA\,(S_i) \;=\; \frac{\sum C_i \times G_i}{\sum C_i},$$
$$CGPA \;=\; \frac{\sum C_i \times S_i}{\sum C_i},$$

where C_i and G_i are respectively credit and grade point of the ith paper.

4 Common Academic Calendar

For seamless integration through the ABC, it has been felt that a Common Academic Calendar (CAC) is a requirement. Keeping this in view it has been decided to agree upon a CAC. The tentative calendar is shown in Fig.4, with the following provisions:

- **June 16** to **July 31** will be **Summer Term**, which may be utilised by the students for internship / summer courses.

- Duration of a semester is **6** (six) months.

Figure 4: Common Academic Calendar (CAC).

5 Adopting Digital Enablement

As digital enablement is an integral part of the NEP, it was decided that all the Universities / Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in Assam will agree to the following points:

- Creation of Digital Course & Resources Repository in the Higher Educational Institutions.

- Such repositories will be made available to the entire academic community through unrestricted digital access.

- At the same time, the digital infrastructure in the HEIs needs to be upgraded for digital empowerment. All institutions thus have put stress on the fact that the Government should start providing these infrastructure facilities to the HEIs as and when needed.

- All the HEIs will start the process of creation of digital study material at their own pace, for the greater benefit of the student community.

6 MOOCs Modalities

As MOOC is envisioned as the next-generation tool for students to empower themselves with high-quality study material, all the HEIs agrees on the following modalities.

- A Maximum of one course (i.e. paper) through MOOCs may be offered per semester.

- Each institution will identify and prescribe quality MOOCs paper to facilitate choices as per suitability.

- Every MOOCs course offered by an institution will have its own faculty coordinator.

7 Policy on Self-Financed Courses

As in the course of implementation of the **NEP 2020**, it is envisioned that from time to time the HEIs will have to introduce new courses, many of which may be for a limited period of time. Subsequently, it will be highly beneficial if the HEIs can introduce such courses without any financial burden on themselves as well as on the Government. As such, all the institutions, in principle, agree to the following:

- Universities & Colleges may introduce Self-Financed courses as and when required with reasonable fee structure.

8 Guest / Contractual / Tenure-Track Positions

From the discussion, it has been quite clear that additional teaching faculties are required in all Universities / HEIs to impart teaching-learning, especially for the NEP-based academic structure, which is innovative, specialised, vocation-oriented, and skill-based courses. State Government should initiate provisions for Guest / Contractual / Tenure-Track faculty positions with dignified salary / remuneration pattern as given below.

- Suggested remuneration for Guest Faculty may be a minimum of ₹1500 per one-hour class.

- Suggested remuneration for Contractual Faculty positions may be as per entry-level basic pay of the UGC pay structure.

- Suggested remuneration for Tenure-Track Faculty positions may be equivalent to the full salary for that respective position.

9 Common Entrance Test (CET)

Regarding the possibility of introduction of a Common Entrance Test (CET) for both UG and PG admissions, after adequate deliberations and discussions, all the HEIs unanimously agreed to the following:

- At present, for both the UG / PG admissions, the existing admission processes should continue. The Universities /HEIs will conduct independent institution-wise entrance test.

- The introduction of a Common Entrance Test (CET) to be taken up for implementation in due course of time.

- An Inter-University (State of Assam) committee is constituted to further explore the modalities for conducting the CET (for PG) with members from the following universities:
  1. Gauhati University (Convenor)
  2. Dibrugarh University
  3. Bodoland University
  4. Cotton University
  5. Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit & Ancient Studies University

10 Framing of Syllabi

As the ABC is an integral part of the NEP framework, for a meaningful implementation of the same at least a common skeleton syllabus for each programme *must* be developed by the HEIs and agreed upon. To this effect, the following points have been emphasised for de-centralisation of the syllabus framing procedure.

- A basic minimum skeleton structure for syllabi have to be agreed upon, which should ONLY be suggestive.

- Individual autonomy of an institution MUST be maintained while framing such syllabi.

- The syllabus-framing procedure will take into account the feedbacks from all academic stakeholders after due drafting at the institutional level, following which it will be adopted for implementation.

- Individual universities and autonomous colleges will go for curriculum development to be completed by March 2023. The syllabi for skill and vocational courses may be formulated by the respective HEIs (for de-centralised syllabus framing).

11 Facilitation

11.1 Facility Creation

- Facility creation for capacity building in terms of Physical infrastructure and Human resources is of utmost importance for efficient implementation NEP-2020 provisions.

- The Government of Assam is requested to conduct an exercise to identify institution-wise requirements and make suitable budget provisions in the state budget. Especially, requirements (infrastructure and human resource) of all the colleges and universities to be addressed prior to the implementation of the NEP-2020 from the session 2023-2024.

- The Government MUST facilitate additional manpower to the HEIs based on assessment of the requirements.

11.2 Cluster Institutions & Student Intake

1. In the first phase, there may be academic clustering of colleges, based on identified courses so that the **NEP 2020** can be implemented fruitfully in its true sense.

2. Existing vacant faculty positions in the HEIs needs to be filled up on an urgent basis. Also new faculty positions should be created to meet the requirement for enhancement of the GER.

3. Initially, the HEIs may consider an enhancement of student intake capacity by a minimum of 10%.

4. HEIs may allow dual degree / dual major, wherever feasible.

5. Universities will also evolve a suitable mechanism for designing and offering Joint Degrees.

12 Attendees

1. Advisor, Education to Government of Assam
2. Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University (Chairperson)
3. Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University
4. Vice Chancellor, Cotton University
5. Vice Chancellor, Bodoland University
6. Vice Chancellor, Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit & Ancient Studies University
7. Vice Chancellor, KKHSOU, Guwahati
8. Vice Chancellor, Bhattadev University
9. Vice Chancellor, Madhabdev University
10. Vice Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University
11. Vice Chancellor, Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management
12. Vice Chancellor, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University
13. Vice Chancellor, Birangana Sati Sadhani Rajyik Vishwavidyalaya
14. Representatives from Assam Agricultural University
15. Representatives from Assam Science and Technology University
16. Representatives from Assam Women's University
17. Dr. Hemanta Kr. Nath, Registrar, Gauhati University
18. Principal, Nowgong College (Autonomous)
19. Principal, Jagannath Barua College (Autonomous)
20. Principal, North Lakhimpur College (Autonomous)
21. Principal, Arya Vidyapeeth College (Autonomous)
22. Principal, Sibsagar College (Autonomous)
23. Prof. M.P. Bezborua (GU)
24. Prof. Madhurjya P. Bora (GU)
25. Prof. Ganesh Wari (CU)
26. Prof. Asha Kuthari Choudhuri (GU)
27. Prof. Sikhar Kr. Sarma (GU)
28. Prof. Bibhas Choudhury (GU)
29. Prof. Parag Phukan (GU)

30. Prof. Akhil Ranjan Dutta (GU)

31. Prof. Partha Pratim Baruah (GU)

32. Prof. Rajib Handique (GU)

33. Prof. Tulshi Bezboruah (GU)

34. Prof. Dwipen Bezbaruah (GU)

35. Prof. Bhaben Tanti (GU)

36. Dr. Chandan Sarma (DU)

37. Prof. Ratul Mahanta (GU)

38. Prof. Utpal sarma (GU)

39. Prof. Dandhadhar Sarma

40. Prof. Sudeshna Bhattacharjya (GU)

41. Prof. Dhrubajyoti Saharia (GU)

42. Prof. Jagadish Sarma (GU)

43. Prof. Chandana Sarma (GU)

Glossary

ABC stands for **A**cademic **B**ank of **C**redits, which is an initiative of Ministry of Education, Government of India, aims to facilitate transfer of credits among different academic institutions.. 5, 9, 10, 14

CAC stands for **C**ommon **A**cademic **C**alendar, to be adopted by all HEIs of Assam.. 10

CCF stands for **C**ommon **C**ourse **F**ramework.. 7

CET stands for proposed **C**ommon **E**ntrance **T**est, to be adopted by all HEIs for possible UG / PG admissions in the State of Assam.. 13

CGPA stands for **C**umulative **G**rade **P**oint **A**verage – the average grade points a student obtains over all the semesters in a programme.. 3, 9

Cluster Institutions is a proposed concept where a group of HEIs will form a common academic enitity usually created for common resource sharing.. 15

COM stands for Common Courses including vocational courses and internships.. 7

FYUGP stands for Four-Year Undergraduate Programme.. 3, 6–8

HEI stands for **H**igher **E**ducation **I**nstitution.. 1, 3–16

HON stands for Honours subjects.. 7

MAJ stands for Major subjects.. 7

MIN stands for Minor subjects.. 7

MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Courses (also used as MOOCs).. 3, 11

NEP 2020 stands for **N**ational **E**ducation **P**olicy 2020.. 1, 3–16

NSA is a larger group of three subgroups – (*i*) **N**atural Science, (*ii*) **S**ocial Science, Commerce, & Law, and (*ii*) **A**rts & Humanities.. 7

PG stands for Postgraduate - usually an academic programme enrolled after a bachelor degree.. 5, 13

REM stands for Research Methodology.. 7

Self-Financing is an academic programme, for which all necessary funds will be generated by an HEI, entirely out of students' fee.. 5

SGPA stands for **S**emester **G**rade **P**oint **A**verage – the average grade points a student obtains in a semseter.. 3, 9

Summer Term is a period in an academic calendar, meant for a student, to do certain academic works, related to the programme.. 10

UG stands for Undergraduate - usually an acdemic programme below the degree of masters.. 5, 8, 9, 12, 13