

INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORT

(DHANAMANJURI UNIVERSITY)

The report of the Internal Committee of the Constituent Colleges of Dhanamanjuri University constituted vide Order dated 22nd February, 2020.

INTRODUCTION

Dhanamanjuri University is established/created by the Dhanamanjuri University Act, 2017 passed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly out of the five pre-existing cluster colleges of DMC of Arts, DMC of Commerce, DMC of Science, GPW College and LMS Law College. The Clause 2 and 4 of the Act clearly defined the jurisdiction of the university over these colleges and transfer of assets and liabilities, properties, infrastructure, rights etc of these colleges to the Dhanamanjuri University. Implicit in the provision of Clause 2 and 4 of the Act is that onus of responsibilities for administration and management for better academic atmosphere and standard of excellence also lies with the University. The Clause 3 © of the Act also states that “Constituent College” means Dhanamanjuri College of Science, Dhanamanjuri College of Arts, Dhanamanjuri College of Commerce, G.P. Women’s College and L.M.S. Law College located at Imphal. Thus, the Committee is of the opinion that the Dhanamanjuri University is constituted of these five pre-existing colleges. In other words, they are integral component of the University. As such the status of constituent colleges should be definitely different from that of the affiliating college.

Unlike Manipur University, Dhanamanjuri University is created from a cluster of colleges, which means the University has its own colleges to administer and manage. It is against the backdrop that the report is prepared. The report assumes the federal as well as integrated system of Dhanamanjuri University without affecting the basic features of the University. Committee views that Dhanamanjuri University is an integrated university consisting of undergraduate and post-graduate level components.

In this report,

‘Act’ means the Dhanamanjuri University Act – 2017

‘Statute’ means a Statute of the University laid down in the Second Schedule of the Act.

‘the University’ means the Dhanamanjuri University.

‘the Committee’ means the Internal Committee of the Constituent Colleges of Dhanamanjuri University vide order dated 22nd February 2020.

GENERAL STRUCTURE: A GLIMPSE OF

1. Dhanamanjuri University is a body corporate constituted of the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor and the members of the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and the College Development Council of the University [Vide, section 4 (1) and (2) of the Act].
2. The following are the Authorities of the University
 - i) the Senate
 - ii) the Syndicate
 - iii) the Academic Council
 - iv) the School of Studies
 - v) the Finance Committee [vide, section 15 of the Act]

Highlights

- i) Section 16 (2) of the Act highlights the powers and functions of the Senate; and section 10 (i) of the Statute highlights the composition of the Senate.
- ii) The Syndicate shall be the principal executive body of the University and shall be in charge of the general management and administration [vide, section 17 (1) and (2) of the Act]. The composition of Syndicate is highlighted under section 12 (i) of the Statute.
- iii) The Academic Council shall be the principal academic body of the University and shall exercise supervision over the academic policies of the University [Vide, section 18 (1) of the Act]. The section 14 (i) and section 15 of the Statute highlight the composition; powers and functions of the Academic Council respectively.

Observations and suggestion

- i) The College Development Council is not an authority of the University .
- ii) There is an obvious ambiguity in declaring 'school of studies' as authorities of the University. Because each Department comes under a School of Studies and therefore the Schools of Studies comprise of all the teachers of all the Departments that is practically all the teachers of the University. Hence, the ambiguity. Such an ambiguity was there in the Manipur University Act 1980 (State Gazette) which has been displaced by the Manipur University Act 2005 (Central Gazette). In the latter, the School Boards, instead of the School of Studies, are declared as Authorities of the University. It is therefore suggested that

for all practical purposes, the School Boards constituted as per provision of statute 17 (iii) be treated as the authorities implied by the 'School of Studies'.

3. OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY:

The following are the officers of the university as provided under section 13 of the Act; and Statute 9 (i)

- i) Chancellor
- ii) Vice-Chancellor
- iii) Pro-Vice-Chancellor
- iv) Deans of School of Studies
- v) Registrar
- vi) Finance Officer
- vii) Controller of Examinations
- viii) Director, College Development Council
- ix) Librarian (University Librarian)
- x) Dean of Students
- xi) Proctor
- xii) University Engineer
- xiii) *Principals of the constituent colleges*

Comment/Suggestion:

- i) The first five officers are as provided in the section 13 of the Act and the rest as provided in the Statute 9(i)
- ii) The list in Statute 9 (i) does not include 'the Chancellor'. It is important/relevant to mention that provision in the Act is superior to the provisions in the Statutes. A statute can be amended by the Syndicate of the University with the approval of the Chancellor, whereas provisions or sections in the Act shall be amended by the State Legislature
- iii) For administrative convenience and exigency, principals of the constituent colleges be made as officers of the University by virtue of being the

principals of constituent colleges of Dhanamanjuri University. The committee is of the view that making principals of the constituent colleges as officers of the University is essential for smooth conduct of administration of the University. Such step may be taken by making amendment to section 13 of the Act and statute 9 (i).

4. ACADEMIC STRUCTURE

- i) The basic structure of the university is laid down under section 17 of the Statute, which is partially reproduced (only the first two paragraph) below

Statute 17 (i) The University shall have such schools of studies as may be specified in the Ordinances

(ii)(a) Every Schools of Studies (henceforth referred to as the School) shall consists of such Departments as may be assigned to it by the Ordinances.

On the basis of the Schools provided under section 12 (i) of the Statute, the Committee is of the opinion that the following Schools of Studies may be established at present, which may be increased on the basis of availability of the resources, by an ordinance

ii) (b) School of Studies to be established

- i) School of Social Sciences
- ii) School of Humanities
- iii) School of Law
- iv) School of Commerce
- v) School of Life Sciences
- vi) School of Human and Environmental Sciences
- vii) School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences

The power or suggestion for creation and establishment of new departments is implicit in section 15 of the Statute, which is reproduced here for ready reference

Section 15 of the Statute reads “Subject to the provisions of the Act and the Statutes, the Academic Council shall, in addition to all other powers vested in it, have the following powers, duties and functions namely:

- i) To report any matter referred to it by the Senate or the Syndicate
- ii) To make proposals to the syndicate for the establishment of Departments, Colleges, Institutions of higher learning, Special Centres, Specialised Laboratories, Libraries and Museums”

It is also pertinent to note that the Head of a Department is to be appointed by the Syndicate of the University as laid down in the Statute 17 (ii) (c) (i), which is quoted below

“Statute 17 (ii) (c) (i) Each Department shall have a Head who shall be appointed by the Syndicate from amongst the professors, for a period not exceeding two years by rotation;

Provided that where in any Department there is only one Professor, or there is no Professor, the Syndicate may also appoint one of the Associate Professors as the Head of the Department for a period not exceeding two years:

Provided further that the person appointed as the Head of the Department shall hold the office for duration of appointment from the date he is appointed as Head, unless he ceases to be a member of the staff or resigns the headship”.

The crux of the observation is that Departments are statutory organs of the University.

4 (i) Committee Suggestion: The Committee, after due consideration of the feasibility/viability, recommends that the following list of Departments shall be deemed to have been created along with the establishment of the University:

Sl No	Departments (to be accorded statutory status)	To be assigned to
1	Economics	School of Social Science
2	Education	
3	History	
4	Political Science	
5	Defence Studies	

6	Sociology	
7	English	School of Humanities
8	Manipuri/Mizo etc	
9	Philosophy	
10	Hindi	
11	Commerce	School of Commerce
12	Mangement	
13	Law	School of Law
14	Botany	School of Life Sciences
15	Zoology	
16	Anthropology	
17	Environmental Science	School of Human and Environmental Sciences
18	Geography	
19	Geology	
20	Physical Education and Sports	
21	Home Science	
22	Chemistry	School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences
23	Computer Science	
24	Mathematics	
25	Physics	
26	Statistics	
27	Electronics	

[Relevant Ordinance may be passed under section 22 (1) (d) of the Act and Statute 35 (k)]

- ii) Such Department which is accorded statutory status (by way of making relevant Ordinance) will be the Departments of the University. A Department of the University may also be referred to as a University Department, or simply as Department (with the first letter in the u.c.(capital)).
- iii) Henceforth, we shall use the term ‘internal department’ to mean an academic department of a constituent college, as distinct from a Department of the University.
- iv) A Department of the University shall comprise of the respective internal department(s) in the Constituent Colleges. For instance the University Department of Anthropology shall comprise of the internal Department of Anthropology in the DMC of Science. The University Department of English shall comprise of the Internal Departments of English in the DMC of Arts, DMC of Commerce, DMC of Science and GPW College etc.
- v) However, the remaining few departments in the Constituent Colleges, which are not accorded statutory status, may remain as internal departments of the respective college under the supervision of a Dean.

7. Head of Department (HOD)

Statute 17(c)(i) says that each Department shall have a Head (shall be abbreviated as HOD). Further the Statute 17 (c) (ii) states that “the duties and functions of a Head of Department shall be as prescribed by the Ordinances”

Comment: The existing head of the internal departments of the constituent colleges may be called as associate- head, who shall continue to perform previous role, but in coordination with the HOD of the respective departments. In order to enhance the standard of education and with a view to bringing uniformity in the quality and excellence both at the P.G. and U.G. levels, it is pertinent that all the associate-heads of internal departments function under the academic supervision and in coordination with the respective HODs in the matters pertaining to undergraduate level academic function.

8. ADMISSION INTO VARIOUS COURSES

- i) Admission into undergraduate courses in the constituent colleges shall be done under the supervision of Principals of the respective colleges.
- ii) Admission into Post-Graduate level shall be done under the supervision of a committee consisting of Principals of the constituent colleges and HODs of the concerned department of the University in coordination with and consultation with Dean of the respective school of studies. In case of any dispute in the matter

of P.G. admission within the committee, Vice-Chancellor in consultation with Dean of respective School of Studies shall have the final say. Such an arrangement is necessary in view of the fact that the University is at the formative stage and it does not have a full-fledged campus of its own. Its P.G. campuses spread across the constituent colleges. Moreover, at present, most of the departments lack necessary infrastructures. As such admission into P.G. courses may require institutional support. This can be achieved when principals of the constituent colleges are made to involve in the admission process.

- iii) Admission into the Ph.D. programmes shall be processed by the respective HODs under the overall supervision of the respective Dean of the School. Admission into and conduct of the Ph.D. programme should be done as per rules laid down in a Regulation/Ordinance framed under the Statutes. Such a Regulation/Ordinance should incorporate all the UGC guidelines/mandatory norms in the matter.
- 9. For conferring BBA/BCA/MCA/BPES/MPES degrees Ordinance is to be passed first, because these degree are not explicitly listed in Statute 38.
- 10. For awarding Diplomas/Certificates relevant Ordinance is to be made under Statute 38.
- 11. A University Library may be established mainly to cater to the need of postgraduate studies and research. The Library of LMS Law College may be upgraded to cater to the need of post-graduate students, research scholars and faculty members of the School of Law.

12. Dean and HOD:

Relevant provision: Statute 6(i) the Dean of a School shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor for a period not exceeding three years, and s/he shall be eligible for re-appointment. Under Statute 6 (ii) (c) it is laid down that the Head of a Department shall be appointed by the Syndicate for a period not exceeding two years by rotation.

Sl No	Dean	Location
1	School of Social Science	GPWC (South Campus)
2	School of Humanities	DMC Campus
3	School of Law	LMS Law College (East Campus)
4	School of Commerce	DMC Campus
5	School of Life Sciences	GPWC (South Campus)
6	School of Human and Environmental Sciences	DMC Campus
7	School of Mathematical and Physical Science	DMC Campus

*This arrangement can be made until such time a full-fledged P.G. Campus is established.

Such a distribution of the Offices of the Deans is necessary to minimize the danger of isolation and overlooking the importance of a campus. Such a distribution is to prevent the danger of heavy concentration in a particular area.

There is no confusion as to the appointment, term and qualification of a Head of Department of the University, the only vague area; however, is the status of departmental head of the constituent colleges. This can be resolved if the internal departmental heads be termed as Associate-Head and function under the academic supervision of the HOD of the university. For instance, Associate-Head of the Political Science Departments of GPW College and DMC of Arts shall function in coordination with and under the academic supervision of Head Department of Political Science of the University.

For the convenient of administration and better management of the University, the Syndicate may recognize the existing departments of constituent colleges as the internal departments of the University [Relevant provision which can be looked at; Statute 13 dealing with the power of the syndicate]

13. Principals of the Constituent Colleges & the University

Dhanamanjuri University is established/created by the Dhanamanjuri University Act, 2017 passed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly out of the five pre-existing cluster colleges of DMC of Arts, DMC of Commerce, DMC of Science, GPW College and L.M.S. Law College. The Clause 2 and 4 of the Act clearly defined the jurisdiction of the university over these colleges and transfer of assets and liabilities, properties, infrastructure, rights etc of these colleges to Dhanamanjuri University. Implicit in the provision of Clause 2 and 4 of the Act is that responsibility for administration and management for better academic atmosphere and standard of excellence also lies with the University. The Clause 3 (c) of the Act also states that “Constituent College” means Dhanamanjuri College of Science, Dhanamanjuri College of Arts, Dhanamanjuri College of Commerce, G.P. Women’s College and L.M.S. Law College located at Imphal. Thus, the Committee is of the opinion that the Dhanamanjuri University is constituted of these five pre-existing colleges. In other words, they are integral component of the University. As such the status of constituent colleges should be definitely different from that of the affiliating college(s).

Unlike Manipur University, Dhanamanjuri University is created from a cluster of colleges, which means the University has its own colleges to administer and manage. In this context, principals of the constituent colleges can be considered as a bridge connecting the U.G. and P.G. or the University and the college authorities. It would be convenient if such a bridge exists.

It would be fit and most convenient if all the Principals of the constituent colleges are made members of the Senate. This will help in terms of coordination and synergy between the University authority and the constituent colleges which represent its integral part. The Statute under section 10 (ee) (ff) does not mention about the Principals of constituent colleges. Statute 10 (ee)(ff) confers membership of Senate to the seven principals of affiliating degree colleges of Arts, Science and Commerce;

and all Principals of Medical, Veterinary, Agriculture, Engineering, Dance, Music, Arts and Law affiliated to the University.

About the members of Syndicate, the section 12 (j) of the Statute says “three Heads of Constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and other institutions associated with the University” shall be members of Syndicate. This may be increased to five heads of the constituent colleges. This may be done through amendment of the Statute by the Syndicate.

It may be noted that the status of the Principals of constituent colleges and of the Dean does not overlap. The Statute is very clear about the power and functions of a Dean. Principals and Deans are separate entities. The powers and functions of Deans are confined to his or her particular school of studies in terms of admission to M.Phil (if any) and Ph. D. and **shall be responsible for the conduct and standard of teaching and research in the School (section 6(ii) of the Statute)**. And that of the principals are confined to their respective colleges. (**Relevant provision section 6(i)(ii)(iii) of the Statute**)

14. College Development Council (CDC):

This institution is crucial for development of colleges and to enhance knowledge and standard of academic excellence not for the constituent colleges but also affiliating colleges, it is therefore pertinent that as and when the College Development Council is established or created through an Ordinance under section 20 (i) of the Statute, the principals of the constituent colleges be made members of the CDC.

15 The Question of Existing Teachers:

One of the crucial issues emerging out of the establishment of Dhanamanjuri University on which the Act and Statute is silent is the status of the existing faculty members of the constituent colleges, who had played and have been playing major role right from the inception of University. Many faculty members have rendered important service and contributed a lot in the working and functioning of the University in various ways and varied capacity without any extra incentives, the Committee, therefore is of the opinion that it would be unfair to treat them at par with the rest of the Government College teachers. However, the Act and Statute is silent about the existing teachers of constituent colleges. Section 26 (i) mentions two classes of teachers of the University: a) Appointed teachers of the University and b) Recognised teachers of the University. Existing teachers of the constituent colleges do not fit into these two categories.

Who are the existing teachers? The existing teachers may be treated as those teachers who have been posted at the constituent colleges before and the time of enactment of the Dhanamanjuri University Act, 2017 and are serving at their respective colleges. Those teachers whose service have been utilized at constituent colleges of Dhanamanjuri University may also be included. It may be noted that most of the faculty members of constituent colleges are engaged at teaching both undergraduate and post-graduate levels of teaching.

For administrative exigency and smooth conduct of management of the University; and to prevent future confusion and clash of authority, jurisdiction and authority of governance and management of the constituent colleges may be transferred to Dhanamanjuri University from Directorate of Higher and University Education. Along with it, the fund allocated for the constituent colleges for salary and other purposes be transferred to the University. All the existing posts along with the incumbents may be transferred to the University. In other words all the posts of existing teachers by name should be transferred to the University, with full protection of their service condition and career. Henceforth, they shall be governed by the University authority; and their salaries be drawn from the University. In other words existing teachers of the five constituent colleges should be absorbed as teachers of the University.

15.The Question of Engaged Non-teaching Staff :

The five constituent colleges have been facing problems from acute shortage of non- teaching staffs for more than thirty-five years. From time to time these colleges have engaged persons for various jobs in the multi-tasking manner ranging from the work of the chowkidars, Grade-iv, clerks, computer assistants, library assistants, assistant librarians, bookmen, cooks, to security guards. Without their services (with minimum salary from the college fund), the administration of these academic institutes would be a failure. In view of their contribution in running these most acclaimed academic campuses of the State, their services may be officially recognized when all the assets of the constituent colleges are transferred to Dhanamnuri University. The present Committee observes that the necessary amendment may be conducted in due course of time.