Chapter-VI

FINDINGS, DISCUSSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

6.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the major findings with reference to the objectives of the study which are provided below:

➢ To trace the origin and development of higher education in Upper Assam.
➢ To study the enrolment pattern of college and university students.
➢ To study the system of management and administration of higher educational institutions in Upper Assam.
➢ To find out the system of examination in Upper Assam.
➢ To find out the problems faced by the students and teachers of the higher educational institutions in Upper Assam.
➢ To study the research and extension activities at the university level
➢ To suggest measures for improvement of higher education in Upper Assam.

The major findings with regard to the above objectives are provided in this chapter. In addition to this, discussions and further suggestions for the problems related to higher education in Upper Assam are given below:

6.0.1 Based on the first objective: Origin and development of higher education in Upper Assam (detail explanation is given in chapter-IV)

Efforts were made to know the origin of higher education in Upper Assam. Following major findings were revealed regarding the origin and development of higher education in Upper Assam:

DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN UPPER ASSAM BEFORE INDEPENDENCE: Higher education in Assam started with the establishment of Cotton College in Guwahati in 1901. The people of Assam used to go to Calcutta or some other places in the country or even abroad to receive higher education before the establishment of this college. Till 1930, there was no
higher educational institution like college or university in the area of Upper Assam.

Higher education in Upper Assam started with the establishment of Jagannath Barooah College at Jorhat in 1930. This college was named after the first graduate of the area, Jagannath Barooah. Prof. Krishna Kanta Handique, former Vice-chancellor of Gauhati University was the founder principal of this college. This college was affiliated to Calcutta University at that time. This college started with 7 teachers and 14 students with Intermediate of Arts (IA) at the beginning. At present, it has more than 15 teaching departments with arts, science and commerce stream. Besides general courses, it offers degrees and diplomas in professional courses like Post-graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA), Bachelor in Computer Application (BCA), BSc (IT), Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES) sponsored by DOEACC etc. The college also has diploma/ certificate course on Computer Hardware. Moreover, the college offers Post-graduate courses in Geography and Philosophy. The college also have the study centres of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU) and Dibrugarh University Distance Education Programme both in Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate level.

Till 1947, there were only three colleges namely Jagannath Barooah College at Jorhat (1930), DHSK College at Dibrugarh (1945), Sibsagar College at Sibsagar (1947) in Upper Assam. The first professional college of Upper Assam was the Assam Medical College established at Dibrugarh in 1947.

DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN UPPER ASSAM AFTER INDEPENDENCE: After independence, a number of colleges were established in Upper Assam. In between 1948 to 1970, 39 general colleges were established covering various districts of Upper Assam. At present, there are 117 general colleges affiliated to Dibrugarh University in Upper Assam.

Regarding the growth of professional colleges, progress is not so rapid as compared to general colleges. Though the first professional college was started in
1947, there were only 30 professional colleges in the area till 2012. The highest number of professional colleges i.e. 11 (eleven) was established in between 2001-2010.

Quality of the educational institutions is reflected by the educational achievements of the students in the examinations. The analysis of pass percentage over the years 2004-2013 of the BA and BSc courses of the colleges affiliated to Dibrugarh University reveals that the pass percentage was satisfactory (more than 70%). But in certain years the pass percentage in BCom final examination is not satisfactory. In addition, the result analysis of BEd courses of 10 years is not satisfactory.

The first University of Upper Assam and second of the North-Eastern Region i.e. Dibrugarh University at Dibrugarh was established only in the year 1965. From the beginning onwards this university is progressing qualitatively and quantitatively as it is seen from the following aspects:

- Various departments and centres of teaching were there in the university.
- The number of affiliated colleges is increasing.
- The number of students enrolled in various courses is also increasing.

The number of teachers is increasing year by year in various departments of Dibrugarh University. In the year 2003-04, the number of faculty was 173 and it increased to 270 in 2011-12. Moreover, the number of students enrolled in various departments and centres of studies are also increasing. (Table 4.3)

The first Technical University of Upper Assam known as Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat was established in the year 1969. This university is also progressing satisfactorily

- Various departments and centres of teaching are there in the university.
- Number of autonomous colleges is increasing.
- Number of students enrolled in various courses is also increasing.
- Pass percentage is increasing (except few courses) annually.

The highest numbers of students were enrolled in the session 2012-13 in various undergraduate and PhD courses of Assam Agricultural University. However, with regard to post-graduate courses enrolment was highest in 2010-11. It is also clear that the university witnessed lowest number of students in undergraduate courses for the academic session 2002-2003. During this 12 years period, enrolment for post-graduate courses was lowest in the session 2007-08 while PhD course had lowest enrolment in the session 2003-04. There are ups and downs in the results of undergraduate, post-graduate and PhD courses of AAU. The highest number of students got the graduate as well as PhD degree in 2002 and in case of post-graduate courses it was highest in the year 2012.

**Discussion on the first objective**

From the study it is clear that higher education in general system of education has developed satisfactorily in Upper Assam. However, the scenario of professional education in this region is not so encouraging as no adequate initiatives have been taken up to establish this type of college in the area until very recently. Therefore, the government should take special initiatives in this regard and take steps for establishing more number of professional colleges encompassing various segments of the society. Moreover, students ought to be exposed to the new developments in the sphere of professional education. Recently, the government of Assam has taken initiatives to provide education in engineering and technology by establishing 21 new polytechnic institutions in Assam. However, this cannot be said to be sufficient enough to cater to the needs of the students in the region. Hence, the government as well as the professional institutions ought to ensure that more number of students have access to higher education.

With regard to higher education in general courses the number of students passing out in final examinations is satisfactory. But in certain years the pass percentage in BCom final examination is not so satisfactory. The authority
should give importance to commerce courses for its improvement. Moreover, the colleges should provide along with general courses some job oriented courses which will be beneficial for the students.

The result of analysis of BEd courses for 10 years (2004-13) revealed that the pass percentage of BEd courses is not satisfactory as it is less than 50% in certain years. So, the concerned authority should look into this matter and take steps for improvement of the present condition.

Students’ enrolment in PhD courses of AAU is increasing annually but the enrolment pattern and passed out students in various under-graduate and post-graduate courses is not so satisfactory.

6.0.2 Based on the second objective: Enrolment pattern of college and university students

A total of 167.75 lakhs students were enrolled in the higher educational institutions in India as on 31st March 2011. But the Gross Enrolment Ratio of higher education is not satisfactory. Therefore a need was felt to study the enrolment pattern of college and university students of Upper Assam.

Following major findings were revealed in this regard:

I. **Findings regarding enrolment at the college level:**

1. In both the types (general and professional) of colleges students were enrolled on the basis of merit of the students.
2. Almost all the colleges have an admission committee for the smooth conduct of the admission procedure. Principals, teachers and office staffs of the college are appointed as members of the admission committee.
3. Findings revealed that intake capacity of the college fulfils the needs as revealed by 85.71% of the general college principals and 66.67% of professional college principals.

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4. In general colleges 100% seats are occupied every year and in professional colleges sometimes seats remain vacant as revealed by 16.67% of the principals.

5. Majority of the colleges have provision for only day shifts in their colleges.

6. Enrolment is high in arts faculty as compared to other faculties among the sample colleges.

7. It is also found that in majority of the professional colleges female enrolment is higher than males’ and in general colleges male enrolment is higher than females’ enrolment.

8. The findings revealed that majority of the college teachers are satisfied with the enrolment system of the college. However, some of them are not satisfied with the system. As regards to the problems the general college teachers stated that the enrolment system is not systematic as well as not free and fair. Besides, sometimes enrolment is higher than the seat capacity; English department has less number of faculty and reservation for SC/ST/OBC and physically handicaps/sports etc. Moreover, some problems as revealed by professional college teachers include lack of infrastructure and manpower, lack of hostel facility and laboratory and lack of permanent faculties of teachers in the colleges.

II. Findings regarding enrolment at the University level:

1. Both the universities have admission committees for the smooth functioning of the admission procedure and the findings of the present study revealed that students were enrolled on the basis of merit. In Dibrugarh University the admission committee is constituted at the department level and in Assam Agricultural University admission is managed by a selection committee.

2. The findings revealed that in Dibrugarh University almost all the seats in various departments were fulfilled every year. But in Assam Agricultural University, in some departments some seats remain vacant sometimes.
3. The findings revealed that in Dibrugarh University the number of male students is higher than that of female and in Assam Agricultural University there are equal numbers of male and female students.

4. Both the universities have post-graduate and PhD courses. In Dibrugarh University some of the department have MPhil courses also but there is no MPhil course in AAU.

5. Findings revealed that majority of the teachers of Dibrugarh University are members of the admission committee. However in Assam Agricultural University, only 48% are involved in the admission process.

6. Majority of the teachers of both the universities are satisfied with the enrolment system of their departments. However, some of the respondents are not satisfied with the enrolment system and the drawbacks as revealed by them include merit reflected in the mark sheets sometimes is misleading and fewer students are attracted towards agricultural biochemistry because of job prospects.

**Discussion on second objective**

Enrolment of the students is one of the vital issues of higher education. The college authority constitutes admission committees for smooth conduct of enrolment of the students. The college authority every now and then faces problems due to various reasons like reluctance of the brilliant students to get enrolled, pressure of the public/guardians to get undeserving students enrolled, failure to fill up the intake capacity and so on. The colleges should try to enrol students on the basis of merit which in turn will not only contribute in nation building but also pave the way for giving quality education.

From the findings of the study it is clear that the college students were enrolled on the basis of merit in most of the colleges. Moreover, colleges have admission committees apart from sufficient intake capacity. Majority of the colleges have only the day shift in the college. Compared to various faculties (Arts, Science and Commerce) of the sample colleges, enrolment is higher in arts
faculty. The study also shows that females’ enrolment is higher than the males in the professional colleges of Upper Assam.

Just like the colleges in Upper Assam, both the universities i.e. Dibrugarh University and Assam Agricultural University have admission committees for the proper management of the admission procedure and majority of the teachers are involved in it. Moreover, in Dibrugarh University admission is conducted by department managing committee and in Assam Agricultural University, students are enrolled through selection committee. So, merit is the only criteria for the enrolment of the students.

Regarding enrolment, the Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University stated that he is satisfied with the enrolment. He also revealed that the number of students enrolled in the various courses of the university is increasing each year and the trend indicates the need of another university or bifurcation of Agricultural University into Agricultural University of Veterinary or Fishery University.

6.0.3 Based on objective three: Management and administration of higher educational institutions in Upper Assam

Systematic governance as well as the administration of the higher educational institutions is one of the major requisites for bringing quality in higher educational institutions. Besides, the success of an institution depends upon the leader or the head of the institution. He/she shows the path to its followers. Hence, for effective functioning of an institution the head or the leader must possess certain qualities.

Following major findings were revealed in this regard:

I. Findings regarding management at the college level

1. Findings revealed that majority of the colleges have Managing Committees in their colleges.

2. From the study it is also clear that majority of the colleges have a permanent principal.
3. Only 57.14% of the general college principals revealed that the colleges receive sufficient fund from the UGC. Besides UGC, some of the colleges have other funding sources like public donation and donation from private sources.

4. The study shows that almost all the colleges of Upper Assam are visited by NAAC after every five years. The study also reveals that majority of the non-provincialised colleges were not visited by NAAC peer team. Besides, NAAC team colleges are visited by higher officials from the Directorate office as well as from the university. Similar findings were revealed by Rymbai (2002)\(^2\) who found that majority of the colleges were inspected by the university nominees as well as from the state education department.

5. Majority of the teachers are not engaged in preparation of the college budget. So, some of the teachers’ revealed dissatisfaction in this regard.

6. Only, a few teachers are engaged in the preparation of the college curriculum for different levels of education.

7. Most of the general college students revealed that college fee is not high for them and in professional colleges students revealed that amount of fee is high for them.

8. Majority of the students were satisfied with the college time table as well as the duration of the classes in both general and professional colleges.

9. Findings revealed that teachers as well as the college authority is strict regarding attendance of the students.

**II. Findings regarding management at the university level**

1. Majority of the respondents revealed that the various departments of the university were monitored and supervised by the concerned authority from time to time. NAAC peer team visits Dibrugarh University after five years. Likewise, the Assam Agricultural

University is visited by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) representatives from time to time.

2. The study shows that the budget is prepared by the Department Managing Committee (DMC) and head in consultation with the faculty in Dibrugarh University. But in Assam Agricultural University, it is prepared by the university authority.

3. Some of the heads revealed that they face problems in managing the department.

4. In Assam Agricultural University majority of the students revealed that the university education is expensive for them as compared to Dibrugarh University students.

III. **Findings regarding administration at the college level**

1. All the college principals revealed that they prepare annual academic planning/schedule for the next calendar year. Moreover, majority of the colleges were found to have adequate and efficient administrative staff.

2. The composition of the administration include Governing Body, Principal, Vice-principal, one supporting staff, three UDAs, five LDAs and five to six Grade-IV employees.

3. Findings revealed that majority of the colleges have a Governing Body. The composition of the Governing Body includes president/chairman, two university nominees, two guardians’ representatives, two teacher representatives, one office staff and the principal of the college. Similar findings were revealed by Rymbai (2002) who found 100% of the colleges have governing bodies.

4. Findings also revealed that the majority of the colleges conduct meeting with the governing body members as and when required.

5. Majority of the college principals do not have problems in the administration of the college. But some colleges face problems due to the lack of adequate and efficient administrative staff.

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6. Findings revealed that the college teachers were appointed on the basis of UGC/NCTE/BCI norms. However, government college teachers were selected through Assam Public Service Commission (APSC).

7. Findings revealed that the government colleges do not have a Governing Body. But provincialised colleges have a Governing Body and the teachers of such colleges have good relation with the members of Governing Body.

8. Majority of the college teachers have a good relationship with the principal of the college.

9. Majority of the college teachers revealed that the college principal discusses various matters with the faculty members.

10. Findings revealed that the teachers are happy with their salary and they revealed that they are getting their salary according to their work load. But majority of non-provincialised college teacher are not happy with their salary.

11. Majority of the college teachers revealed that they get their increment annually as per Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) and Directorate of Technical Education norms. They revealed that this annual increment is 3% of basic pay. However such provisions are not there for non-provincialised college teachers.

12. It was found that the teachers can take 10 days Casual Leave (CL) and 15 days (Earned leave) from the colleges. It was also revealed that the general college teachers are satisfied with the number of days for casual leave and professional college teachers revealed that it is less for them. The teachers stated that their salary is not curtailed for taking such leave.

13. It was also found that both general and professional colleges are strict with regard to students’ attendance.

14. Almost all the colleges keep the record of students’ overall performance.
15. The teachers of both general and professional colleges plan their activities in advance for carrying out different works smoothly.
16. Majority of the college teachers do not have problems with regard to administrative task of the college.
17. Majority of the college students are satisfied with the administration of the colleges.
18. Most of the college students have a good relationship with the administrative staffs of the colleges.
19. It was found out that majority of the administrative staffs are punctual in their duties and so the students do not face any problem in this regard. Though they have adequate number of office staff, the functioning of the administrative staffs are moderate as revealed by most of the college students.

IV. Findings regarding administration at the university level
1. It was found that the main duty of the university head is supervision and administration of the department.
2. All the heads revealed that the teachers were appointed on the basis of UGC/ICAR norms.
3. The study found that the universities have 230 working days and 180 teaching days in a year.
4. Departments are strict with regard to students’ attendance. Moreover, both the universities keep records of students’ overall performance.
5. Majority of the heads revealed that they plan their activities in advance. The heads also stated that integrated MSc and MSc programme in seed solar and technology in addition to the current programmes will be introduced shortly.
6. Sometimes the Heads of Department face problems of unforeseen situation like bandhs and agitation programmes (DU) and sometimes decisions are taken at the Academic Council level at their own disposal without consulting with the teachers regarding the problems in implementing them (AAU). Moreover, there is lack of proper assistance at the clerical level in DU and lack of decentralisation in
certain aspects like management of experimental field creates practical problems in AAU.

7. Majority of the university students are satisfied with the administration of the university. The study makes it clear that some of the students have good relationship with the administrative staff and some have average relationship with the office staffs of the university.

8. The study found that both the universities have enough administrative staff for office work and they are competent and experienced enough to their work.

9. Majority of the university students revealed that the administrative staffs are moderately efficient in their work.

Discussion on third objective

From the study, it is evident that majority of the colleges of Upper Assam have permanent principals as well as managing committees for the proper management of the colleges. Almost all the provincialised colleges have been visited by NAAC team. Besides, NAAC colleges have been inspected by higher officials from Directorate and by university nominees from time to time.

From the study, it is also clear that various activities of the universities are monitored and supervised by the concerned authority from time to time.

The colleges of Upper Assam have Governing Body, adequate administrative staff and proper selection procedure with regard to the appointment of teachers. These apart, teachers have good relationship with the principal and students are also satisfied with the working of the administration of the colleges.

It is clear that the university departments and centres of studies of DU and AAU are satisfied with the administrative task of the university.

The Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University is satisfied with the management and administration of the constituent colleges. He reveals that
the Deans, the Director of Research and others have been doing their jobs very well.

6.0.4 Based on objective four: System of examination in Upper Assam

Examination means a formal test which is used to assess the learners’ knowledge and command over a particular subject. Examination system has been occupying a pivotal position in any educational institution. However, the pattern of examination has undergone changes from time to time according to the need of the hour. Therefore the researcher felt the need to study the system of examination of higher education in Upper Assam.

Following major findings were revealed regarding the examination system in Upper Assam:

I. Findings regarding examination at the college level

1. Almost all the colleges have examination committees. In majority of the colleges the principal and the teacher looks after the examination work. In some colleges, some of the office staffs are also involved.

2. Findings revealed that majority of the colleges have the provision for internal marks in their colleges and in almost all the general college teachers gives the internal marks to the students. But in professional colleges both the principal and the teachers are equally involved.

3. Majority of the college teachers are satisfied with the present examination system i.e. semester system. But in some professional colleges, the annual system is still prevalent and the teachers are in favour of changing it from annual to semester.

4. Most of the professional colleges’ teachers are satisfied with their work load but in general colleges most of the teachers revealed that in the present semester system work load is more as compared to the annual system.

5. Majority of the college teachers revealed that internal assessment is very much important for the students.

6. The findings revealed that majority of the colleges have sessional examinations, some of the colleges have unit test and some have
terminal/periodical examinations in their colleges. Moreover, some of the colleges have assessment test, class test, part com waro completion test, WARD completion test (medical college), viva-voce and weekly test.

7. The study makes it clear that majority of the college students are highly satisfied with their performance in their examination.

8. Majority of the college students revealed that the present syllabus gives equal importance to theory and practice.

II. Findings regarding examination at the university level

1. Both the universities have examination committees and all of them prefer semester examination system.

2. In both the universities no pre-selection test is conducted.

3. Majority of the teachers of Dibrugarh University are satisfied with the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) of examination.

4. Both the universities have internal marks and they concluded that it is important for the students. Moreover, all the teachers of Dibrugarh University revealed that only the teachers are engaged in giving internal marks. On the other hand, in Assam Agricultural University besides the teachers, some of the heads are also involved.

5. More number of students in DU is not satisfied with the present examination system as compared to Assam Agricultural University. The reasons for their dissatisfaction are tabulated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DU</td>
<td>AAU</td>
<td>DU</td>
<td>AAU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive work load</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>42.19</td>
<td>40.48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the students busy throughout the year</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>35.94</td>
<td>23.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question pattern is not satisfactory</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>33.33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improper evaluation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9.38</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.93</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Others problems as revealed in the as revealed (table 6.1) by DU students include limitation of time and thus inability to learn much and the problems of AAU include time given to them is less.

6. Majority of the students of DU and AAU are satisfied with the examination result.

7. Problems regarding examination system as revealed by DU teachers include unsystematic maintenance of records, adverse effect on classes due to teachers involvement in examination work, enticement on students to be examination oriented, improper implementation of CBCS due to time constraints, improper regulation and so on. In case of BEd, the students have to spend lengthy four hour duration in examination.

8. Problems as revealed by Assam Agricultural University include extension of examination days due to conduct examinations centrally which results in reducing the teaching days; constant change in curriculum and vastness of the course content. Apart from all these, the prevailing semester system becomes very hectic at times, compounded by frequent holidays for which course completion becomes difficult.

**Discussion on fourth objective**

It is clear from the above findings that the colleges of Upper Assam are trying to improve the quality of students in general and the education system in particular by holding various examinations from time to time.

On the other hand, both the universities are trying to achieve excellence by bringing changes in the examination pattern according to the need of the hour and majority of the teachers are satisfied with the present system of examination.

The Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University is not satisfied with the semester system prevailing in the university. He wants to bring flexibility in the system as is prevalent in Europe. Further he reveals that the main aim of examination should be to prepare a person to be ready to meet the
demands of the society. He also laid stress on the implementation of new methods of teaching and the use of ICT in the classrooms.

6.0.5 Based on objective five: Problems faced by the students and teachers of the higher educational institutions in Upper Assam

Efforts were also made to study the various problems faced by the students and teachers of the higher educational institutions. Following major problems were found from the study:

FINDINGS FROM THE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Classrooms problems

➢ Majority of the students inform the teacher about their problems when they face any problems in the class.
➢ Majority of the teachers use English and Assamese as the medium of instruction. Moreover, 6.89% of the general college teachers and 24.32% of professional college teachers use only English as the medium for instruction. Besides, 1.26% of general and professional college students revealed that the teachers use only Assamese language and some of the teachers also use Hindi also as the medium of instruction.
➢ Majority of the teachers’ are helpful and co-operative towards the students.

Problems of curriculum

➢ A few college students are dissatisfied with the present syllabus of their course.
➢ Comparatively lesser number of college students revealed that their teachers do not give home assignments.
➢ Majority of the college students are not busy in other classes, besides their regular prescribed courses.
➢ A few college students face problems with English as the medium of instruction.
The study found that majority of the colleges does not have adequate computers for the students.

**Problems of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)**

- Co-curricular activities like NCC, NSS, art education and body lifting are lacking in majority of the professional colleges. Similarly NSS, Art Education, socio-economic survey, body lifting are lacking in majority of the general colleges.
- There is no playground in majority of the professional colleges. However, playground is available in most of the general colleges.
- A few number of college students did not participate in CCA. The reasons include lack of interest, lack of publicity, improper way of organising such programmes and lack of encouragement.

**Problems of college library**

- A few college students (both general and professional) revealed that the college library is not well equipped.
- Majority of the general colleges have photocopying facility however majority of the professional colleges do not have this facility.
- Fewer students consult libraries other than their own institutions library for their studies. Highest numbers of college students are dependent upon their own college library (both general and professional).
- It was found that in majority of the colleges library staff is friendly and co-operative.

**Problems of college laboratory**

- Fewer number of students in general as well as professional colleges revealed that they do not have well equipped laboratory in the colleges.
Problems of common room

- There is scarcity of common room in most of the professional colleges which are provided in majority of the general colleges.
- Very few numbers of students revealed that their common rooms are not well maintained and are without recreational facility, journals, and magazines. Moreover, common room are not spacious enough and lacks cleanliness apart from the lack of facilities like fan, dustbin, toilet and clean drinking water.

Problems of physical and academic facilities

- Except canteen facility in general colleges, majority of the colleges lack gymnasium hall, transport facility and medical facility. Moreover, there is shortage of professional courses, career oriented courses, placement cell and community services in majority of the general and professional colleges.

Miscellaneous problems

- It was also found that majority of the colleges organise seminars for the benefit of the students.
- Provision of funds for students’ aid is available for general college students and such facilities are not there in most of the professional colleges.
- Findings revealed that majority of the students do not avail any scholarships. But some of the students are availing such facilities as scholarships including merit scholarship, OBC/MOBC scholarship, minority scholarship, post-metric scholarship, SC/ST scholarship, North Eastern Council (NEC) scholarship, Tea and Ex-tea garden scholarship and so on.
FINDINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Problems of classroom

- Majority of the university students are satisfied with the classroom teaching. So, there exist no problems regarding classroom teaching of the university.
- Majority of the teachers use English medium of communication in the classes.
- The study found that almost all the teaching methods like lecture, discussion, demonstration, and lecture-cum-demonstration, seminar, and project work are used by the teachers.

Problems of curriculum

- Majority of the DU students joined the course due to interest and dedication to the course but in AAU majority of them joined due to job prospects.
- Provision of home assignment is there in DU but there is no such provision in AAU as revealed by most of the students.
- Some of the students both DU and AAU require extra classes besides regular university classes.
- Majority of the students are not engaged in other classes.
- Some of students revealed that English as the medium of instruction affect their power of expression.
- Majority of the AAU students believe that the present syllabus will be able to bring changes to the society but in DU, students revealed that it won’t bring any changes to the society.
- Majority of the teachers use ICT devices in the classes.

Problems of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)

- Majority of the students in both the universities revealed that they have provision of co-curricular activities.
- Majority of the students in both the universities revealed that they do have playground with proper facilities.
- A few number of students stated that they do not participate in co-curricular activities.
- The study also found that there is provision for educational tour/excursion for the students benefit in both the universities.

Problems of university campus

- There is scarcity of proper drinking water facility in the AAU campus but in DU, proper drinking water facility is available.
- Sanitary latrines and urinals are available in both the universities.
- Both the universities have refreshment facility within the campus.
- Most of DU and some of AAU students revealed that the university lacks proper maintenance. Some other problems as revealed by the students of DU include limited number of hostels, lack of transportation, lack of Wi-Fi facility and lack of security.

Problems of auditorium

- Both the universities have auditorium and majority of the students revealed that it is large enough to organise different activities. Moreover it was found that sufficient sitting arrangements are available in the auditorium hall. Besides, the auditorium hall is sound proof and has sufficient windows, doors, ventilators, lights and ceiling fans.

Problems of library

- Both the universities students revealed that they have well equipped libraries. Moreover, there is the availability of photocopying machine in the library for the students provided at a cheaper rate. Moreover, internet facility and reading room are available for the students.
The study revealed that majority of the students depends upon the university library. The library staffs are friendly and co-operative towards them.

The study found that there is scarcity of revised and up-to-date books in the university library.

**Problems of department laboratory**

The study found that both the universities have well equipped laboratory.

**Problems of finance**

Majority of the university students revealed that they do not receive scholarship from the university.

**Problems of physical and academic facilities**

Findings revealed that both the universities lack transport facility for the students. Moreover, career oriented courses and community services are not provided in both the universities.

**FINDINGS FROM THE COLLEGE TEACHERS**

**Problems of classroom**

In majority of the colleges attendance pattern of the students is above 80%.

Majority of the college teachers do not use ICT devices in the classroom as revealed by most of the college teachers. However, majority of them perceive the importance of ICT devices.

Few college teachers have problem regarding classroom teaching. These problems include lack of reference books in the college, lack of teaching-learning materials, congestion of students in classrooms, lack of activity based learning, lack of students involvement due to their poor language ability, insufficient audio-visual aids, lack of ICT
devices in teaching, poor infrastructure of classrooms, lack of basic knowledge of the students and imbalanced student-teacher ratio.

**Problems of curriculum**

- Majority of the college teachers are satisfied with the prescribed syllabus of the colleges and the course can be completed well within the stipulated time. Moreover, majority of them are satisfied with the course content of the syllabus.

- Majority of the college teachers use group work, group discussion and power point presentation in the classes. Apart from using these, they also use the techniques like seminar, home assignment, project preparation, quiz, poster presentation, peer teaching, field work, activity based learning and periodical tests.

- Though majority of the teachers are satisfied with the syllabus, there are some teachers who are dissatisfied with the present syllabus. The problems include excessive work load, enticement to students to remain busy throughout the year, lack of pragmatic value and bookish and theoretical nature. Other problems as revealed by general college teachers are exclusion of important topics in the syllabus designed for the major course, lack of novelty, less importance on major course (one paper only) in the first two semester, repetition of concepts in different papers, lack of practical work in 1st semester and second semester syllabi, the syllabus is not systematic, not student friendly and child centric. Syllabus framing committee while framing syllabus should ensure participation of prospective job employers. Besides, some reference books prescribed in the syllabus are not available and the syllabus is without depth and fails to address some of the important topics and fail to provide any conceptual knowledge. The teachers stated that the curriculum is not up dated and is full of irrelevant items and lacks innovation. The problems of the existing syllabus as revealed by the professional college teachers include lack of updated topics as per the need of the hour, inclusion of irrelevant
items, excessive work load on the students, not rational, not students’ friendly and learners centric, not in proper order and so on.

**Problems of Co-Curricular Activities**

- Majority of the college teachers are engaged in co-curricular activities of the college. They also revealed that majority of the college students are interested in such activities. Moreover, they revealed that these activities are very much important for the college students.

**Problems of college campus**

- Majority of the college teachers are satisfied with the classroom facilities provided in the college.
- Some college teachers revealed that the classrooms are overcrowded.
- There is scarcity of drinking water facility in some of the general colleges. However, in professional colleges’ majority of teachers revealed that they have drinking water facility.
- Findings revealed that some of the college buildings are not well equipped and well maintained as stated by half of the general college teachers as well as professional college teachers. The problems include lack of various facilities, lack of proper maintenance and monitoring, lack of playground and so on.

**Problems of library**

- Majority of the college teachers (both general and professional) revealed that they do not have the INFLIBNET facility in the colleges.
- Majority of the colleges have textbooks, reference books, encyclopaedias, thesaurus, dictionaries, periodicals, newspapers, journals and magazines in the college library.

**Problems of finance**

- Majority of the college teachers get their salary regularly.
- College teachers get house rent, medical allowances and dearness allowances (DA) but they do not get special duty allowances.
Miscellaneous problems

- Findings revealed that there is dearth of residential quarters for the general college teachers. However for professional college teachers such facilities are available.
- The study also found that there is dearth of teachers in the professional colleges of Upper Assam.

FINDINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

Problems of classroom

- Findings revealed that the attendance pattern of the students is above 80%.

Problems of curriculum

- The study found that the prescribed syllabus is not heavy for majority of the university teachers.
- Only a few teachers of AAU have problem regarding the present syllabus. It was stated that no syllabus is fixed by Dean's Committee of AAU under ICAR and present BSc (Agriculture) syllabus is deviated from agricultural science. Besides, the syllabus gets changed within a very short time (every 2-3 years).
- Majority of the university teachers use group work, group discussion and project work for the students’ benefit.
- Majority of the university teachers revealed that the present syllabus will bring changes to the society.

Problems of university campus

- Findings revealed that university departments have adequate classrooms.

Problems of finance

- Almost all the university teachers get their salary regularly. Moreover, they get house rent, medical allowances and Dearthness Allowances. On the other hand, AAU teachers in addition to the allowances mentioned earlier get special duty allowances which are not available for DU teachers.
Various problems as revealed by the DU teachers include paucity of funds to meet the administrative expenses, lack of financial grant for organising seminar and workshops from time to time. In AAU, fund is limited as compared to the works allotted and Heads of various Departments does not have enough recurring fund. Similar findings were also revealed by Bose (1973) who found paucity of fund in the university.

**Miscellaneous problems**

- Majority of the AAU quarters are in good condition but in DU majority of teachers revealed that the quarters are in moderately good condition. The problems revealed by the teachers of DU include lack of annual repairing and maintenance of the quarters, lack of up-to-date facilities, limited numbers of quarters for teachers, weak construction leading to water leakages, cracked walls, weak floors, weak ceiling and so on. The problems as revealed by the teachers of AAU include worn out condition of the quarters, lack of renovation and proper maintenance, lack of basic amenities and so on.

- In DU majority of the university teachers revealed that bandh culture affects their work.

**Discussion of fifth objective**

It can be concluded that the college students are facing various problems like shortage of computers, dearth of various co-curricular activities viz. NSS, art education, socio-economic survey, body lifting, lack of playground and photocopying machine, common room, students’ aid fund (in majority of the professional colleges), separate library building, gymnasium hall, transport facility, medical facility, shortage of professional courses, career oriented courses, placement cell and community services and scholarships.

The major problems as stated by the university students include scarcity of proper drinking water facility in the campus, lack of maintenance of the building,

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limited number of hostels for the students, lack of transportation, lack of Wi-Fi facility, lack of security, shortage of revised books and non-availability of scholarships for all sections of students.

The major problems faced by college teachers include lack of reference books in the colleges, lack of teaching-learning materials, congestion in classrooms, lack of activity based learning, lack of students involvement due to their poor language ability, insufficient audio-visual aids, lack of ICT devices in teaching, poor infrastructure of classrooms, lack of basic subject knowledge of the students, imbalanced students-teacher ratio, shortage of proper drinking water facility, lack of INFLIBNET facility, dearth of residential quarters and dearth of teachers in majority of the professional colleges.

The major problems as revealed by the university teachers include paucity of fund to meet the educational expenses of the department and adverse effect of bandh culture and so on.

6.0.6 Based on objective six: Research and extension activities at the university level

One of the major tasks of the university is teaching, research and extension. Therefore the researcher felt the need to study the research and extension activities at the university level.

The major findings of the study are as follows:

Findings regarding extension activities

1. All the Assam Agricultural University teachers and majority of the Dibrugarh University teachers were found to have undertaken major and minor research projects. From the study it is clear that teachers of Assam Agricultural University are contributing more in research work.

2. Findings revealed that both the universities have remedial classes for SC, ST, OBC and for Minority students.
3. Majority of the heads of Assam Agricultural University as well as Dibrugarh University revealed that they offer career guidance among the university students.

4. Majority of the Dibrugarh University respondents revealed that they have self funding courses for the students. However, such courses are not available in Assam Agricultural University.

5. All the respondents of AAU have undertaken extension activities in their departments. The extension activities include execution of research works like demonstration programme in farmers field, training farmers as well as self help groups, imparts training to NGO's and also gives radio talk, TV programme etc, farmers fair(exhibitions), identification of crop diseases of the state and suggestion of management strategies, popularisation of edible mushroom flora and demonstration of cultivation technologies, motivate farmers regarding organic farming, use of pesticides and refreshers training of officers from Government Agricultural institutes. Moreover, teachers have visited farmer’s field and provide training to farmers as well as officers of state department. Whereas, in DU only 33.33% have undertaken such activities. The activities as revealed by the teachers of DU include participation in various evaluation procedures conducted by various agencies from time to time, guidance to students on spoken English, visits to colleges as resource persons, community work and socio economic survey of BEd course every year, village adoption, consumer awareness, collection of literature, culture museum collection and old rare manuscripts collection.

6. **Problems regarding extension activities:** The problems as revealed by DU teachers include shortage of faculty, problem of limited fund, lack of infrastructural building, lack of proper funding and lack of proper human resource. The problems revealed by Assam Agricultural University teachers include slow release of fund, slow input delivery
system, shortage of manpower, lack of motivation for new technology and so on.

**Discussion on sixth objective**

From the above findings, it is clear that both the universities are contributing in research work besides teaching. Moreover teachers offer career guidance to the students and take remedial classes for their improvement. However some of the departments also offer self funding courses for the benefit of the students. Apart from all these, both the universities are engaged in extension activities and they are contributing a lot in this regard.

The Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University also revealed that the university have taken up collaboration with higher educational institutions of countries like Cairo, Australia, Switzerland and with the universities like Cornell University and the Universities of USA. Moreover, the VC stated that the university is going to collaborate with Kenyan University, universities of Nepal and the Philippines.

**6.1 Findings from the Interview Schedule:** Interviews were taken with the Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University, Vice-Chancellor of Dibrugarh University, Director of Higher Education and Director of Technical Education and their opinions regarding various issues are discussed below:

**6.1.1 Opinion of the Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Assam Agricultural University**

1. **Infrastructural facility of the university:** The VC is satisfied with the infrastructural facility of the AAU as well as of all the constituted colleges. As stated by him, the university has the best bio-technology laboratory in the country and AAU library has been recognised as one of the best libraries in India.

2. **Academic activities of the university:** The VC is satisfied with the academic activities of the constituent colleges. However he emphasised on further improvement.
3. **Teachers in the university:** The VC also stated that the university does not have adequate number of teachers.

4. **Suggestions for the improvement of quality of higher education:** The VC is of the opinion that for quality improvement of higher education all the necessary information regarding the higher education sector should be made accessible to all sections of people. For this, attracting the students to higher education for post-graduate level is one of the issues and imparting them quality post-graduate is another issue.

5. **Suggestions for improvement of higher education:** For the improvement of higher education in agriculture it is important to ensure that more number of agricultural universities come up in the state to cater to the increasing number of students in the universities.

6. **Mission and vision of the university**

   The mission of the university is to fill up talent gap in agriculture and allied sector to preposition the state to combat the emerging challenges in agriculture and ensure productivity increase in agri-horti-animal-fish crops on the face of shrinking/fragmented land holdings, ailing soil health, diminishing water resources and increased human population.

   The vision of the university provisioning of quality human resource to facilitate technology-led agricultural renaissance revitalizing and rejuvenating post-green revolution agriculture ensuring both production and environmental sustainability targeting a minimum of 4 percent + agricultural growth while addressing the issues of household food and nutritional security, farmers distress, commerce in agriculture as well as regional, national and global food crisis taking the advantage of innovative technology, market reforms and liberalization.

6.1.2 **Opinion of the VC of Dibrugarh University**

(The opinion of the VC of DU was incorporated in the study through an interview taken with the liaison officer after taking permission from VC)

1. **Examination, enrolment, management and administration of the university:** The VC of DU is satisfied with the present examination system,
present financial condition, as well as the enrolment pattern. Moreover, he is satisfied with the management and administration. However he stated that there are rooms for further improvement.

2. **Collaboration:** The University has collaboration with higher educational institutions of Germany and ICMR.

3. **Steps for the improvement of higher education in Assam:** Some need based academic activities should be taken up by the Government for improving higher education so that the percentage of employability increases leading to the decrease in the burden of prevailing unemployment situation in the state.

4. **Mission and vision of the university:** The DU shall motivate and strive for the creation of innovative, competent, sustainable and holistic development for achieving social harmony and ensuring quality living so that the university remains as a centre of excellence and continues to generate, disseminate and apply new knowledge and techniques throughout the state and to facilitate education and research activities in consonance with societal relevance and changing paradigms.

6.1.3 **Opinion of the Director of Technical Education**

1. **Steps undertaken to increase the number of vocational and technical colleges in Assam:** In addition to the existing nine polytechnics in Assam the process of starting 21 new polytechnics in different districts in the state is in progress. Apart from Assam Engineering College in Guwahati and Jorhat Engineering College at Jorhat, two Engineering College at Jorhat (JIST) and Kokrajhar (BBEC) are in operation where students are pursuing their engineering courses. Moreover, the construction of new Engineering Colleges at Dhemaji, Karimganj and Golaghat is in progress. Further, Government has proposed to start Engineering Colleges at Nalbari and Udalguri. There is a proposal for up-gradation of Bongaigaon Polytechnic to Degree College.

2. **Steps to be taken for improving the quality of higher education in Assam:** A system of Technical Education which results in creation of technically confident and socially responsible manpower is the best
system of technical education. Any activity directed towards attainment of this objective would definitely improve the quality of technical education in the State.

3. **Satisfaction with the present enrolment pattern in different technical colleges of Upper Assam:** The admission process in the technical institutions/colleges in the state i.e. polytechnics and engineering colleges under Assam Government is guided by the performance of a student in the Entrance Examination conducted at the State level. Thus, there exists a logical system of enrolment of students in these colleges/institutions.

4. **Basis of allocation of funds to different Technical Colleges of Assam:** Funds are allocated by the Government of Assam depending on the requirements of different institutions for their functioning. Apart from State funding there are funding from Government of India through agencies like AICTE, DST etc. for development of infrastructural facilities of the institutions/colleges.

5. **Benefit of Quality Improvement Programme (QIP):** The existing scheme of QIP under AICTE has immensely benefitted the college teachers. With the rapid change in technology, the requirement to incorporate changes in the academic curriculum is absolutely necessary. QIP scheme has given the teachers a chance to move with the current trend in technological change in the globe.

6. **Suggestions for improvement of technical education in the state:** The positive efforts of all the stakeholders of technical education of the state are absolutely necessary for upliftment of technical education in the state. Improved industry institute interactions, improved academic environment and growth of industrialisation in the State would lead to excellence in technical education in Assam.

6.1.4 **Opinion of the Director of Higher Education**

1. **Steps to increase government colleges in Assam:** As revealed by the Director of Higher Education, the Government does not have any plan of increasing the number of government colleges but they are planning to establish 12 model degree colleges in the educationally backward districts
of Assam viz. Sonitpur, Darrang, Bongaigaon, Morigaon, Dhubri, Karimganj, Cachar, Tinsukia, Nagaon, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong and Hailakandi to increase the Gross enrolment Ratio (GER) of higher education in Assam.

2. **Steps for improving the quality of higher education in Assam:** To improve the quality, educational institutions need enough manpower so that they can give quality education. But in Assam there are some colleges where there is a dearth of quality teachers. Moreover the quality of higher education depends upon curriculum and for this; high level discussions were held with the VC and other distinguished personalities of the state. Government is also trying to improve the scenario of higher education in the state through allocation of funds to different colleges of Assam. Recently, the Government of Assam has distributed Rs. 1 core to the provincialised colleges of Assam for the infrastructural development of the colleges. Moreover, funds for excursion, college magazine, and cultural events of the college were distributed to improve the quality of collegiate education in Assam.

3. **Allocation of funds to the different colleges of Assam:** Funds were allocated on the basis of requirement and priority basis to the colleges of Assam.

### 6.2 SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ENROLMENT, ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT, EXAMINATION, ACADEMIC, INFRASTRUCTURE, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

**Suggestions from the teachers and principals**

**A. Suggestions regarding enrolment (general)**

1. Admission should be completely on merit basis. A selection test is ought to be conducted for finding out the meritorious students out of those who seek admission in the college. Moreover it should be on the basis of the
seat/intake capacity and transparency should be maintained in the admission process.

2. Seat capacity should be enhanced and college authority should introduce some attractive courses for new comers.

3. Reservation should be on the basis of the economic condition of the family. Quota should not be the criterion for higher study.

4. Best Practices in terms of quality up-gradation needs to be introduced at the district level.

B. Suggestions regarding enrolment for professional colleges:

1. The number of faculties should be increased in the respective departments.

2. Enrolment should be on the basis of Scholastic cum Mental Ability Basis (SAT+MAT).

3. All questions of the entrance test should not be of multiple choice types.

4. Students’ selection through a particular entrance test is not all inclusive and deserving candidates should get chance and seat capacity for BEd colleges should be enhanced.

5. Combined Competitive Examination for BE course should be under more strict vigil because sometimes undeserving students also get chances due to some unfair means.

6. Regarding Department of Homeopathy students’ enrolment should be done as per Central Council of Homeopathy (CCH) rules. Moreover, the Government and Central Council of Homeopathy (CCH) should allow enhancing seat capacity up to 100 students.

7. Infrastructure and up-to-date facilities should be made available.

C. Suggestions regarding management at the college level (both general and professional)

1. Regular meeting should be conducted for discussion of various topics in the colleges.

2. Sufficient fund should be allocated for the proper management of the colleges.
3. In-charge principals should be replaced by the permanent principal for the proper management of the colleges.

4. Besides teaching, all the teachers of the colleges should be engaged in some other collaborative work so that unity among the teachers and also with the principal could be maintained.

5. Training should be provided to the college principals regarding management of the colleges.

6. External projects by the faculties should be brought in.

7. UGC should allocate fund for each department for proper management.

8. A contingency fund should always be present with the department for maintaining the laboratory classes smoothly.

9. Government should take initiative in raising funds for the respective departments.

10. Department should have account in bank and faculty members should contribute in raising fund.

11. In order to publish departmental journal or magazine college authority should allocate fund.

12. Separate fund should be allotted to each department to meet its needs for some purpose.

13. UGC should provide financial package to respective departments.

**D. Suggestions regarding administration of general colleges**

1. A cordial relationship should be maintained among the teachers, employees and with the principal.

2. Acceleration of programme implementation process and recruitment of more staff is needed.

3. Adequate number of teachers in each department should be appointed.

4. Administration should be decentralised. Each and every teacher should be given a specific duty apart from teaching. Only a class of people should not be involved in the matters of administration.

5. Authority should be impartial in observing rules and be free from any kind of Nepotism. Appointments ought to be made purely on merit following government rules.
6. The students’ interests should be given much importance.
7. A strong Governing Body including the principal is needed.
8. All the teaching and non-teaching staff should co-operate for better administration of the colleges.
9. Best practices of other institutions should be reviewed and adopted.
10. Computer knowledge must be made compulsory for every staff-teaching and non-teaching.
11. Efficient staff and professionally trained staffs should be appointed.
12. Adequate staff member and fund are needed for better administration system. It is also necessary that Governing Body meeting should be held on a regular basis at fixed interval of date and time.
13. Library facility, recreational facility, digital classroom, audio-visual aids should be provided.
14. Need more computers and manpower.
15. Number of working days should be increased.
16. Office ought to be fully computerised.
17. Office staff should be trained in their work promptly. Principal should keep a balanced relationship with all the members of the college. The staffs should be efficient and for this number of training programmes must be introduced.
18. Proper coordination is required among college authority, teacher and office staffs.
19. Regular visit of the principal within the campus is a must.
20. There should be sufficient teaching and non-teaching staff in the institutions.
21. Staff strength should be increased and infrastructure should be developed.
22. Systematic, computerised and punctual non-teaching staffs are required for office management.
23. Teachers’ co-operation with the Head of the institutions is required.
24. There should be co-operation among all the members of the institutions from the Principal to the Peon.
25. The administrative power of the principal should be decentralised.
26. The administrative staff should maintain friendly and cordial relationship with the stakeholders of the college.
27. The college administrative building should be constructed in another area separated from the academic building.
28. The office should be fully computerised and the office staff should be computer literate.
29. There should be co-ordination between teacher, administrative body and the students.
30. Works should be done in a systematic way.
31. Transparency and healthy relationship is an important criterion for good administration.

E. Suggestions regarding administration of professional colleges
1. Discussion with the staff members regarding rules and proper administration.
2. Colleges should be taken over by the Government and proper appointment of teachers should be ensured so as to have a better administration by an experienced and well qualified principal with proper managerial skills.
3. Complete computerisation will ease the routine functioning of the college (partial computerisation is done).
4. Qualified and permanent principal should be appointed as early as possible.
5. The administrative staff should maintain friendly and cordial relationship with all stakeholders of the college.
6. Adequate staff and proper maintenance of the college campus is required.
7. Interaction among teachers about academic matters is important to improve the administration.
8. As per regulation of the homeopathy department, CCH suggest for increasing the staff: both teacher and hospital staff.
9. Head of the institution should be of ACS/IAS officer cadre or he/she should be trained properly.

10. Staff meetings should be conducted regularly.

F. Suggestions for the general colleges regarding examination

1. There should be provision for allotting 50% marks in internal and 50% in external examination.

2. As most teachers are deprived of evaluating answer scripts, the authority should distribute the work load equally.

3. Initiatives to introduce a scientific academic calendar, evaluation by experienced teachers and proper training for evaluation should be undertaken.

4. Exchange of students’ examination centre will improve the examination system.

5. Questions should be devised to test the conceptual knowledge of the students.

6. Traditional writing examination system should be replaced by performance and application based examination.

7. Evaluation system should be maintained by computers.

8. New enriched courses should be introduced.

9. Need workshop on how to conduct examination, evaluation and question setting.

10. Negative marking should be introduced so that students do not fill their copies with bogus matters.

11. New and balanced standards for evaluation have to be adopted.

12. Mechanism should be evolved to make the evaluation system proper, fair and transparent.

13. Online submission of examination forms should be made possible.

14. Objective type question should be fewer in number in degree level and questions should be analytical.

15. Old method will not be feasible in this new system and so objective based questions must be promoted.
16. One paper should be based on project work related to problems in society.
17. Only qualified and experienced teachers should be engaged in evaluation work.
18. Question paper should be proper and should not be unnecessarily complicated.
19. Present examination system is based on memorising capacity of a student. The examination should be formulated in such a way that students’ depth of knowledge can be judged.
20. Question pattern should have depth (application level) and should be more scientific.
21. Results should be declared early.
22. Regular and timely organised academic works like question paper setting is required.
23. Selection of examiners should be on seniority basis.
24. Spot evaluation method should be incorporated.
25. Students should not be overloaded with examination.
26. Syllabus should be specific, questions should be to the point, distribution of marks should be balanced and clear instructions should be provided for proper evaluation.
27. The examination phobia needs to be handled with care. The authority should take this factor into consideration.
28. The examination system should reflect the proper standard of the students.
29. The question set in the examination should be designed so as to test the power of comprehension.
30. The questions should not be repeated and the examination should be held at the scheduled time in all colleges.
31. There should be a provision for ensuring an efficient coverage of the syllabus in the question papers and incorporation of academic and non-academic areas in the scheme subject.
G. Suggestions regarding examination for professional colleges
1. Evaluation should not be always done internally but by external examiners of equivalent institutions should also be invited.
2. Ambiguous terms should not be used in questions. Questions should be set in accordance with the norms of the syllabus and should be designed so as to assess the actual cognitive abilities of the students and there should be scope for freedom of expression.
3. Percentile system should be incorporated.
4. Constant evaluation of a student can be considered a better examination system. Repetition of questions year after year should be avoided as far as possible.
5. The semester system should be introduced.
6. Evaluation system should be properly managed.
7. Incorporation of both subjective and objective questions is necessary.
8. Questions should be free from subjectivity.
9. Examination system should provide room for innovative thinking.
10. Practical and subject oriented questions should be arranged.

H. Suggestions for improvement of the classrooms of general colleges
1. All modern technologies like satellite system, ICT devices and smart classroom should be introduced.
2. White board and black pen, power point and electronic board should be provided.
3. Monitoring of students is necessary. A fewer students should be allocated to a particular teacher starting from the first semester to the last.
4. Classrooms should not be overcrowded or prescribed student-teacher ratio should be strictly followed so that teacher can give importance to each and every student.
5. Classrooms should be student friendly, neat and clean, well lighted and properly ventilated.
6. A classroom should accommodate a maximum 50 students only.
7. Learning resources should be provided along with websites like JSTOR.
8. All important books for applied field should be provided.
9. Availability of reference books apart from ensuring the uses of teaching learning materials and audio-visual aids is required.
10. Classrooms should be equipped with sufficient audio visual and ICT devices and should be separated into different sections.
11. Demonstration is needed in classroom teaching.
12. It is necessary to carry out unit test frequently.
13. Students should be motivated to learn lessons properly through collecting proper data from various sources.
14. Teachers should follow lesson plans and method used should be simple.
15. Teachers should try to motivate the students by raising questions frequently.
16. Teaching plan, specific enrolment and application of modern tools of teaching are necessary.
17. Classrooms should be filled with comfortable desks and benches, blackboard, book racks and almirah.
18. Classrooms are to be modernised, well equipped with latest teaching aids and should be made sound proof.
19. College authority should keep an eye on cleanliness of the classroom and teaching materials should be provided regularly.
20. Fund should be provided for the improvement of the classrooms by government and local bodies.
21. Model classroom is necessary for special teaching.
22. Extra classrooms should be made available for extra classes.
23. The classrooms should be spacious and well equipped and laboratories should be well equipped with necessary instruments.

I. Suggestions for improving classrooms of professional colleges
1. Classrooms having accommodation for 100 students are essential along with scientific teaching facilities.
2. Classrooms should be air-conditioned.
3. Lecture hall should be larger than the present ones depending on the number of students.
4. New buildings should be constructed.
5. Teacher-student ratio should be maintained.
6. In every class 'EDUCOM' facilities should be introduced.

J. Suggestions for improving the college campus of general colleges

1. Both the students and teachers should be involved in plantation of trees and cleanliness of campus should be maintained.
2. Campus should be enclosed by a wall and there should be garden with sitting provisions along with a well developed college canteen.
3. More sitting arrangements are essential within the campus for students so that they can interact with each teacher smoothly.
4. A proper boundary for security along with regular flow of fund for the various maintenance works including staff quarters, hostels, gardens, roads, street electrification and water supply should be provided.
5. Duties and responsibilities should be entrusted to the efficient faculty members in order to properly maintain the colleges’ activities.
6. A congenial environment is needed.
7. Adequate staff for college maintenance should be recruited and their work should be properly monitored.
8. Buildings should be built according to a master plan and should be maintained and repaired at a regular interval of time.
9. There should be car/motor bike parking place.
10. College campus ought to be enlarged with having more lands holdings.
11. Sufficient Grade-IV workers should be engaged in the maintenance of the campus.
12. The educational institutions should be established in a peaceful and non-polluted area.
13. There must be a special committee for college campus planning and maintenance and a playground should be attached to the college campus.
14. Provision of gardener to keep the garden clean is required.
15. Campus should be clean, well maintained along with proper drinking water facility.
16. College campus should be extended and proper maintenance should be done at a fixed interval of time.
17. More infrastructures along with laboratories are necessary for students and for researchers.
18. Proper plantation around college campus is needed.
19. Adequate fund from the government should be allocated to manage the college campus.
20. Government should take necessary steps to improve the present condition.
21. Proper sanitary latrine and urinal should be attached to each department.
22. Separate cabin should be provided for each faculty members.

K. Suggestions for better college Library(general)
1. College library should be located in a tranquil atmosphere away from the roadside and working hours of the library should be revised.
2. Library should be big in size; it should have separate study room for teachers and for students. Library staff should be sufficient and well trained and the library should be opened for long hours.
3. Digital library should be introduced.
4. A spacious college library with air conditioning facility is required.
5. Adequate number of library staff should be appointed.
6. All the current journals should be available for all the arts and science students.
7. Books and other learning materials should be available.
8. E-library is necessary. New buildings are required keeping in view the increasing number of students.
9. Existing building should be extended and made more spacious.
10. Internet facility should be introduced in the library.
11. Library should be kept open till 8 pm.
12. More textbooks and reference books should be provided. Discipline should be maintained in the library.
13. Internet facilities and photocopy facilities have to be installed.
14. Proper maintenance is necessary for better utilisation of the college library.
15. Revised texts, reference books should be enough so that students can borrow help from the library.
16. Separate building is needed for library.
17. The library should have large numbers of periodicals and journals.
18. International and national journals should be provided for the users.
19. Subscription of INFLIBNET, literary journals, revised articles, purchasing of more dictionaries and provision of internet facility are required.
20. Teachers should visit library frequently to guide the students.
21. The library staff especially the librarian should be friendly with the students.
22. The study rooms must be well equipped and well furnished.
23. Yearly central funding should be provided for the library.
24. Sufficient books published by international publishers should also be provided.

L. **Suggestions for better college library of professional colleges**
1. College library should have internet facility and should provide sufficient reference books.
2. Computerisation of library is necessary.
3. Library staff should be increased. Photocopying machine, internet facility etc. should be available and library should be spacious enough.
4. Medical journals and new technology should be introduced.
5. There should be a separate reading room for the students with proper sitting arrangements.
6. A properly trained librarian is essential.
7. The library should be extended by making new buildings.

M. **Suggestions for Residential quarters (general)**
1. From time to time renovation is required. Pure and continuous running water should be provided for whole day and night.
2. More land needs to be acquired to build more residential quarters with security arrangements to accommodate both the teaching and non-teaching faculties.

3. Residential quarters for all teachers should be provided.

N. Suggesions for Residential quarters (Professional)

1. Numbers of quarters should be increased.
2. Annual maintenance is required.
3. Infrastructure should be improved.
4. Maintenance should be done annually.
5. New quarters are the need of the day, regular flow of fund for maintenance is required.

SUGGESTIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

A. Suggestions regarding enrolment (both DU and AAU)

1. Enrolment should be strictly on merit basis.
2. Entrance tests may improve the quality of higher education.

B. Suggestions regarding management at the university level (both DU and AAU)

1. A regular visit by the concerned authority is required.
2. Proper training of staff will bring more professionalism in management.
3. Infrastructure should be proper. Teachers and other man power as well as other important modern facility should be introduced.

C. Suggestions regarding administration from Dibrugarh University

1. More departmental autonomy is needed.
2. Proper training of staff in computer proficiency.
3. More transparency at the central level is a must.
4. Administration should be computerised and systematic.
5. Administrative staff should be friendly and co-operative. More staff should be appointed to avoid delay in doing things.
6. Administrative works should be systematic, punctual and delivered fast.
7. Certificates must be fully computerised and paper used for certificate must be of high quality.
8. Complaint boxes and faster artifices machinery should installed.
9. The cash counter should have efficient and adequate number of staff.
10. The administration should provide proper generator facilities to the university hostels and respective departments.
11. Administrative employees should try to solve the problem of the students as quick as possible.
12. If all the members of the administration do their own work properly it will give a good and strong administration to the university.
13. Important information in level of the students about various scholarships and related fields should be communicated to the students through circular in respective departments.
14. Proper communication and co-operation between the head and staff in the office is needed.

D. Suggestions regarding administration from Assam Agricultural University
1. Decentralisation in field management activity with proper responsibility allotted to heads of the department should be in place.
2. Punctual work schedule by staff should be maintained.
3. Placement cell and training centre in the university should be efficiently made use of.

E. Suggestions regarding examination from Dibrugarh University
1. An examination committee should be formed to conduct the examination work for BEd course.
2. The examination duration of BEd course should be reduced to 3 hours instead of 4 hours.
3. Examination should be held frequently so that they do not feel the burden at one time.
4. Semester system is much better than CBCS system.

F. Suggestions from Assam Agricultural University regarding examination
1. Course should be simplified or reduced.
2. Since it is course credit system, a part of the examination (major course) could be arranged at departmental level. This will help in reducing the time period for holding examination.

3. Since present system is as per ICAR norms, ICAR should review the existing system.

4. The course syllabus should be same throughout the nation and it should be up-to-date.

**G. Suggestions regarding extension activities (both DU and AAU)**

1. Funding agency must come forward and NGOs may also take lead in this regard.

2. The strength of the faculty should be increased.

3. Directorate of extension education of the university need to allot specific programme to the department.

4. Decentralisation of funds to the Principal Investigator (PI) level is necessary and decision making should be in the hands of the PI/ Head of the department.

5. The farmers and other stakeholders should be made more involved (participatory mode) for better results.

6. Skilled manpower is required.

**SUGGESTIONS REGARDING VARIOUS PROBLEMS PROVIDED BY THE RESEARCHER**

**A. Enrolment**

1. Proper planning should be done to attract brilliant students.

2. New courses should be introduced according to the demands of our society as well students’ needs.

3. Sufficient teachers should be appointed.

4. Intake capacity of the colleges should be increased.

5. Student-teacher ratio should be maintained for quality up-gradation.

6. Guidelines should be well defined and should be followed strictly without any compromise.
B. Administration
1. Motivational programmes should be organised.
2. Adequate staff and funds are needed for better administrative system. It is also necessary that Governing Body meeting is held on a regular basis at fixed interval of date and time.
3. Transparency and healthy relationship is an important criterion for good administration.
4. Office ought to be fully computerized and staffs should be trained to do their work promptly. The Principal should keep a balanced relationship towards all the members of the college.
5. Interaction among teachers about academic matters is important to improve the administration.

C. Examination
1. Workshops on conducting examination, evaluation of answer scripts and setting of question papers should be organised.
2. Only qualified and experienced teachers should be engaged in evaluation work.
3. Academic works like question pattern setting should be done within a stipulated time.
4. Syllabus should be specific, questions should be to the point, distribution of marks should be proper and instruction should be provided for proper evaluation.
5. One paper should be based on project work related to problems in society.
6. Examination system should provide room for innovative thinking.

D. Suggestions regarding various problems

Classroom
1. A classroom should accommodate only 50 students. The teacher-student ratio should be balanced.
2. Teachers should try to improve the students’ performance by frequently asking questions.
3. Students should be motivated to learn lessons properly by collecting proper data from various sources.

4. Vacant posts should be filled up as soon as possible, more teaching positions should be created, upgradation of the syllabus at regular intervals is necessary.

5. Classroom should be separated into different sections and should be student friendly, neat and clean with comfortable atmosphere. Moreover, demonstration should also be provided in the classroom.

**College campus**

1. Adequate staff for college maintenance should be recruited and their work should be properly monitored.

2. Campus should be clean, well maintained and there should be proper drinking water supply.

3. More infrastructures with laboratories are necessary for students and for researchers.

**College building**

1. A master plan, a strong maintenance cell and adequate fund are required.

2. Adequate fund from the Government should be disbursed to manage the college campus.

3. Internet connection for students should be provided at least in a few buildings.

4. Proper ventilation system and restructuring of departmental cabins are required.

**College library**

1. More number of reference books, revised textbooks should be provided and discipline should be maintained in the library.

2. E-library, subscription of INFLIBNET, literary journals, revised articles, purchasing of more dictionaries and provision of internet facility should be provided in the library.

3. Annual central funding should be made available for the library.

4. Proper books facility for research work should be supplied.
Common room
1. Drinking water, toilet facilities, spacious common room with lockers for teachers should be provided.
2. Introduction of recreational facilities and sufficient furniture is needed.
3. Teachers’ common room should be furnished with sufficient and appropriate magazines, journals, recreational facilities and washing basin. It should be clean and well decorated.

Finance
1. For improvement of laboratory and departmental library every year an adequate amount should be allocated.
2. Head of the institution should prepare a budget and send it to the concerned authorities.

Residential quarters
1. Residential quarters for teachers should be provided.
2. New quarters are the need of the day. Regular flow of funds for maintenance is urgently needed.

6.3 Based on objective seven: Suggestions for improvement of Higher Education in Upper Assam

SUGGESTIONS AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL

Suggestions for general colleges
1. Government of Assam should take some measures to introduce skill based courses, technical courses etc. for better improvement of students.
2. Management at all level should be dynamic and efficient. Academic ethics and ideals ought to be followed not only by the teachers but also by all sections of people involved in management. Academic activities should be given preference above all. Monitoring of activities should be done in a proper way.
3. 100% dedication of teachers, administration and government towards higher education is needed.
4. As far as Assam is concerned, Statesmen and educationists should be involved in policy making rather than politicians regarding higher education.

5. Bifurcation of the professional course should be done in the high school level and every capable student should get proper training, encouragement and facility to specialise their own line of thinking. There should be a motive to produce proper human resource for the all-round development of the country.

6. Colleges and universities should introduce new courses and ought to collaborate with top ranked foreign universities in the world. Academic exchange between different universities is required. More research in this area is needed.

7. Exchange of faculties (both at the national and international level) and Extensive welfare programme should be organised. Motivated programmes and every innovative idea should be encouraged.

8. Active cooperation of the government and all stakeholders particularly of the teachers are needed.

9. Following innovative best practice measures by different stakeholders of higher education, a state level knowledge commission like National Knowledge Commission (NKC) is needed.

10. Students hailing from rural areas should get special care and control from the authority and college family. Social network should be strong to prevent the bad practices among the students.

11. Decentralisation of work with financial power by creating some position among the senior faculties is required.

12. A practical approach should be taken by the policy makers.

13. Advancement of IT is needed.

14. Colleges should be upgraded to post-graduate level.

15. Government must immediately take steps to create new posts in those departments which have been facing shortage of faculty.
16. Higher education should be accessible only for deserving students. Other students should pursue various career oriented courses for self employment.

17. Higher education should be attractive and more profitable for the students.

18. Higher education should be designed so as to fulfil the needs of time and moral education should also be given weight-age to avoid moral degradation.

19. Higher education should be job oriented and professional. Technical subjects should be included in the curriculum as per the demands of the present situation. The classical subjects which are job oriented should be restructured.

20. It should be more real life oriented and more support and facilities should be provided in this respect.

21. It should be systematic to meet the challenges of present day world.

22. The entire system should be free from political, caste, community and religious influence.

23. More concrete and practical measures, scope for vocational and professional courses are needed.

24. Higher educational institutions should be opened and higher secondary section should be removed from colleges. Dearth of teachers and large number of students are the impediments in higher education.

25. Open deliberations among scholars of different disciplines are needed.

26. Potentiality of the students should be identified in a more appropriate manner.

27. Practical problem solving method of education may be introduced instead of theoretical process.

28. Pro-active activity should be undertaken to promote the system of higher education.

29. Proper planning and administration of the higher education system is required.
30. Commercialisation of higher education should be checked. Proper planning of the courses should be done. The whole system should be maintained by proper administration. Courses should be research oriented.

31. Syllabus must be made adequate to cope up with the existing socio-economic and political scenario of the state.

32. Syllabus should be equivalent with that of other advanced states.

33. Teachers have to concentrate on research work.

34. Teachers should be trained properly.

35. Teaching-learning evaluation system should be changed for the quality development of the students.

36. Technical education should be provided. System of negative marking should be introduced in evaluation.

37. The mushrooming growth of private colleges should be stopped.

38. The syllabus should be according to the need of domestic environments for utilising local resources for growth.

39. The syllabus should be up-dated to a higher extent.

40. The brain drain of students should be checked and seat capacity at various institutions should be increased.

41. The quality and quantity criterion should be maintained.

42. Vocational and skill based curriculum should be included along with the traditional curriculum.

43. Bookish and theoretical knowledge will not help a person in actual field. Syllabus improvement as per demand of society is important.

44. Attendance of the students and assignment should be strictly maintained.

45. Career counselling and employment generating programmes should be provided to the students.

46. Harmonious academic atmosphere is urgently required.

47. Students should be made aware of their rights.

48. College should bring professionalism among students.

49. College monitoring system should be introduced. Community participation is very essential.
50. Change in the mindset, strengthening of students and teachers rapport is necessary.

51. Extra classes can be taken up by the teachers for the betterment of the students.

52. Create proper atmosphere for learning in college, improve library facilities and other facilities.

53. Every student should feel that he/she will do something after the completion of the course.

54. Construction of language laboratory is essential. Besides strengthening infrastructure and recruiting sufficient number of teachers are needed.

55. Financial account should be transparent.

56. Internet facilities should be provided along with proper discipline.

57. Group discussion and seminars should be organised frequently to enable the students to be more competitive.

58. In addition to general classes, seminars, symposia and workshops should be held frequently.

59. Innovative measures in each sphere are needed. Moreover, introducing new ideas and innovative courses among students is necessary.

60. Lots of extracurricular activity should be included.

61. Modern methods and the technologies should be properly utilised for betterment of the students.

62. Need total involvement of teachers and local people.

63. Motivation classes ought to be organised and students should be encouraged to enhance computer and communication skills.

64. Performance based educational system should be promoted.

65. Regular involvement of students in different activities like seminar, workshop and visit to different institutions ought to be ensured.

66. Meeting with parents should be organised regularly.

67. Spiritual, moral education, career counselling and motivational programmes are required.

68. Discipline among the students need to be strictly maintained.
69. Self financing courses along with vocational courses should be introduced.

70. There should be some criterion for students’ admission as it creates problem in rural colleges.

71. There should be student-teachers interactive session and uniformity in the colleges.

72. There should be moral education content in the syllabus for the betterment of the students.

Suggestions for professional colleges

1. Higher education should aim at raising the intellectual standard of the society, cultivating the public mind; purifying the national taste; supplying true principles to popular enthusiasm and fixed aims to popular aspiration and at giving enlargement. Quality education depends on research and without quality, a nation will fall back. There is an urgent need for reforming and reorganising post graduate teaching and research work in our country.

2. Reformative policies should be adopted by the government for the benefit of the students. For the development of the skill of the student modern methods of teaching should be adopted in the higher educational institutions.

3. Higher education can be improved by recruiting appropriate manpower with academic interest. Up-gradation of faculties can be done by sending each of them for refresher courses, which is not available at various medical colleges.

4. Job oriented education be given to attract the students for formal higher education

5. Recruitment of deserving qualified teachers, proper training facilities, efficiency or performance based salary for teachers should be introduced. Performance based allocation of fund for higher educational institutions by the government are necessary.

6. Technical education at high school level should be initiated.
7. Course and classroom should be modernised. Library should be modernised, free access to different e-books and e-journal should be made possible.

8. There should be productive research oriented courses in the colleges.

9. A practical approach should be taken.

10. All institutions should be autonomous without any political interference.

11. Authority of respective department should encourage employees by appointing meritorious candidates.

12. Course and classroom should be modernised. Efficient teaching staff should be appointed. Good infrastructure facilities as per requirement should be made available. Teacher-student ratio should be maintained properly.

13. Provision for allowances for higher study, provision for special leave /on duty leave during the study period with full salary, additional incentive after completion of higher study like promotion should be there.

14. State government should give more attention to improve the present condition of higher education. Moreover, they should give more importance on infrastructure development of the colleges and deficiencies of teacher-student requirement.

15. Teachers’ appointment should be purely on merit basis and on the basis of practical knowledge.

16. Proper guidance to students at school level is necessary so that they come with clear concept regarding their goal.

17. Proper guidelines, financial assistance and awareness are essential for development of higher education.

18. The scenario of higher education can be improved by providing more equipped information technology and advanced books along with involvements of the students and encouraging teacher student relationship.

19. Free internet facility for the students with access to online journals should be there.

20. CGPA system should be incorporated.
21. Photocopying facility in each department should be provided. Library ought to be kept opened round the clock.

22. LCD and other latest technological devices ought to be provided for better learning. Well equipped electronic measures with various reference books for betterment of the students of the colleges should be provided.

23. Well equipped classroom, adequate books in the library, sufficient number of teaching staffs is needed.

24. Early discussion is needed with the higher authority for progress of the students.

SUGGESTIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Suggestions for Dibrugarh University

1. Physical education should be made a compulsory subject for all round development of students.

2. Students as well as teachers should be co-operative and friendly. Students should devote themselves for education, should learn more things, and should try for the upliftment of education in Upper Assam as a whole.

3. Government should take immediate steps to set up more universities in the area and more funds should be allocated to them. Due to limited seat capacity and limited number of universities many of the students are unable to get higher education.

4. It should provide placement for all the students after passing out examination and provide proper amount of scholarship for the completion of the course.

5. Library should be kept opened for longer hours. Internet connection with Wi-Fi facility should be given. The number of hostels should be increased, security should be improved, international level seminars, meeting should be organised and participation of students in talks, discussions on any matter or case of university should be encouraged. There should be provision for recruitment of all qualified students.
6. One or two more universities should be opened and the admission fees should be reasonable regarding professional courses. Syllabus should be framed in such a way that it can compete with other universities of India and could relate with the NET/ SLET examinations. The papers that are included in the masters’ degree course should be job oriented and deal with relevant issues. Proper hostel facilities should be provided to each and every student.

7. Dedicated students and teachers are most important for improving the present state of higher education.

8. Academic infrastructure should be improved at the college level and outsider students should be encouraged to study here.

9. Inter-college and inter-departmental competitions should be organised. Proper infrastructure facilities, improvement of hostel condition, food and health is required.

10. Proper facilities should be provided. Different courses should be opened. Scholarship should be provided to the deserving students and most importantly job opportunities should be given by the university.

11. Proper education should be provided at the lower level to improve the present condition of higher education. Skill and effective teachers should be appointed and proper training facilities should be provided to them.

12. Some career oriented courses should be introduced in the schools and colleges. Fee structure for the professional courses should be made reasonable. Syllabus prescribed in the colleges and universities should be equivalent with the national level.

13. The institution should cover all the courses which have demands in the job market.

14. Various higher educational institutions should be set up and encouraged by the govt with well equipped library and other facilities. Enough scope should be provided to the students for pursuing higher education smoothly.

15. Educational institutions should be adequately managed by qualified persons.
16. Lack of job opportunities is the major problem of the students after completing their courses. So, job opportunities are very much required, introduction of career oriented and professional courses are needed.

17. Privatisation of higher education should be checked.

18. The merits of the students should be screened at graduate level so that only meritorious and able students come up for post-graduation. Teachings in English language should be encouraged in the graduate level as the students lack their power of expression in English.

19. The education sector of the state should be given more importance to improve the quality of education.

20. Work culture should be developed among the teaching and non-teaching staff.

21. The higher educational institutions should enrol quality students, appoint qualified teachers and should organise training programmes for teachers and staffs and the programmes/course should be up to date and meaningful.

**Suggestions for Assam Agricultural University**

1. Exposure to different university, personality development and other such programmes should be there in every college and university.

2. The admission systems should be computerised. Frequent tour programme should be arranged, free opportunity for practising practicals should be provided. Transport and infrastructure around the university should be improved.

3. Awareness of general public with a motivation towards higher education should be created.

4. Educational institutions should be adequately managed by qualified persons.

5. Career counselling is required from time to time. Job must be increased in any line so that people get interested to go for higher education instead of going for business.

6. More publicity and more information should be provided to people.
7. Providing good facilities and nurturing the student properly by teachers in a good way is required.
8. A uniform syllabus should be designed throughout the country.
9. Creation of more quality higher education institutes.
10. Equal importance should be provided to theory and practical as well.
11. Practical oriented courses should be initiated, brain drain process should be stopped.
12. Regular classes should be held and bandh culture should be discouraged, periodic revision of the syllabi keeping pace with the national and global education system should be undertaken.
13. Syllabus to cover more of religion-based problems.
14. Students’ visit programmes to advanced institutions should be ensured.
15. Teachers should be trained with the latest technology every now and then.
16. The students should be motivated to go for advanced courses and the faculties should be better trained and e-learning promoted.
17. The teachers should be well-versed with the course syllabus.
18. IT must be introduced in all the institutions for better achievement of education.

6.4 Conclusion: In conclusion, it is clear that general higher education in Upper Assam is progressing day by day as the number of higher educational institutions, number of students’ enrolment and pass percentage are increasing. There is the need to provide adequate infrastructure, quality human resources, as well as trained manpower so that quality of these educational institutions may improve to the utmost level. The Government of Assam is also trying to bring quality to these educational institutions by providing various funds and various incentives. It is felt that the matter should be looked into seriously so that it can produce the desired result. Moreover, there is dearth of teachers in some departments and they need to be solved outright. It is also observed that majority of the general colleges have only the arts stream. So, the
Government as well as the concerned authority should take initiative to establish science and commerce streams. Most of the colleges do not have residential quarters for the teachers. So, it is necessary to establish residential quarters for the teachers. Moreover, there is a need to increase the number of hostels for students benefit.

As compared to general colleges, professional colleges are fewer in number in Upper Assam. So the Government should take steps for establishing more professional and technical colleges in the area. At the same time, colleges should increase the intake capacity of the professional colleges and upgrade them to government colleges.