CHAPTER VI

INSTITUTIONALISATION

OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION

IN ASSAM - A HISTORY
Institutionalisation of H.S. education in the Indian education system is closely related with the realisation of the basic objectives, because the process of institutionalisation enables the education system to absorb and accommodate the new configuration of roles it is expected to play. The process of institutionalisation is not random or purely accidental, it is rather gradual, continuous and flexible. It always takes off from certain fixed points which are determined by the nature of the institutional framework and its organisational structure.

Ten year schooling in Assam is divided into three stages, viz. primary for four years (I to IV classes), middle for three years (V to VII classes) and secondary for three years (VIII to X classes). Pre-primary of one year started at the age of 5 years. This arrangement was effected in 1971 as a result of accepting the N P E (1980). There existed eight year H.S., Multipurpose schools unto class XI. In the colleges, the Pre-University and Pre-Degree courses prevailed. These Pre-University or Pre-degree
courses have been abandoned since the formation of two-year H.S. courses under the guidance and control of the newly established the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council.

Prior to creation of the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council in 1984, the academic work and conduct of examination at the H.S. level was seen by SEPA (Secondary Education Board of Assam). The Council now affiliating the H.S. schools after inspection on prescribed norms. The regulation on recognition of H.S. schools and Junior Colleges was passed by the Council in its meeting held on 29-7-85 vide resolution No.85/7/3 and came into force from 15-5-85. 135

(A) Initial conditions for permission to open a new H.S. school/ Junior college or upgrading a High school to H.S. school or opening a new stream/ Subject in the existing H.S. school/ Junior college as envisaged in the regulation are :-

1(a) There must be a public demand based on real need for a new H.S. school/ Junior college at the proposed site supported by a resolution of a duly held open meeting representing the public of the locality. The

public representatives should include among other personalities, guardians, members of the Panchayat/ Municipality/ Town Committee, Secretary/ Head master/ Principals of the nearest H.S. schools/ Junior colleges.
(b) In case of upgrading an existing High school or opening a new stream/ subject, the demand should come in the form of a resolution adopted in a meeting of the Managing Committee/ Development Committee of the school or Governing Body of the Junior college as the case may be.
(c) No High School which is not recognised by the Board of Secondary Education, Assam shall be permitted to be upgrade it into a H.S. school, and no H.S. school which is not recognised by the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council shall be permitted to introduce a new stream or subject.

2. The need for a H.S. school/ Junior college in the area shall be determined on the basis of the following:
(a) A H.S. school/ Junior college will be considered necessary in a rural area where there are at least ten recognised High Schools within a radius of 10 K.M. around the place not served by any other H.S. school/ Junior college, and the number of candidates passing out annually from the neighbouring schools within a radius of 10 K.M. is not less than 120 on an average of three preceding years.
(b) A new H.S. school/ Junior college will not be considered a real need of a particular area if there is within a radius of 10 K.M. in rural areas and 5 K.M. in urban areas another H.S. school/ Junior college imparting justification in the medium and subjects proposed to the new School/College with less than 150 pupils on the roll.

(c) Notwithstanding the condition mentioned in (b) above -

(i) A new H.S. school/ Junior college may be considered necessary if a natural barrier exists causing transport difficulty.

(ii) A new Girls H.S. school/ Junior college may be considered necessary if the number of girls in an existing co-educational H.S. school/ Junior college exceeds 40% of the total enrolment; subject to a minimum 100 girl students.

(iii) A new Girls H.S. school/ Junior college may be considered necessary in case there is no provision for admission of girls in the existing H.S. school/ Junior college within the area.

3. The sponsors must provide for an area of land which should be sufficient for instructional buildings, hostels, staff quarters, play ground and such other purposes as may be provided under this regulation. The minimum area
of land should be 13.5 bighas (1.75 hectares) in rural area and 2 bighas (0.25 hectares) in rural areas for instructional buildings only. Relaxation on the minimum land requirement may be given in these cases where there are common play grounds with another institution.

4. The sponsoring body must provide for the following funds for the proposed H.S. school/Junior college.

(a) Reserved fund
Rs.15000/-

(b) Working fund

(i) For Humanities/ Commerce Course only
Rs.20,000/-

(ii) For Humanities/ Commerce and Science Course
Rs.50,000/-

(c) Fund for furniture and fittings -

(i) For class room
Rs.10,000/-

(ii) For Laboratory
Rs. 20,000/-

(d) Fund for library (at least 500 volumes relating to the subjects introduced)
Rs.10,000/-

The minimum requirement of funds shown are relaxable in case of a government institution in respect of (a) and (b) only.

(e) Adequate provision of building fund for construction of buildings as detailed below for H.S. school/Junior college.
1. Class Room:

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<tr>
<th>Carpet Area</th>
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<th>2nd Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>(i) 1200 sq.ft.</td>
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<td>(30' x 40')</td>
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<td>(30' x 40')</td>
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<td>(ii) 600 sq.ft.</td>
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<td>(20' x 20')</td>
<td>(20' x 20')</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) 600 sq.ft.</td>
<td>600 sq.ft.</td>
<td>600 sq.ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20' x 20')</td>
<td>(20' x 20')</td>
<td>(20' x 20')</td>
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Sum total 2400 sq.ft. 2400 sq.ft.

2. Additional for Science Stream:

For each subject with practical work:

(i) Laboratory (furnished for 20 pupils) - 600 sq.ft. (20' x 20') - 1 No. (Carpet area)

(ii) Store preparation, gas etc. - 600 sq.ft. (20' x 20') - 1 No. (Carpet area)

Total 1200 sq.ft.

3. Office and other rooms:

(i) Principal's office room - 300 sq.ft.
(ii) Teacher's common room - 300 sq.ft.
(iii) Office room - 300 sq.ft.
(iv) Library - 1100 sq.ft.
(v) Boy's common room - 600 sq.ft.
(vi) Girl's common room - 300 sq.ft.

Total 2900 sq.ft.
Further necessary sanitary facility such as sanitary latrines, urinals separately for boys and girls shall be provided.

(B) Conditions to be fulfilled by a permitted H.S. school College for obtaining provisional recognition:

A H.S. school/ Junior College permitted to start H.S. classes must fulfil the following conditions within 1½ years from the date of obtaining permission to the effect in order to enable provisional recognition of the Council and to present candidates to the H.S. Examination as regular candidates:

1. Managing Committee/ Governing Body:

   (a) A School Managing Committee/ Development Committee shall be duly constituted as required under relevant Govt. Rules during first year of starting the H.S. school for its management. As regards Colleges/ H.S. Schools receiving Govt. grant, there shall be a Governing Body for the smooth management and continuous development of College/ H.S. School as per rules provided by the Govt. As regards the Junior College/ H.S. Schools which are not receiving any grant from the Govt. at the time of applying for provisional recognition shall have a Governing Body/ Managing Committee duly constituted by the Council under rules for the purpose of smooth management and continuous development of the College/ H.S. School.
(b) In case of High School starting H.S. classes, the Managing Committee shall be reconstituted as and when directed by the Govt./Council.

2. Land:
   (a) Land for building and play ground of the School/College shall be physically acquired to the extent as prescribed for the purpose of granting permission to start such School/College and as evidenced by land certificate.

   (b) Existing High School which is recognised by the Board of Secondary Education, Assam and which possesses sufficient land that can be spared for the II.S. section may not have to require additional land.

   (c) Land for School Building and Compound:
      (i) For single storeyed building - 0.5 Ha. (4 bighas)
      (ii) For multi-storeyed building - 0.25 Ha. (2 bighas)
      (iii) For ground - 1.00 Ha. (7.5 bighas)

3. (a) The H.S.School/ Junior College will construct permanent furnished building of its own for providing accommodation as prescribed for obtaining permission to start such school/college.

   (b) Adequate furniture for academic (theoretical, practical), library and official purposes as prescribed by the Council from time to time shall be obtained by the school/college.
4. Funds:

The H.S. School/College shall provide for the following funds as evidenced by Bank Accounts/Certificates:

(a) Reserve fund (in N.D.C. or F.S.C. or 7 years fixed deposit in a National bank) Rs. 15000/-

(b) Working funds:

(i) For Humanities or Commerce course only

.... Rs. 20,000/-

(ii) For Humanities/Commerce and Science course

Rs. 50,000/-

The minimum requirement of funds shown are relaxable in case of Govt. institution.

5. Equipment:

Teaching aids including science teaching equipments shall be sufficient for the total number of pupils in each class to enable them to cover effectively the entire course contents in different subjects.

Teaching aids and equipments must forever conform to standards as laid down by the Council from time to time.

6. Staff:

The H.S. School/Junior College shall appoint the following permanent teaching staff in the scale of pay as per Govt. rules, provided that teachers may be appointed on temporary basis until permanent appointments are
made in the corresponding posts:—

(a) Principal:

A Principal must at least be a Second class Master Degree holder in Arts, Science, Commerce, Agriculture, Veterinary, Medicine, Engineering with a minimum of 45% marks in aggregate and Honours or Distinction in the Bachelors Degree; must not be less than 35 years of age; must have at least 10 years teaching/administrative experience with a commanding personality, administrative ability, integrity and honesty.

The present working Principals below the norms prescribed above but approved by the State Govt. shall temporarily continue as Principal until their replacement.

(b) Subject Teacher:

At least one teacher in each subject of Arts and Commerce stream and at least two teachers in each Science subject involving laboratory practical classes. The present arrangement of one teacher and the Demonstrator in the Science subjects of the existing H.S. schools will continue until they are upgraded to teacher-ship after improvement of their qualifications. In the case of Biology, one teacher each from Botany and Zoology shall be appointed.

The qualifications of a Subject Teacher in H.S. school/Junior College are:—
At least a Second Class Master's Degree holder in the subject concerned with minimum of 45% marks in aggregate and Honours or Distinction at the Bachelor's Degree.

The qualifications of the present working Demonstrators shall continue to be a Science graduate with Honours in the subject concerned.

(c) Office Staff - As per requirement.

d) Laboratory Bearer:

Each Science Laboratory must have one Bearer who must have passed at least H.S.L.C. examination.

7. Library:

A nucleus of a library shall be created with at least 500 volumes of text-books and reference books relating to the subject introduced in the H.S. course in schools/Junior colleges. The reading room facilities shall also be provided to encourage reading habits of the students. Appointment of a duly qualified Librarian (at least a graduate with diploma in Library Science) is desirable for the smooth management of the library.

8. Enrolment:

In each class there must be a minimum enrolment of 40 pupils in a Science, 50 in Commerce and 50 pupils in Arts stream.

The maximum number of pupils in each class must
not exceed 120 in Science, 150 in Arts and Commerce streams.

9. Co-Curricular Activity:

There must be adequate provision for co-curricular activities like games and sports, debates and symposia etc. as may be provided in the Council's curricular and satisfactory provision for recreational and sanitary facilities for both men and women.

10. Records:

There must be proper maintenance of records such as admission forms, students admission register, fee register, attendance registers of staff and students, tutorial records, merit register, cash book, acquittance roll, stock register, proceeding book of the Managing Committee/Governing Body and general accounts of the school/college.

11. Working days and Class periods:

The school/Junior college shall work for 200 days in a year. Each lecture hour shall be of 45 minutes duration but not less than 40 minutes duration. There shall be at least 200 lecture classes each of 45 minutes duration spread over two academic sessions in each subject of the Arts and Commerce streams.

The total number of lecture classes in each subject of science stream shall be 240 periods of 40
minutes duration.

The total number of laboratory practical classes of 90 minutes duration each shall be 60 periods spread over in two academic sessions. The institutions which cannot provide for lecture periods of 45 minutes duration may provide for lecture periods of 40 minutes duration with prior approval of the Council on condition that the total number of lecture classes is proportionately increased from the minimum of 300 classes in each subject of Arts and Commerce streams and 240 of each subject of the Science stream.

12. The H.S. school/ Junior college must have record of satisfactory management and regularity in holding classes, in attendance of teaching staff, in attendance of students and satisfactory maintenance of discipline among students and staff.

13. A school which is accorded permission to open H.S. classes must enrol the minimum number of pupils in the H.S. 1st year class within the last date of admission to be notified by the Council in different time.

14. The H.S. school/ Junior college shall submit to the Council a regular annual return or report for the preceding academic year in a form to be prescribed by the Council.
(C) Standard of Achievements and Maintenance Required for granting and renewal of recognition to the H.S. school/ College:

1. The H.S. school/ Junior college shall constantly maintain adequate reserve and working funds as required for granting provisional recognition.

2. The School/ College shall constantly maintain adequate staff as per pattern of staff requirement as determined by the H.S. Education Council and sanctioned by the Govt.

3. The School/ College shall be maintained constantly a pupil enrolment which does not fall short of the minimum required for provisional recognition.

4. (a) The School/ College shall work for a minimum of 200 days in a year for the purpose of teaching, internal tests and examinations and co-curricular activities. Each full working day will consist of at least 5 hours including mid-day recess.

(b) Each pupil shall attend classes at least 75% of the total working days failing which the pupil may not be promoted to the next higher class or sent up for the H.S. examination. Exception to this rule may be resorted to in case of prolonged illness as certified by a registered medical practitioner.

5. Tests and Examinations:

The H.S. school/ Junior college shall administer tests and examinations regularly to all pupils. There
should be as many tests in a subject as there are units
in it. The School/Collage shall hold an annual examina-
tion at the end of each academic session. The School/Collage
will maintain all records of performance of pupils in
these tests and examinations properly and shall forward
all such records for the guardians after each test for
information and to the Council when called for.

6. Home Work:

Home work to the pupils must be assigned regul-
larly in such a way that at least one home work is done
in each unit of subject. Such home work shall be examined
and corrected by the Subject Teacher.

7. Promotion:

(a) Promotion of pupils to higher classes shall be
based on pupil's performance in the tests and
annual examination.

(b) Standard of pupil's achievements for promotion
to a higher class must not be proportionately lower
than that required for passing the H.S. School
Leaving Certificate Examination.

(c) At least 75% of the pupils in a class must be
able to achieve this standard so that they are
promoted to the next higher class or sent up for
final examination.
8. Performance at the final H.S. Examination:

Of the candidates sent up by the H.S. school/Junior college for the H.S. Examination each year, the percentage of candidates who pass the examination shall not fall below the overall pass percentage of the examination for the preceding three consecutive years.

9. Discipline:

Strict discipline is to be maintained by the pupils and the staff at all times within and outside the school/college premises as evidenced by the inspection report of an appropriate authority, which should as well be free from any adverse remark. The school/college management must be wholesome efficient and progressive in outlook and must be free from any form of bias, corruption and any action that may vitiate the administrative and academic atmosphere of the institution.

(D) Assam Aided College Management Rules, 1976:

Save in cases where Secretary to the Government of Assam in the Education Department sanctions a Special Body under special circumstances each Governing Body shall consist of the following members namely:

(a) (i) One President

(ii) One Secretary

(iii) Two representatives of the teaching staff to be elected annually from among themselves.
(iv) Two persons to be nominated by the Gauhati University/ Dibrugarh University.

(v) Donor's Nominee - Donors who paid Rs.25000/ or more or their nominees, not more than one person nominated by each donor would continue to be life member. For new donors representation will be limited to one to be elected by new donors from among themselves in rotation every two years.

(vi) Five persons to be nominated by the Govt. of whom two will be govt. officials and three non-officials. Provided that there should be a lady nominated in the Girls College out of the five persons nominated by the Govt.

(vii) The guardian's representatives other than members of teaching staff to be co-opted by the other members of whom one shall be a lady.

(b) The President shall be nominated by the Govt. from members nominated under clause (a)(vi) above.

(c) In deficit aided college, the Principal of the college shall be nominated by the Govt. as ex-officio Secretary of the Governing Body of the College. In other aided colleges, an outsider may be nominated by the
Govt. as Secretary and in that case the Principal of the College shall be nominated as member and Joint Secretary in the Governing Body by virtue of his office with corresponding reduction in nomination of non-official members by the Govt. under clause (a)(vi) above.

(d) The Govt. officials shall be ex-officio members in the body.

The power of nomination under this rule is delegated to the U.P.T., Assam.

(E) Rules on Management of Colleges/ H.S. Schools (other than Govt. and Govt.-aided Colleges/ H.S. School of Assam)

Governing Body:

(1) There shall be a Governing Body/ Managing Committee in each college/H.S. school to manage and conduct the affairs of the College/H.S. schools and to do all such other acts and things as may be required for the purpose.

(2) The Governing Body/ Managing Committee shall consist of the following members:

(i) Principal, Ex-officio;

(ii) Vice-Principal, if any, Ex-officio

(iii) The representatives to be elected annually by the members of the teaching staff from among themselves, the election being conducted by the Principal.
(iv) Four members to be nominated by the Council.

(v) Donors paying Rs. 75000/- or more or their nominees, not more than one person being nominated by each donor, provided that if any donation is made jointly by two or more persons, only one of them or only one nominee of theirs may become a member of the Governing Body/Managing Committee. If any donation is made by any firm or institution or organisation it shall be treated as a single donor.

(vi) Four members to be nominated by the outgoing Governing Body/Managing Committee or sponsoring Body of the College/Higher Schools from among the members of the Committee which first sponsored the college.

(vii) Three members other than the members of the teaching staff to be co-opted by the other members of whom at least one shall be a lady, at least one is guardian and at least one an educationist.

(3) The President and the Secretary of the Governing Body shall be elected by the members from among themselves. Where the Principal is not the Secretary, he shall be the Joint Secretary.

(4) Six members present shall form a quorum.

(5) The Governing Body shall meet at least four times a year.
(6) No Act or proceeding of the Governing Body shall be invalidated merely on grounds of any vacancy in the Governing Body/Managing Committee.

(7) Except in an emergency the members of the Governing Body shall be held in the college premises.

(8) The tenure of the Governing Body shall be three years from the date of nomination of the representatives of the Council.

(9) The Governing Body shall frame necessary rules for financial transactions and for proper maintenance and audit of accounts.

The regulations on recognition of H.S. schools and Junior colleges have been revised in 1989 with certain modifications and amendments. The initial conditions required for opening a new H.S. school/Junior college have been recasted. In the condition 1(a), demand of a corporate body or a Department of Central/State Govt. in which cases resolution of public meeting may not be necessary, is included for opening a new H.S. school/Junior college. In the condition 1(b) it is added that in case of provincialised High School and Govt. High School/ H.S. School, demand should come from the State Govt. In the condition 1(c) relaxation is given in use of additional stream subject sponsored by the Govt. In the revised regulations, the Council reserves the right to relax the provision regarding area of land, in case
of multi-storeyed building. Some modifications have also been made in the revised regulations in respect of room specifications, fund requirement, working days and minimum enrolment requirements for recognition of the H.S. school/Junior College.

In Assam the academic work and conduct of examination at the H.S. level was seen by the Secondary Education Board of Assam (SEBA) since introduction of the H.S. education as per recommendation of the Secondary Education Commission (1952-53). The SEBA was established under the Assam Secondary Education Act, 1961 to regulate, supervise and develop the system of Secondary Education in the State of Assam, in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Council for H.S. education was formed in 1984 under the Assam Higher Secondary Education Act, 1984. The Council now affiliates the H.S. schools after inspection on prescribed norms. The Council make regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act and in the matters connected to academic works.

Under the regulations of the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council on recognition of H.S. schools and Junior colleges, 439 H.S. schools have so far recognised upto 1990-91. The districtwise number of schools recognised with the number of schools opening different streams are shown in Table-32.
TABLE - 32

Districtwise No. H.S. Schools established and No. of schools offering Science, Arts, Commerce and Vocational Streams in Assam upto 1991-92

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of districts</th>
<th>Total No. of H.S. schools</th>
<th>Number of H.S. schools offering</th>
<th>Science stream</th>
<th>Arts stream</th>
<th>Commerce stream</th>
<th>Vocational stream</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>439</strong></td>
<td><strong>164</strong></td>
<td><strong>387</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Source : D.P.I., Assam.
The total number of H.S. schools in 1976 was only 70 numbers out of which 24 numbers were Government H.S. school and 46 numbers were non-Govt. H.S. school. The number of H.S. schools have significantly expanded since 1976. Similarly the colleges in Assam have significantly expanded in the same period. The number of colleges, enrolment and teaching staff existed during 1960-61, 1970-71, 1980-81 and 1990-91 are presented in Table -33.

**TABLE - 33**

Expansions of Colleges in Assam

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Colleges</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
<th>Teaching staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>1960-61</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25243</td>
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<td>1980-81</td>
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Source: Higher Education In Assam, 1992; Published by the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Assam.
The process of institutionalisation of H.S. education in Assam has been running as gradual, continuous and flexible. The institutional framework and its organisational structure have been adjusting with the objectives of a stage of education in the changing environment.