Report of the Committee to examine the recommendations of the Combined Competitive Examination Reforms Committee under the chairmanship of Shri M.P. Bezbaruah, IAS (Retd.)

Govt. of Assam in the Personnel Department constituted a Committee to examine the recommendations contained in the report of Shri M.P. Bezbaruah Committee regarding Combined Competitive Examination vide Notification, dated 18th March, 2016. A copy of the Notification is enclosed.

The recommendations of the Combined Competitive Examination Reforms Committee (CCERC) was examined by the Committee under the chairmanship of Shri R. T. Jindal, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam. Shri M.G.V.K. Bhanu, IAS, Addl. Chief Secretary and Shri P. K. Borthakur, IAS, Principal Secretary were other two members of the said Committee. The Committee deliberated at length the various recommendations of the CCERC and its views are submitted below:

- (1) Recommendation at para 2.4 of the report regarding following a time table for issue of advertisement and conduct of examination may be accepted.
- (2) Recommendation at para 2.6 regarding reducing the length of time between the closing date of application and date of preliminary examination may be accepted.
- (3) Regarding recommendation at para 2.8 about engagement of neutral observers, the said recommendation may be accepted.
- (4) Regarding recommendation at para 2.10 about engagement of observer while opening the answer scripts in the laboratory of the office, the recommendation may be accepted.
- (5) Regarding recommendation at para **3**.4 and 3.5 about the idea of questions printed in the answer script and engagement of observers may also be accepted.
- (6) Regarding recommendation at para 3.6 about packing of answer scripts and use of Bar coding system may be accepted.
- (7) Regarding recommendation at para 4.1 prescribed maximum marks to be alloted for interview, it is recommended that maximum marks for interview should not exceed 12.2% of the total marks in the main examination including interview. Regarding the recommendation of CCERC about interview boards and the procedure, the same may be accepted.
- (8) Regarding recommendation at para 5.4 the same may be accepted. However the question setter should provide the points of answer at the time

The way

of setting the questions and these points should be available to the Examiner at the time of evaluation. Regarding scanning the first page of the marks foil, the APSC may examine the feasibility of the proposal.

- (9) Regarding the recommendation about venue of question paper setting and selection of a person of good background for handling confidential matters the recommendation may be accepted.
- (10) Regarding recommendation at para 7.3 and 7.4 providing for a Search Committee with the Chief Secretary as Chairman and the Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Minister, the recommendations may be accepted. However the process of decision making i.e. whether it will be by consensus or by majority decision, should be spelt out in the regulations to be amended in this respect.
- (11) As regards recommendation at para 7.6 about the role of Secretary and the Joint Secretary, the recommendation may be accepted.
- (12) As regards the recommendation at para 7.7.3 recommendation may be accepted, however instead of 50% negative marking, negative marks should be linked to the probability of getting correct answer by chance by candidates.
- (13) As regards recommendation at para 7.7.3 for modifying the pattern of Preliminary examination, instead of English language ability test, test of aptitude and numerical ability may be introduced.
- (14) As regards recommendation at para 7.7.3 to retain the conventional essay type in case of compulsory subjects, Subjective answer with word limit of 50 to 150 in majority question will ensure the system to assess the candidates' ability to express in brief. Also it will enable the examiner to evaluate the answer sheet faster. General English may also be made qualifying and one more paper of General Studies be introduced with 200 marks.
- (15) As regards recommendations at para 7.8 the recommendation may be accepted.

At the end, the Committee decided to submit this report to the Personnel

(A) Department for further necessary actions

(M.G.V.K. Bhanu, IAS)

Addl. Chief Secretary

(P. K. Borthakur, IAS) Principal Secretary