

Minutes of the 18th Governing Body (GB) Meeting of State Health Society, Assam
held on 6th June, 2023

A Governing Body (GB) meeting of State Health Society, Assam was held on 6th June 2023 at 3 p.m at the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretary, Assam, which was presided over by Sri Paban Kumar Barthakur, IAS, Chief Secretary, Assam. The meeting was attended by other members of the Governing Body. The list of members present in the meeting is at Annexure-I.

Agenda points of the meeting:

1. Action taken report of 17th GB meeting held on 21st February 2022
2. Progress made under NHM
3. Financial progress under NHM (including SOPD schemes)
4. Physical Progress under
 - ECRP-II
 - PM-ABHIM
 - XV Finance Commission (Health Grant)
 - Infrastructure development under NHM
5. Approval of Statutory Audit Report FY 2021-22
6. Establishment of 100 numbers of FRUs and 50 SNCUs
7. Block Re-organization plan
8. Urban Plan
9. Tea Garden Plan
10. SwasthyaSewa Utsav(SSU), 2023
11. Any other issues

At the outset, the Chairperson of the committee welcomed all members present in the meeting. Shri Avinash Joshi, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam, Health & Family Welfare Department gave the welcome speech.

To begin the discussion with the permission of the Chair, Dr. M. S. Lakshmi Priya, IAS, Mission Director, NHM, Assam made the presentation before the Governing Body members.

Agenda Point 1: Action taken report of 17th GB meeting held on 21st February 2022:

Mission Director, NHM, explained in brief the Action Taken Report on the minutes of 17th Governing Body. The GB noted the same and following decisions have been taken based on the action taken report:

- 1.1 The Chairperson directed to constitute a Sub-Group with members from Health & Family Welfare Department, Women and Child Development Department, Education



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Department, Public Health Engineering Department, Labour Welfare, etc. to address the common goals for improvement of health & nutrition of mother & children. The sub-group may be constituted under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department. Members from all relevant departments and technical experts from different fields, development partners, etc. may be included in the sub-group. The Sub-group may meet once in a quarter and will deliberate different issues of state's important and to strategize innovative plan of action.

Action by: Health & Family Welfare Department & NHM

- 1.2 The meeting discussed about the strengthening of school health programme. The high-quality screening of school going children has been even emphasized by our Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on repeated occasion.

Mission Director, NHM apprised that children in the age group of 0-18 years are screened at schools and anganwadi centres and identified abnormality are referred to the higher facility for treatment.

The Chairperson suggested that a programme should be designed to carry out health checkup for all school going children at least twice in a year and the checkup not necessarily will have to be done by Medical Officer, even MBBS Students, Nursing Cadre students, other qualified para-medical staff may be allowed to do the initial screening. The referral chain has to function in a robust manner so that child does not get lost mid-way.

The Chairperson asked to submit a report for onward submission to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam.

Action: Consultant (RBSK), NHM, Assam

- 1.3 The meeting discussed about the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) among children. Members of the committee highlighted increase of SAM children in the State as per NFHS-5 (2019-20) compared to NFHS-4 (2015-16). The Chairperson also opined that both Health & Family Welfare Department and Women and Child Development Department should closely work together to address the malnutrition issue among the children.

The sub-committee constituted (as mentioned at point 1.1) will address the issues and formulate suitable mechanism. Brainstorming sessions may be organized with technical experts from different stakeholders to find out the evidence based solution to the issues.

Considering high number of SAM children in the State, the GB suggested to establish more number of NRC (Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre) in the State to cover all districts and strengthening of the existing NRCs. NRCs may also be established at block level as per requirement and feasibility.

The Chairperson also suggested that existing schemes under Women & Child Development may also be strengthen.

Action by: Women & Child Development Department/ Consultant, Nutrition, NHM

- 1.4 The GB discussed about Tele-consultation services. Mission Director, NHM informed that e-Sanjeevani Tele-consultation services are functioning in the State. The Chairperson suggested that Health & Family Welfare department should conduct a third party study to assess why the people of the State go outside the State for treatment. The study should cover best practices and protocols adopted by the renowned health facilities to attract more patients. Such best practices may be adopted in the State to stop outflow of patient from the State.

Action by: Health & Family Welfare Department & SNO (Tele-consultation), NHM

- 1.5 The GB discussed about the field report furnished by UNICEF on Take Home Ration served through the Anganwadi centres. The Chairperson opined that the report focused only on the logistic issues. The quality of food like nutritional value of food served, suggestion for improvement etc. are not seen in the report.

The Chairperson suggested that UNICEF should re-submit the report by analyzing the quality aspects.

Action by: UNICEF, Guwahati office

Agenda Point 2: Progress made under NHM

The Governing Body noted the progress made under NHM.

Agenda Point3: Financial progress under NHM (including SOPD schemes)

The Governing Body noted the financial progress of different programme/schemes.

Agenda Point4: Physical Progress under ECRP-II, PM-ABHIM, XV-FC (Health Grant) & Infrastructure development under NHM

The Governing Body noted the physical progress of the schemes taken-up under ECRP-II, PM-ABHIM, XV-FC (Health Grant) & Infrastructure development under NHM.

Agenda Point5: Approval of Statutory Audit Report of FY 2021-22

The GB approved the Statutory Audit Report, FY 2021-22 with a rider that the deficiencies / procedural shortcomings, which are flagged in the report will have to be taken into account and to ensure that necessary steps will be taken to correct these flaws in coming days. The future audit report should not have such type of flaws.

Action by: Director, Finance & Accounts, NHM

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Agenda Point6: Establishment of 100 numbers of FRUs and 50 SNCUs:

Governing Body was apprised about the decision to establish new First Referral Unit (FRU) and Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU) in order to reduce MMR and IMR in the State. In the meeting held on 20th January 2023, Hon'ble Chief Minister directed to increase FRU to 100 and SNCU to 50 in the State.

Mission Director, NHM informed that the proposal has been agreed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India in the Supplementary RoP 2023-24 and informed that new FRUs and SNCUs will be made functional in phased manner.

The Governing Body approved the proposal to increase the number of First Referral Unit (FRU) to up to 100 and 50 Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU) in the State.

Action by: Consultant (MH & CH), NHM

Agenda Point 7: Block re-organization plan:

The Governing Body was apprised about the provision for establishment of Block Public Health Units (BPHUs) under "Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)" and "15th Finance Commission - Health Grant". The BPHUs will have three major components:

- (i) Public Health Unit for providing public health functions such as surveillance and detection of outbreaks,
- (ii) Block Public Health Lab for providing advanced diagnostics services for clinical and public health functions and
- (iii) Hub for data compilation, analysis, and feedback, through a Health Management Information System and IHIP.

As mentioned in the Technical and Operational Guidelines for implementation of 15th Finance Commission (FC-XV) – Health Grants related to "Block Public Health Unit (BPHU), "Every block in the country is envisaged as having a CHC/ Block PHC/ SDH at the Block Headquarter (HQ) which serves as a hub for referral from the SHCs and PHCs of the block".

Mission Director, NHM informed that each Administrative Block is proposed to have a BPHU in the highest level health institution. Further, re-mapping of the existing health facilities is proposed as per jurisdiction of administrative block.

The Governing Body approved the proposal for establishment of Block Public Health Unit (BPHU) against approval under PM-ABHIM and 15th FC-Health Grant and re-mapping of health facilities as per administrative block.

Action by: OSD, NHM

Agenda Point8: Urban Plan:

The Governing Body was apprised about the Urban Health Action Plan. It was informed that mapping of urban areas with health facilities and ASHAs has been done to ensure that all urban areas are covered by health system. Further, it was informed that new Urban Health & Wellness Centres (UHWs), delivery points and FRUs is proposed to be established in the urban areas to strengthen the health system.

The Governing Body approved the urban plan.

Action by: Consultant (NUHM), NHM



Agenda Point9: Tea Garden Plan:

The Governing Body was apprised and discussed about the comprehensive tea garden healthcare plan. It is proposed to strengthen 354 Tea Garden Hospitals by converting them as Health & Wellness Centre (HWC) by engaging Community Health Officer (CHO). This will be in addition to 170 tea garden hospitals taken up in PPP mode under NHM. NHM has also established 15 numbers of PHCs in ATCL tea gardens.

The GB was also apprised about services provided by 80 dedicated Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) in 514 tea gardens. Additional ASHAs will be engaged from tea garden areas.

- 9.1 The Governing Body noted the Tea garden plan and approved for establishment of 354 Health & Wellness Centres in tea garden hospitals.

The Governing Body directed to ensure that NO tea garden should be left out from the action plan. Every person of the tea garden areas should be covered under healthcare system.

Action by: SPO, HWC (i/c), NHM

- 9.2 The Chairperson also suggested to find out the major healthcare issues in the tea garden areas through a study and prepare action plan accordingly.

Action by: SPM, NHM

- 9.3 The Chairperson suggested to prepare special behaviour change plan addressing the social issues for Tea garden community in their local dialect.

Action by: OSD & BCC Expert, NHM

Agenda Point 10: Swasthya Sewa Utsav (SSU), 2023

The Governing Body was apprised about the state initiative of Swasthya Sewa Utsav (SSU) conducted in all health facilities (DH/ SDCH/ CHC/PHC) from 6th to 8th April 2023.

The Chairperson suggested that the gaps, which have been listed against each of the hospitals visited must be plugged in so as to improve the quality-of-service delivery at those facilities.

Action by: Executive Director& SPM, NHM

Agenda point 11: Any other issues:

- 11.1 Post facto approval of proposals under PM-ABHIM, 15th FC (Health Grant) and NHM Supplementary PIP.

Based on the detail presentation on the proposals under PM-ABHIM, 15th FC – Health Grant, NHM Supplementary NHM PIP, the meeting approved all the proposals.

F.Y	Programme	Proposed Budget
2023-24	PM-ABHIM	Rs. 662.33 Crs
2023-24	15 th FC – Health Grant	Rs. 240.58 Crs
2022-23	NHM Supplementary PIP	Rs. 77.16 Crs
2022-23	NHM Supplementary PIP	Rs. 288.02 Crs

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11.2 Post facto approval of re-appropriation proposals for the FY 2022-23

Governing Body meeting approved re-appropriation proposals for the FY 2022-23 as mentioned below:

- (a) **NTEP:** Required additional amount of Rs. 210.00 lakh in respect of NPY for DSTB Patients (FMR Code – NDCP.4 – 74.1) for the current FY 2022-23 considered by re-appropriation from the un-utilized fund available for Diagnosis of LTBI (FMR Code – NDCP.4 – 76.1) under the same programme (NTEP).
- (b) **Family Planning:** Required additional funds for Injectable contraceptive incentive for beneficiaries and ASHA incentive for accompanying the client for Injectable MPA (Antara Programme) of Rs. 42.97 lakh against each activity for the current FY 2022-23 considered by re-appropriation from the savings fund under same programme.

Activity	Budget provision in RoP-2022-23	Addl. fund Sanctioned	Revised Budget allocation, 2022-23
Injectable contraceptive incentive for beneficiaries (FMR Code – RCH.6- 45.1)	85.46 Lakh	Rs. 42.97 lakh (Rs. 30.32 lakh from FMR code- RCH.6 – 43.2 & Rs. 12.65 lakh from RCH.6 – 42.3)	Rs. 128.43 lakh
ASHA incentive for accompanying the client for Injectable MPA (Antara Programme) - (FMR Code – RCH.6- 45.2)	85.46 lakh	Rs. 42.97 lakh (Rs. 39.98 lakh from FMR code- RCH.6 – 42.3 & Rs. 2.99 lakh from RCH.6 – 50.5)	Rs. 128.43 lakh

- (c) **RBSK:** Required additional amount of Rs. 300.00 lakh in respect of Referral Support for Secondary/ Tertiary care under RBSK programme (FMR Code – RCH.3- 22.2) for the FY 2022-23 considered by re-appropriation from the un-utilized fund available of IEC/BCC activities under Maternal Health (FMR Code-RCH.1-17.28), Child Health (FMR code- RCH.3- 30.2)& Family Planning Programme (FMR code-RCH.6- 50.14).

11.3 Post facto approval of additional activities taken up under ECRP-II, 2021-22

The Governing Body approved to the additional proposals taken up from savings against Resource Envelope (RE) and different schemes under ECRP-II, 2021-22.

- (i) **There is available savings of Rs. 12724.94 Lakh against total RE allocated under ECRP-II.**

- (a) Total Resource Envelope : Rs. 81246.00 Lakh
- (b) Approved budget (with maximum 20% escalation cost) : Rs. 68521.06 lakh

Available Savings (a – b) against total RE : Rs. 12724.94 Lakh

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The following additional schemes are recommended from saving RE:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Nos. of Unit taken up	Total Amount recommended (in Lakh)
1	Installation/renovation of Transformers	17	119.09
2	Supply, Installation of Online UPS	246	486.64
3	Installation of DG set	286	1,449.85
4	PSA plant at Naharkatia in Dibrugarh District.	1	74.70
5	54 bedded Covid-19 isolation bed with 1no. Dr. Room and 5 nos. Toilet. at Uluoni CHC, Nagaon	1	108.33
6	Requirement of Fire NOC Certification	41	320.42
7	Equipment, instruments for health institutions	-	5,027.62
8	Tele-consultation Hub/Spokes/HMIS	1063	1,168.60
9	Construction of Capital SD at Guwahati in Kamrup Metro District, Assam.	1	1,991.00
10	Establishment of Blood bank at Jakhalabandha SDCH and Barpeta District Hospital	2	85.45
11	Establishment of Child Care Unit at GMCH	1	500.00
Total (A):			11,331.70

(II) There is total savings of Rs. 9872.22 lakh against total RE and different approved schemes under ECRP-II

(a) Net available saving fund against RE:

(Rs. In Lakh):

Resource Envelope	Total Permissible Budget provision under ECRP-II with maximum 20% escalation costs against different approved schemes	Saving fund against RE	Addl. Schemes already approved from RE Saving fund	Net savings against total RE
81246.00	68521.06	12724.94	11331.70	1393.24

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(b) Available Saving fund against different approved schemes (Rs. In Lakh)

Total Permissible Budget provision under ECRP-II with maximum 20% escalation costs against different approved schemes	Total Fund required against different approved schemes	Saving fund available against different approved schemes
68521.06	61930.43	6590.63

Total saving now under ECRP-II

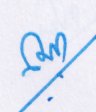
(Rs. In Lakh)

Net savings against total RE (1)	Saving fund against different approved schemes (2)	Amount refunded by DME, Assam under ECRP-II (3)	Total savings under ECRP-II (1+2+3)
1393.24	6590.63	1888.346	9872.22

The following schemes are recommended from savings of Rs. 9872.22 lakh-

SI	Item Name	Quantity	Total Financial involvement (in Lakh)	Locations
1	Digital X-Ray Machine	37 No.	481.00	25 DH and 12 MCH
2	CTG Machine	100 No.	13.48	100 new FRUs
3	Anaesthesia Workstation	25 No.	325.00	25 Dist Hospital
4	Portable 100 MA X Ray Machine	100 No.	294.00	100 new FRUs,
5	Mobile Lab Suitcase	495 No.	1237.50	15 per district X 33 District
6	Equipment, instruments for Pediatric Critical Care Units	12 MCH	5837.00	All MCH of the state as proposed by the DME, Assam
7	Addl. amount required for different Construction Works executed through APWD (Building) under ECRP-II	-	1684.04	
Total (B):			9872.02	

- Additional amount of Rs. 1684.04 lakh is recommended against different Construction Works taken-up under ECRP-II which is beyond permissible amount and it was earlier sanctioned to the APWD (Building) under State Budget. Due to non-availability of budget provision in the State Budget, it has been considered from the saving fund of the different approved schemes /under same scheme.



- Further, additional amount of Rs. 683.24 lakh is required for establishment of 24 nos. of RT-PCR Lab (FMR Code- S.1.2.1) and additional Rs. 2099.71 lakh (1498.96 L + 600.75 L) is required in respect of providing equipment/ furniture items to the 1,080 numbers of newly constructed 6 Bedded Wards with the existing PHC/Sub-Centre level (FMR Code- S.2.3.1/2). Now it has been considered required additional fund for Rs. 2782.95 Lakh (Rs. 683.24 + Rs. 2099.71 lakh) for established RT-PCR Labs & 6 Bedded wards by re-appropriation from available saving fund against RT-PCR Kit/RAT test Kits (FMR Code - S.1.1.1/2), there is saving of Rs. 3058.53 lakh.

The GB approved total **Rs. 21203.72 lakh** (Rs. 11331.70 Lakh + Rs. 9872.02 lakh) for taking-up of additional schemes out of the total savings funds under ECRP-II (2021-22).

11.4 Payment of Service Charge to the AMSCL

The payment of service charge to the AMSCL @ Rs. 5% including GST against the procurement/contract value **w.e.f. 1st April, 2023** is approved by the GB keeping in mind the self-sustainability of the AMSCL in long run and moreover, AMSCL is also a government owned institution.

- Procurement value including the service charge is to be remain within the budget provision of the Financial Year 2023-24 under the respective FMR code/activity.
- In case there is no sufficient fund available in a respective FMR code, saving fund of the other procurement activities may be utilized for the payment of service charge.

Principal Secretary, Health & family Welfare suggested to propose additional fund for payment for service charges to AMSCL under State Budget, if required.

Action by: Director, Finance & Accounts, NHM

11.5 Zonal Administrative Units.

Governing Body approved setting up of 5 (five) Zonal Administrative Offices of NHM as per decision of the Govt. at Lower Assam Zone, Central Assam Zone, North Assam Zone, Upper Assam Zone & Barak Valley Zone.

The Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department asked to finalize the ToR (Terms of Reference) of the Zonal Administrative Officers, who have been appointed in 5 (five) different zones of Assam head quarter at Guwahati, Nagaon, Tezpur, Jorhat & Silchar.

These Officers will work as per the approved ToR and will report to MD-NHM regularly.

Action by: Executive Director & HRD Consultant, NHM

11.6 Publication of NHM Assam advertisements in the Weekly Newspaper – Pragjyotish at DIPR/DAVP rates

The Governing Body approved the rate of DIPR/DAVP only for publication of different media advertisements under NHM, Assam.

Action by: OSD, NHM

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11.7 Other decision points

- a) The Chairperson directed to prepare detailed agenda note against each proposal from the next GB meeting. The Chairperson suggested to prepare a short video on achievements made under NHM.

Action: SPM & Consultant (Planning), NHM

- b) The Chairperson suggested to take bytes from patients discharged from hospitals. Important bytes can be published through social media, NHM website etc. Further, video can be prepared on each scheme covering brief description of the scheme and bytes of the beneficiaries availed the scheme.

Action: OSD, NHM

- c) The Chairperson directed to MD, NHM to increase the surveillance on ASHAs so that their field actions are closely monitored so as to avoid any controversy with ASHA functioning. Recent indecent of child trafficking was referred in the discussion, whereby 2 ASHAs were arrested along with the Doctor couples, who have been arrested with the charge of child trafficking.

Action by: ASHA Programme Manager, NHM

- d) The GB discussed about the emergency Cesarean section deliveries in the First Referral Units (FRUs). The issue of attendance of specialist doctors during night time was also discussed.

The Chairperson suggested to implement biometric attendance system in all hospitals and establish system for tracking of attendance as per duty roaster. It should be linked with the salary payment system.

Action by: Director of Health Services

- e) The Chairperson suggested Health & Family Welfare Department to **prepare a compendium** highlighting comparative statement of cost of treatment for different diseases at different private hospitals of Assam so that anyone can refer the document to decide which health facility is to be approached to get the quality treatment at a cheaper cost. This type of document will be state's innovation and will certainly be appreciated at different forum, opined by him.

Action: Atal Amrit Abhiyan Society & Registrar, Clinical Establishment Act

- f) The Chairperson suggested to carry out study on local food and their impact of health & nutrition by involving Universities of the State.

Action by: Executive Director & Consultant (Nutrition), NHM



- g) The Governing Body suggested to ensure functioning of all newly constructed health facilities taken up under different schemes, which are yet to be made functional.

Action by: Executive Director, OSD, NHM and Director of Health Services

The Governing Body unanimously appreciated all the good works being done by NHM in taking quality healthcare at the last mile of the state.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks from the Chair.

Sd/-

(Paban Kumar Borthakur, IAS)
Chief Secretary, Government of Assam
&
Chairperson, Governing Body
State Health Society, Assam
dtd 27th June, 2023

Memo No. NHM/SHS/GB/3730/2021/

Copy to: for favour of kind information -

1. The Secretary, Govt. of Assam, Health & FW, Deptt, Assam, Dispur.
2. The Staff Officer to the Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Assam, Dispur
3. The Executive Director, NHM, Assam for information and necessary action.
4. The OSD, NHM, Assam for information and necessary action.
5. The Director of Health Services / Director of Health Services (FW), Assam for information and necessary action.
6. The Director, Finance & Accounts, NHM, Assam for information and necessary action.
7. The SPM / SPO / SNO / Chief Consultant / Consultants / Procurement Expert / State Finance Manager / Programme Executive, Programme in-Charges, NHM, Assam for information and necessary action.
8. P.S to Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare Deptt. Assam, Dispur for kind appraisal of Minister, Health & Family Welfare Deptt.
9. P.S to the Principal Secretary, Govt of Assam, Health & FW, Deptt, Dispur for kind appraisal of Principal Secretary, Health & FW, Deptt.



Mission Director,
National Health Mission, Assam

Annexure-I

Members present in the 18th Governing Body Meeting, State Health Society, Assam
held on 6th June, 2023

1. Shri Paban Kumar Borthakur, IAS, Chief Secretary, Assam
2. Shri Avinash Joshi, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Gov. of Assam Health & Family Welfare, Deptt.
3. Shri Kalyan Chakravarty, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Labour Welfare Deptt.
4. Dr. J.B. Ekka, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Panchayat & Rural Development.
5. Shri M. C Sahu, IAS, Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, WPT & BC, WBD, WCD.
6. Dr. M. S. Lakshmi Priya, IAS, Mission Director, NHM, Assam
7. Shri M.N. Dahal, IAS, Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation (GMC)
8. Smt. Barnali Sharma, ACS, Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Health, & Family Welfare, Deptt.
9. Smti Dipima B. Malakar, ACS, Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Transformation and Development, Department.
10. Shri Paranjay Saharia, ACS, Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, School Education Department.
11. Smt. Jyotsna Medhi Patgiri, ACS, Addl. Secretary, MERD.
12. Smt. Pranati Mazumdar, ACS, Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Health & FW, Deptt.
13. Shri Kamaljit Talukdar, ACS, Director of Health Services (FW)
14. Smt Pomi Baruah, ACS, Director, AYUSH.
15. Shri Ranveer Bora, ACS, Addl. DME.
16. Smt. Madhumita Nath, ACS, Deputy Secretary, DOHUA
17. Shri Hiren Das, Deputy Secretary, PWD (NH), Guwahati
18. Dr. Nilmadhab Das, Director Health Services.
19. Dr. Arunima Goswami, President, IMA, Assam State Branch.
20. Dr. Biraj Kanti Shome, Health System Officer, WHO.
21. Shri Bhaswat Kumar Das, RRC-NE, Guwahati
22. Dr. Atul Chandra Sarma, Retd. DHS, Assam
23. Dr. S.K. Bordoloi, Mother NGO, RWUAA, Guwahati

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