The meeting was presided over by Sri Maninder Singh, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Assam. While welcoming the distinguished guests and the participants, he dwelt at length on different initiatives undertaken by the Government of Assam for improving access, equity and quality of Higher Education in the state. He also focused on the mandatory requirement of NAAC Assessment and Accreditation of the State HEIs.

In his address, Prof. M. K. Chaudhuri, Advisor, Education Department, Government of Assam mentioned about the Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF) of NAAC and urged the Heads of the eligible HEIs to go for Assessment and Accreditation process without any further delay. The need for and importance of this exercise was highlighted by him.
Dr. Santanu Kr Baishya, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Cotton University cum Head of the Technical Support Group, RUSA, Assam gave a presentation on the status of NAAC Accreditation of HEIs in Assam. He stressed the need to improve the Assessment and Accreditation process in the state both in quantity and quality. He also presented the proposed road-map of the Department of Higher Education on the Assessment and Accreditation process, which include capacity building workshops, strengthening of the SLQAC, post accreditation monitoring, expertise gathering visit to NAAC by academicians and administrators, mentoring of colleges and finally punitive action against regarding HEIs, if required.

Dr. M. S. Shyamasundar, Advisor, NAAC gave an authoritative presentation on the relevance of NAAC Accreditation of HEIs in the current Global scenario. He explained the Revised Accreditation Framework, use of ICT in the process and the role of DVV in Assessment and Accreditation. He also informed the meeting that NAAC accords special importance to the North-Eastern States in regard to improvement of NAAC Accreditation status. He informed the meeting that a proposal for setting up a special NAAC cell for helping the HEIs in Assessment and Accreditation.
Prof. B. Venketesh Kumar, Professor, TISS and the National Coordinator RUSA delivered a lecture on the challenges and the issues faced by the HEIs of India. He focused on the necessity of an action-plan for improving the accreditation status in the state.

Smt. Ishita Roy, Joint Secretary, (HE), Ministry of HRD, GoI and National Mission Director, RUSA, emphasized on the need for the interventional action on the part of the HE department of the state to bring maximum number of the HEIs under the umbrella of the Assessment and Accreditation.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks offered by Mission Director, RUSA, Assam.