

**Minutes of the 2-Day Workshop cum Meeting of
Administrators of Centre for Endangered Languages Project
held at Tezpur University, 1-2 August 2014**

Sl no.	Members present:	Designation	University/Institute
1.	Prof. U. N. Singh	National Co-ordinator, CFEL Project	Visva-Bharati, Rabindra Bhavana, Santiniketan-WB
2.	Dr. Samar Sinha	Co-ordinator Asst. Professor	Sikkim University, Gangtok (Sikkim)
3.	Dr. Simon John	Co-ordinator Associate Professor	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)
4.	Ms. Lisa Lomdak	Asst. Coordinator Asst. Professor	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)
5.	Mr. Wanglit Mongchan	Asst. Professor	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)
6.	Prof. Madhumita Barbora	Co-ordinator Professor	Tezpur University (Assam)
7.	Dr. Gautam Borah	Associate Professor	Tezpur University (Assam)
8.	Dr. Arup Nath	Assistant Professor	Tezpur University (Assam)
9.	Dr. Promod Kumar	Assistant Professor	Tezpur University (Assam)
10.	Ms. Bipasha Patgiri	Assistant Professor	Tezpur University (Assam)
Administrators Present			
11.	Dr. Biren Das	Registrar	Tezpur University (Assam)
12.	Dr. Lakhi Boral	Controller of Exams	Tezpur University (Assam)
13.	Prof. Charu Lata Mahanta	Dean, Research and Development	Tezpur University (Assam)
14.	Prof K.C.Kapoor	In-Charge Vice- Chancellor, RGU,	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)
15.	Dr. Rachob Tada	Registrar, RGU	Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)

The meeting began with a welcome address by Prof Madumita Barbora, , Co-ordinator, CFEL, Tezpur University. The co-ordiantors of all the three universities then made presentation in turn before the meeting their respective plan of action.

The action plans were then discussed in detail by the members present at the meeting and it was unanimously resolved that

1. the nodal centre, i.e. the Tezpur University CEFL, may offer, apart from imparting training to native speakers in field linguistics, and doing research and documentation, a modular academic programme on Endangered Languages with the following structure: **Certificate** (6 months)-**Diploma** (One Year)-**MA in Linguistics with specialization in Endangered Languages** (2 Yrs). A few seats on this programme be exclusively reserved for students from Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland;
2. for the moment the Sikkim and RGU Centers restrict themselves only to research and documentation, i.e. they do not at the moment offer any academic programmes;
3. a newsletter (as proposed by Dr. Simon John, Coordinator, RGU) is brought out periodically either by the NE Cluster or by each Centre individually;
4. a 3-4 day Language Festival is periodically organized in order to create public awareness about the vanishing voices, cultures, practices and traditions; the first such festival may be organized at Tezpur University sometime in the winters of 2015;
5. the following (as advised by Prof. UN Singh) are immediately sent to the UGC so that grants can be released by the agency without further delay:
 - a. University's Notification w.r.t. appointment of Coordinator
 - b. University's AC and EC Resolutions approving creation of the Centre for Endangered Languages along with other arrangements
 - c. University's appointment of an external Auditor for the Centre
 - d. Details of a separate bank account for the Centre
 - e. University's Formal acceptance of T&C as laid down by UGC.
6. the authorities of all the three universities may set aside an advance amount to make some money available so that the Centers can be formally started without further delay – before promised funds are released by the UGC.
7. Following a detailed discussion on Prof. Singh's presentation on UGC's Centre for Endangered Languages Project highlighting the need to save these languages and the tasks at hand it was unanimously resolved that as the existing POS and BIS tagging systems fail to do justice to the nuances of many a language of North East (as pointed out by Prof Madhumita Barbora and others at the meeting) the Centers at the moment do only the basic analysis of the languages; that tagging is postponed until a more meaningful tagging system is arrived at during a future national workshop to be held shortly; it was resolved further that the Centers in the meantime carefully study the methods being used in MTSI and SPPEL. It was also agreed to take special care to record data in high quality instrument (recorder or other devices) with indication of GPRS location. It was also agreed to port the

data from the project offices to the national web-portal to be created and managed by Visva-Bharati.

8. The session ended with a discussion on the draft syllabuses (as drafted by the CEFL, TU) of the academic programmes proposed to be offered by the Centre. It was unanimously resolved that the drafts be now circulated among all the centers of the NE Cluster and also the National Co-ordinator for further feedback; the drafts be finalized with the feedback received and is eventually sent to the concerned agency for approval.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Barbora', with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Dr. Madhumita Barbora
Professor, Dept of EFL
& Coordinator CFEL
Tezpur University