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USTM Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, MEGHALAYA

Newsletter January 2019

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Shri Conrad K Sangma, CM, Meghalaya addressing the 4th Convocation

Wisdom Tree..

It gives me immense pleasure to write this message as USTM is at the threshold of transforming one of its dream projects into reality—of establishing a premier medical college and hospital in the north-eastern part of India and thereby extending another step towards its vision of becoming a world class university. Our journey has been quite struggling and challenging but our achievements so far outweigh the challenges and roadblocks. We do not see anything as our obstacles, instead treat challenges as opportunities. As another issue of the USTM Newsletter is coming out, I thank the editorial team and urge upon all the stakeholders to join us in our endeavour to transform this University into a world class institution.

Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor

Vice Chancellor Speaks..

I am very happy to present before you the USTM Newsletter which covers some of the events and activities of the University taken place in the past few months. I hope you would like the current edition of the Newsletter. It shows the incredible breadth of what our University does and what is possible when we work as a team.

As the Newsletter tells about the appreciable activities taken place in the University academic ambience, it gives me great happiness to experience the enthusiastic interest among the academia of the University. There were considerable number of seminars and talks by invited speakers held at USTM throughout this period apart from other academic and extra-curricular activities.

Dr P K Goswami, Vice Chancellor

Fourth Convocation - Conrad K Sangma, CM, Meghalaya graced as Chief Guest

The Fourth Convocation of USTM was held on 8 September. Altogether 1094 graduates were awarded degrees out of which eight scholars were honoured with PhD degrees, 823 students were offered Post Graduate degrees and 263 were offered Undergraduate degrees. The University also rewarded the best Post Graduate student with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Best Post Graduate Award and the best Undergraduate student received PA Sangma Best Undergraduate Award. Shri Conrad K Sangma, Chief Minister of Meghalaya graced this grand academic event as the Chief Guest while the distinguished guest dignitaries include Prof SK Srivastava, Vice Chancellor, NEHU, Dr RC Deka, Former Director, AIIMS, Prof Asfar Ali Khan from Aligarh Muslim University, apart from others.

Hon. D. Litt. Conferred to UGC Chairman, Bangladesh

Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission, Bangladesh was honoured by USTM through the conferment of Hon. D. Litt. Degree at a Special Convocation Ceremony held at Guwahati on 24 October. The occasion was graced by Shri Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Education Minister, Assam, Dr Mridul Hazarika, VC, Gauhati University, Dr J S Patil, VC, National Law University, Dr Dhiraj Bora, VC, Assam Science and Technology University, Prof NC Talukdar, Director, IASST, Dr Amarjyoti Choudhury, VC, Assam Down Town University, Prof Bhabesh Chandra Goswami, VC, Cotton University and others.

PA Sangma Chair Professor of Tribal Studies Launched

Meghalaya Home Minister James Sangma launching the PA Sangma Chair Professor of Tribal Studies at USTM on 5 September

Orientation for Freshers

The Orientation Programme of USTM was held on 11 August. Shri Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Education Minister, Assam was the Chief Guest of the Programme where more than 2000 newly admitted students participated. Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, former VC, Tezpur University and Adviser (Education), Govt of Assam and M Hoque, Chancellor of USTM addressed the participants. Terming USTM as a place of national integration due to its cosmopolitan student community, Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri said that students must be encouraged by institutions to work hard and achieve academic success.

Ph.D Orientation Programme

The PhD Orientation programme was organized by USTM on 14 July which was attended by 70 PhD scholars of the University. Prof PK Das, Dept of Computer Science and Engineering, IITG addressed the scholars as the keynote speaker. Another key speaker in the programme was Prof Desmond Kharmawphlang, Department of Cultural and Creative Studies, NEHU, Shillong.

Teachers' Day Celebrated

Shri James Sangma, Home Minister, Meghalaya offered the keynote address as well as handed over awards honoring senior Professors on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan on 5 September at USTM. Sangma addressed and greeted all the teachers and wished the students a bright future as it was also the day of Freshers' Social at USTM. The Minister also handed over certificates and tabs to 16 USTM students for their 100 per cent attendance in the last academic session.

Education Minister laid foundation of Dr Donkupar Roy Block

On 7 April, USTM dedicated a block in the name of Dr Donkupar Roy. Education Minister Lahkmen Rymbui laid the foundation of the block.

Chancellor Welcomes Shri Tathagata Roy New Governor of Meghalaya

Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM met Shri Tathagata Roy, the new Governor to the state of Meghalaya at the Raj Bhawan in Shillong on 27 September 2018 and welcomed him on behalf of the entire USTM family.

Bangladesh UGC Chairman delivered 3rd Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial Lecture

The 3rd Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission, Bangladesh on 25 October. Topic of the lecture was, "Dr Kalam's Contribution in Igniting Global Minds" which was organized by USTM in the honour of Dr Kalam and was attended by a host of students, teachers and dignitaries, including Prof Ved Prakash, Formar UGC Chairman and Prof Sanjay Deshmukh, Former VC, Mumbai University. Welcoming the gathering, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM urged everyone to follow the footsteps of Dr. Kalam.

Meghalaya SSLC 2018 Toppers Awarded

USTM in association with ERD Foundation, felicitated all the 40 rank holder students of SSLC 2018 under MBOSE at Shillong on 2nd August. The awards were handed over by Meghalaya CM Conrad K Sangma along with Dr DD Lapang, Former CM of Meghalaya, Education Minister Lahkmen Rymbui and other dignitaries. Thanking Chancellor Mahbubul-Hoque and the entire USTM team for the gesture of honouring the rank holders, the CM said that institutions like USTM have a big role to play in research which can contribute to policy making. The successful students were awarded with laptops, mementos and other attractive rewards.

USTM-FACC student Topped ACS, 5 more were successful

Ms Maria Tanim, a student of FACC, the competitive exam coaching centre of ERD Foundation and partner instutiute of USTM, has secured top rank in ACS Examination 2016, results of which were declared on 16 November 2018. Maria and five more students have cleared ACS this time from FACC. The students are: Koustabh Roy (ACS), Namrata Das (ACS), Moonnoon Barkataki (ALRS), Mausum Pratim Nath (ACS) and Raj Ballabh Mahanta (AEO). Maria was awarded with cash award of Rs 50,000 while ERDF returned the entire coaching fees to all the successful students as rewards. ERDF honoured Sailen Baishya, Director FACC with Rs 50,000 for his constant effort and dedicated commitment towards teaching and guiding the students.

USTM paid back entire fee to 27 NET qualified students

USTM celebrated the success of its 27 NET/ SLET/GATE qualified students for 2018 by giving back their entire course fees along with admission fees as per its 'Pay Back Policy' on 11 August. Shri Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Education Minister, Assam handed over the rewards to the brilliant students in the presence of more than 2000 newly admitted students at USTM. Handing over the awards, the Education Minister said, "For the first time I have seen that a private university is returning not only course fees, but also admission fees to the students for their academic success. This is unique step which I have not seen in any government or private institution in the region or the country". The event was also graced by Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, former VC of Tezpur University and Adviser (Education), Govt. of Assam, Prof Nirmal Kr Chaudhury, former VC, Gauhati University, apart from others.

Conglomeration of 100 Scientists at USTM for DST Inspire Group Monitoring Workshop

Senior scientists from the Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Science and Technology (DST) met at a two-day long National Workshop for Inspire Internship Science Coordinators at USTM from 25 to 26 June. The Workshop was organised by USTM and the Science Coordinators came from different parts of the country. Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM, expressed his gratefulness to DST for choosing the north-eastern region for the first time to hold this national congregation and specially thanked for selecting USTM considering its performance and contribution in the field of science and technology.

Prof Pratibha Jolly, Senior scientist and Programme Coordinator, Miranda House, University of Delhi addressing the Inaugural session of DST Workshop

INSPIRE Internship Camp by DST for budding scientists from NE

The Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt of India's INSPIRE Internship Camp for Higher Secondary science students was held from 21 to 25 May 2018 at USTM. Altogether 100 HS science students selected from different schools of Meghalaya and Assam participated in the Camp. The resource persons include Prof A.K. Paul, Dept. of Biology, University of Calcutta; Prof Saurabh Basu, Dept. of Physics, IIT Guwahati, Prof Ranjan Basu, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Calcutta; Dr P. Nongkynri, Dept. of Physics, NEHU; Dr S. Borkotokey, Dept. of Mathematics, Dibrugarh University; Prof G. Das, Dept. of Chemistry, IITG; Prof. K. Pakshirajan, Bioscience and Bioengineering, IITG; Prof H.N. Sarma, Dept. of Zoology, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh, apart from faculty members of USTM. Dr Umesh Kumar Sharma, Scientist E-DST, Govt of India said that such a programme is requirement for science students of the region and thanked USTM for organizing it.

Pledge to Donate Organs to Save Lives: Padma Shri Dr Saharia

The country's most prolific kidney transplant surgeon, Padma Shri Dr Sarbeswar Sahariah, Vice Chairman, KIMS Hospital, Hyderabad delivered a talk on "Evolution of Organ Donation and Transplantation in India" on 23 May at USTM.

USTM Mission Hoque 20

This unique scheme was conceptualized by the Chancellor, Mahbubul Hoque, under which 20 brilliant undergraduate students are fully sponsored by ERD Foundation for undergoing coaching in Civil Service Examinations isolating poverty from the path of realising their cherished dreams. The Chancellor has the vision of enriching the North Eastern Region of India with successful IAS aspirants from within the region and hence this scheme- "HOQUE 20".

Discussion on Bilateral Collaboration Opportunities

A discussion on "Bilateral Collaboration Opportunities in the Field of Higher Education between Bangladesh and North East India" was held in Guwahati on 24 October where the Vice Chancellors of several universities and directors of institutions from Assam and Meghalaya participated. The programme was hosted by Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh, Guwahati in association with USTM.

Lt. Gen Zameer Uddin Shah Joins USTM as Pro Chancellor

Lt. Gen Zameer Uddin Shah, former Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University has joined USTM on 31 December 2018 and assumed his responsibility as the Pro Chancellor in a grand reception organized in presence of high officials and faculty members of the university. Prof Nirmal Kr. Choudhury, Principal Advisor of USTM handed over the offer letter to him in the presence of Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM.

Central Govt. Team Inspects New-Gen IEDC

The first Advisory Board Meeting of New-Gen IEDC took place on 20 April at USTM. It is a programme implemented, coordinated and managed by EDII, Ahmadabad under the aegis of National Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board, DST, Govt. of India. USTM students presented the progress of 10 different projects. The inspection team was highly satisfied and appreciated the progress and innovations by the students.

Need of the hour is to recall the legacy of Rabindranath Tagore: Dr Pathak

The 157th birth anniversary of Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore was celebrated on 10 May at USTM with great fervor. The function was organized by the Cultural Forum, USTM. Prof Kulendu Pathak, former Vice Chancellor of Dibrugarh University, Dr Barun Saha, Assistant Professor, Department of Bengali, Cotton University and Ms Somdutta Bhattacharjee, a renowned singer, were present as distinguished guests.

NSS East Zone Pre Republic Day Parade Training at USTM

The National Service Scheme's Pre Republic Day parade camp for the Eastern Region was organized by NSS in association with USTM from 4 to 13 November. The camp was inaugurated by Dipak Kumar, Regional Director, NSS in the presence of P. R. Khound, Director, Directorate of Sports & Youth Welfare, Assam. A total of 200 NSS volunteers from 10 states participated in the Camp from which volunteers will be selected to participate in the Republic Day parade of 2019 to be held in New Delhi.

Jadav Payeng honoured with USTM Social Work Excellence Award

As the world celebrated the World Social Work Day on 20 March, USTM honoured environmental activist Padma Shri-Jadav Payeng with "USTM Social Work Excellence Award 2018". Organised by the Department of Social Work of USTM, the award was handed over by veteran journalist, writer and activist Padma Shri Patricia Mukhim. The Department of Social Work, USTM celebrates the day every year by giving Social Work Excellence Award to individuals who have immensely contributed to the society.

World Intellectual Property Day Observed

World Intellectual Property Day was observed on 26 April at USTM campus. Organised by Library and Information Science, USTM, the programme was graced by Prof. R. K. Barman, Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University and Dr. Kangkana Baishya, Assistant Librarian, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam.

World Physiotherapy Day 2018 Observed

World Physiotherapy Day was celebrated on 8 September by the Department of Physiotherapy at USTM. Dr. Dipankar Bhattacharya, Deputy General Manager, Oil India Limited and Chairperson of Anti-Doping Commission, Indian Association of Sports Medicine, delivered a talk on Health and Fitness. The other speaker on the occasion was, Dr. Bijoy Pratim Chaudhuri, Senior Consultant Psychiatrist at Mindcare Neuro Psychiatric Clinic, Guwahati and Excel Care Hospital, Guwahati.

World Food Day-2018

Department of Applied Biology (Food Science and Technology), USTM celebrated the World Food Day 2018 on 27 of October with the theme "Our actions are our Future. A #Zero hunger world by 2030 is possible". Prof. Dr. Basanti Baroova, Professor (retd) and former HOD of the Department of Food and Nutrition, Assam Agriculture University and former professor, IIFPT, Guwahati delivered a lecture on the theme of the event.

Chancellor at Doordarshan Kendra Silchar

On 4 November, USTM Chancellor Mahbubul Hoque participated in a live interactive programme at Doordarshan Kendra Silchar where he talked about his incredible journey as an educational entrepreneur. He spoke about how he began his institutional venture with only one computer and four students in Guwahati, how he fought very many challenges with strong determination for a mission to be accomplished and reached today's position.

Neighborhood Development Mission

With a mission for the development of its neighborhood and the people, USTM held a meeting with the headmen of different villages as well as principals of the schools in the Baridua area under RiBhoi district on 15 September.

Cryptography for Full-proof Security: Padma Shri Roy

Renowned mathematician and father of Indian Cryptography Padma Shri Bimal Kumar Roy addressed a two-day National Workshop on Cryptography held at USTM on 25 and 26 September. The workshop was organized by the Department of Mathematics, USTM with the support of Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

U Tirot Singh Day

The 183rd death anniversary of U Tirot Singh, the Khasi Freedom Fighter was observed as U Tirot Singh Day at the University campus on 18 July. The programme began with floral tributes to U Tirot Singh by the Vice Chancellor and other dignitaries, faculty members and students of USTM.

Partnership with Arizona State University,USA

Prof Yasmin Saikia from Hardt-Nickachos Chair in Peace Studies, Arizona State University (ASU), USA addressed USTM students and faculties on 7 March at the Conference hall where she talked on Peace studies in the context of North East India. ASU entered into a partnership with the International Centre for Gandhian Studies (ICGS), USTM to engage in collaborative research and studies.

Snapshots of Collaborations in 2018

MoU with Uskudar University, Istanbul, Turkey

In order to extend mutual cooperation and to promote mutual understanding, USTM signed MoU with Uskudar University, Istanbul, Turkey on Monday, 9 July 2018. The MoU was signed by Prof. Nevzat Tarhan, Rector of Uskudar University and Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM at the Rector's office in the university in Turkey. Vice Rector Prof. Mehmet Zelka and Vice President Prof. Muhsin Konuk, Prof. Akhtar Siddiqui, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, Prof. Suhail Sabir, Aligarh Muslim University and Prof. Gous Mashkoor Khan of JNU, New Delhi were also present on the occasion.

MoU with Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University

USTM signed MOU with Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University (AYBU), Ankara, Turkey on 12 July, 2018 for exchange of various programmes of the two institutions. The pact has been signed by Rector Prof Dr Metin Dogan of AYBU and M Hoque, Chancellor, USTM in presence of Vice Rector of AYBU Prof Dr M Fatih USAN and other high officials.

MoU with Fatih Sultan Mehmet University, Istanbul, Turkey

USTM signed MOU with Fatih Sultan Mehmet University, one of the premier universities in Turkey on 11 of July, 2018. The MoU has been signed by Prof. Dr. Musa Duman, Rector, Fatih Sultan Mehmet University and Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM in presence of high officials of both the universities. The main focus of the MoU has been student cooperation, academic cooperation, and scientific research.

MoU with Selcuk University, Konya

USTM signed MOU with Selcuk University, Konya, Turkey on 12 July. The MoU was signed by Rector of Selcuk University Prof Dr Mustafa Sahin, MD, and Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM in presence of Vice Rector Dr Ahmet Kagan Karabulut, Dean and other high officials.

MOU with Sri Sri University, Odisha

On 12 March, 2018, USTM signed an MoU with Sri Sri University, Odisha to start a full-fledged graduation, post-graduation and doctorate programme on Art of Living. The MoU was signed by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM and Narendra Lamba, Director (Operations), Sri Sri University.

Snapshots of Collaborations in 2018

MoU with IIT Guwahati

USTM entered into an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG) on 1st of March at IITG campus. As per the MOU, IIT will support USTM in academic promotion, research and study, infrastructure and administration as well promotion of sports. The MoU was signed by Prof Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT and Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor USTM.

MOU with Asam Sahitya Sabha

With the objective to work together in the field of literature, culture, heritage, diversity and ethnicity in the north-eastern region and carry documentation and research work on indigenous languages, USTM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Asam Sahitya Sabha, the apax literary body of Assam at Guwahati on 28 September 2018. The MoU was signed by Dr Paramananda Rajbongshi, President of Asom Sahitya Sabha and Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM. A host of literary and academic personalities, including former Asam Sahitya Sabha president Dr DhrubaJyoti Borah, Prof Nirmal Kumar Choudhury, former Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University, RS Mooshahary, former Governor of Meghalaya and prominent litterateurs and members of Sabha as well as academicians from USTM.

MoU with Akshar Foundation

In a noble initiative for a clean city as well as to provide livelihood to the poor and deprived, USTM signed an MOU with Akshar Foundation on 1st May. Akshar is a Guwahati-based registered public charitable trust engaged in poverty eradication through operation of schools that supplement formal education with vocational training, business incubation, and community development. The MOU would support Akshar to launch its Recycling Centre of solid waste.

MOU with Dr B Borooah Cancer Institute

MoU was signed on 12 April between BBCI and USTM for the promotion of cancer research and allied actions in the North East. As the first step in this direction, USTM opened a Patients' Help Desk at the premises of BBCI in Guwahati in order to help cancer patients with a hand-holding approach by facilitating patients' counseling, navigation and guidance, helping them in cancer screening camps, patients' interaction in OPD with consultants, etc. Services are provided on regular basis by trained students of the Dept. of Social Work, USTM.

The ERDF Patient Help Desk at Dr B Borooah Cancer Institute (BBCI) to help cancer patients and their attendants with a hand-holding approach. MSW students from USTM would be available at the Help Desk.

USTM Chancellor met high officials at Turkey

Between 9 and 12 July, during a weeklong visit of Chancellor M Hoque to Turkey, he met the President of Yunus Emre Institute, Ankara, Government of Turkey and the President of the Council of Higher Education.

National Workshop on Manual Therapy for Peripheral Joints

A three-day long National Workshop on Manual Therapy for Peripheral Joints and Temperomandibular Joint Dysfunction was held at USTM from 19 to 21 September. The chief resource person of the workshop was Prof. Umasankar Mohanty, President, Manual Therapy Foundation of India (MTFI). The workshop was organised by the Dept. of Physiotherapy, USTM in association with Indian Council of Medical Research, (ICMR); Department of Health Research under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi and MTFI, Mangalore.

Prof. Bosanta Ranjan Boruah, Department of Physics, IITG delivering a talk at the 1st International Day of Light observed by Dept. of Physics, USTM on 16 May 2018

National Seminar on Challenges of Cosmopolitanism in Literature

A national seminar titled "Challenges of Cosmopolitanism in English Literature" was organized by the Dept of English, USTM from 20 to 21 April. Prof. Saugata Bhaduri, Centre for English Studies, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University was the Keynote speaker. Different Sessions of the Seminar was chaired by Prof. Mala Renganathan, NEHU; Prof. Ipsita Chanda, EFLU, Hyderabad and Prof. Anjali Daimari, Gauhati University.

Srimanta Sankardeva, the sixteenth century philosopher saint's death anniversary was observed on 11 September at USTM by holding a talk on the "Philosophy of the Vaishnavite Guru". delivered by Sonali Hazarika, Associate Prof. of Cotton University.

Workshop on Radiochemistry by BARC Scientist at USTM

USTM in collaboration with Indian Association of Nuclear Chemists and allied Scientists (IANCAS) from Radiochemistry Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Bombay organized a six-day long national workshop on 'Radiochemistry and Applications of Radioisotopes' from 1 to 6 October 2018 at the University campus.

Workshop on Goods & Services Tax

The Dept of Commerce, USTM, organized a 10 day long workshop titled "Goods & Services Tax: Registration, e-Filing and Compliance" for skill formation and enhancing employability of the students. The Workshop began with the Inaugural session on 4 April and ended on 13 April 2018. Dr Ankit Todi, Tax expert and Advocate, Gauhati High Court graced the occasion as Chief Guest and CA Mohan Agarwal as GST Expert.

Talk on Wildlife Conservation

Dr Abhijit Rabha, IFS, PCCF, Karbi Anglong, Assam delivered a talk on "Wildlife Conservation" on 8 October at USTM. The talk was organised by the Department of Zoology.

Talk on Quality Higher Education by former UGC Chairman

Prof Ved Prakash, Former Chairman of UGC, New Delhi, delivered a talk on "Quality Higher Education" on 17 September at USTM. The talk was organised by USTM for the benefit of students and teachers alike.

International Conference on Gandhi's Vision

An international conference on "Mahatma Gandhi's Vision and Contemporary Political Leadership in North East India" was held from 5 to 6 October amidst eminent Gandhain scholars and reputed academicians from India and abroad. Organised by the International Centre for Gandhian Studies, a research centre of USTM, the two day long conference was participated by Shri Tushar Arun Gandhi, the great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and Chairman of Mahatma Gandhi Foundation, Prof Sudarshan Iyengar, former VC, Gujarat Vidyapith, Dr. Liaquat Ali, VC, Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, Dhaka, Prof RM Pant, Director, NIRD & PR and Prof. B. Khadria, Chairman, Zakir Hussain Centre, JNU.

Workshop on Neuroanatomy

Dept of Physiotherapy, USTM organized a day long workshop on "Neuroanatomy with special emphasis on Brain" on 26 February. Dr. Hirak Das, Asst Prof, Dept of Anatomy, Gauhati Medical College was the guest speaker.

Talk on Migraine by Padma Shree Prakash

Padma Shree Vaidya Balendu Prakash, Director, Vaidya Chandra Prakash Cancer Research Foundation, Dehradun delivered a talk on "Relief from Migraine through Ayurveda" organized by USTM on 25 April at the University campus.

Gandhian style of teaching most effective for kids: Prof Ashok Bhargav

Noted Gandhian Prof Ashok Bhargav from Banaras Hindu University took an enlightening session at USTM on 19 December. Talking on "Learning from Gandhi", he said that teachers and educationists of present day have to learn a lot from the views of MK Gandhi on new education or 'nai talim'.

National Seminar on Cerebral Palsy Update

A National Seminar on "Cerebral Palsy Update 2018" was held at USTM on 7 and 8 July where a total of 190 participants from across the region including Physiotherapists, Special Educators, Speech Therapists and Psychologists participated. The workshop was organized by SVNIRTAR, Odisha and CRC Guwahati under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in association with Indian Academy of Cerebral Palsy, and with the support of USTM.

Workshop on Opportunity Japan

On 30 September, three Japanese Nationals namely, Mr Tsukamoto Katsumi, president and Director of Asian Japan Academy, Mr Dharma Adhikari, Director, Asian Japan Academyand Ms Kazue Khurana, Academic Advisor, JACEEX along with officials of the Japanese Centre of Excellence conducted seminar presentations at USTM to teach Japanese Language, Culture at the Institute with an aim toprovide students career opportunities in Japan.

Talk on Heart Care by Dr NK Bhattacharjee

In Association with Heart Care Society of Assam, an awareness program on "How to Prevent, Survive & Live after Heart Attack" was held on 27 April at NKC Auditorium, USTM. Dr. Nirmal K Bhattacharjee, MD, D. Card, FCCP and president of Heart Care Society of Assam (AHC) delivered a talk on heart care.

Talk on Sustainable Development

Dr Martin J Ossewaarde from Netherland delivered a Talk on "Sustainable Development" on 15 September at USTM Conference Hall. The talk was organised by the Dept of Business Administration and Dept of Zoology, USTM.

National Panchayat Day Observed

The Department of Rural Development, USTM, in association with the State Institute of Panchayat & Rural Development (SIPRD) Assam organized a special Gram Sabha meeting in Khetri Panchayat & Barkhat Panchayat of Dimoria Block of Assam on 24 April the occasion of National Panchayat Day. The meeting was presided over by the President of the Gaon-Panchayat in presence of the Mr. Khageswar Pegu, Director of SIPRD, the UNICEF coordinator, World Bank representatives and representatives from Social Welfare & Education Department of Assam.

MANAGEMIA-2018 Organized

MANAGEMIA - 2018, the first inter college undergraduate program of Dept of Business Administration, USTM, was organized on 28 April to motivate the students of bachelor's degree to come out of their comfort zone and test themselves in a competitive environment. The event had competitions on Innovative Business Idea, Ad Making & Extempore Speech and two lecture sessions on Leadership and Career Development for the participants. The valedictory was graced by three corporate personnel namely B K Das, former GM, BRPL, Smita Nath, Human Resource Manager, IOCL and Nilimoy Nath from Tata Motors.

Earth Day Observed

Earth day was observed on 22 April by the Dept of Earth Science, USTM. A pledge was taken by all the faculties and students to reduce use of plastic. A prize money quiz competition was also organized among students of the department.

Freshers' Social 2018

IIT Guwahati ready for handholding support to USTM

To pave the way for developing a conceptual framework on how to move forward after MoU was signed between USTM and IITG, a brainstorming interaction was held on 27 April between the faculty members from both the institutes. The session was chaired by Prof Saurabh Basu, Dean, Outreach Education Programme, IIT Guwahati. The USTM delegation was included the Academic Registrar, Senior Research Officer and faculty members representing various departments and was led by Pro VC Prof Alaka Sarma.

Support to Differently Abled Youth

On 28 April, as a part of ERD Foundation's initiative to support and care for those who are differently abled, six differently abled youths hailing from different parts of Assam were recruited in various posts at USTM. The aim is to provide training to the physically challenged youths in various fields to make them eligible for engagement.

Blood Donation Camp

On 21 April, a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp was organized by Dept. of Business Administration, USTM in association with Saharia's Blood Bank. There was enthusiastic participation of students and faculty members from various departments of the University.

North East Media Fellowships Launched

The International Centre for Gandhian Studies (ICGS), a constituent of USTM, launched five Media Fellowship Projects (worth Rs 11,70,000) for journalists and activists from the NE region of India on 24 November at Guwahati Press Club. Among the fellowship projects, two fellowships would lead to Ph. D. degree. Based on the brainstorm and suggestions offered by journalists in the Media Round Table in January 2018 at USTM, the University invited applications from qualified, competent and committed journalists and activists for conducting need based research on topics of high social relevance.

A view of the Media Round Table held in January 2018

Secy MoMA, Govt of India launched Nai Manzil scheme

With the objective to upgrade the underprivileged and drop out students through education and skill based training, the Government of India's flagship initiative 'Nai Manzil Scheme' was launched at USTM on 24 May 2018. Shri Siddharth Kishore Dev Verman, IAS, Addl Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs formally opened the scheme in the presence of M Hoque, Chancellor, USTM and the beneficiaries of the Scheme.

USTM Students participated in the MSME workshop "National SC-ST Hub" at Shillong on 29 October 2018.

Aesthetic Zone Inaugurated

Aesthetic Zone was inaugurated in the morning of 9 May. On the opening day, basic stretching and yoga was taught to the students by Sports Coordinator Jadav Thakuria.

Dept of Education, USTM observed World Autism Awareness Day on 4 April with children of Assam Autism Foundation

72nd Independence Day Observed

The 72nd Independence Day was observed on 15 August at USTM in a solemn function. The National Flag was hoisted at 9 am in the University campus by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM along with Dr PK Goswami, Vice Chancellor of the University. The flag hoist was followed by the National Anthem and speeches on Independence delivered by the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Deans as well as students.

Awareness on benefits of Yoga

The International Day of Yoga was celebrated at USTM on 21 June by students, faculties and staff members of the University. The event was organised under the initiative of the Dept of Physiotherapy, USTM. Renowned yoga instructor Sunit Sharma was present on the occasion and he demonstrated several yogasanas.

World Consumer Rights Day

In order to raise awareness among the consumers, faculties and students of the Dept. of Business Administration, USTM organised a program on 15 March at CRPF Campus, 9th Mile, Meghalaya, where around 100 participants assembled to observe the World Consumer Rights Day. The participants were CRPF jawans and their families, apart from R. M. Mina, DIGP, Group Centre, CRPF; P. K. Das, CRPF and USTM faculty members.

USTM begins Plantation Drive to Go Green

As part of USTM's outreach activities, hundreds of bottle palm and bokul trees were planted on 21 June along the Kling Road which starts from 9th Mile, GS Road and runs through RiBhoi district. More than hundred students along with teachers from the neighbouring Delhi Public School, Khanapara also participated enthusiastically in the plantation drive.

USTM Media Excellence Awards Conferred

On 5 July, USTM honoured media personalities from the region recognising their contribution in the field of News Media. The Awards were conferred on the occasion of USTM PR Day-2018 held in a glorious function presided over by Prof Nirmal Kumar Chaudhury, former VC, GU while the Chief Guest of the event was former Meghalaya Governor Shri R S Mooshahary. The keynote address on "Role of Universities in Outreach Activities" was delivered by Padma Shri Manas Chaudhuri, Managing Director, *The Shillong Times.* The 2018 USTM Media Excellence Award went to four media stalwarts of the region: Mr Zarir Hussain, Mr Dileep Chandan, Mr Samudra Gupta Kashyap and Ms Maini Mahanta. The USTM Media Achiever Award-2018 went to eight senior journalists from the region: Mr Sujit Chakraborty, Mr Satyanarayan Misra, Mr Imtiaz Ahmed, Ms Monmoromi Mahanta, Mr Mridul Haloi, Mr Aafaque Hussain, Ms Tinakali Sumi and Ms Evanjoplin Dkhar.

National Sports Day

Department of Physical Education and University Sports Forum celebrated the National Sports Day in a unique style by holding a Kabaddi tournament, a friendly football match and a cricket match on 30 August.

Mega Job Fair at USTM

USTM and RIST, in association with AICTE & ICT Academy organized a Mega Job Fair on 26 November at USTM premises. The job fair was exclusively organized for the Employability Enhancement Training Program (EETP) beneficiary students of all the AICTE approved institutions of the North East. Renowned companies like Bank Bazaar from Chennai, Health & Glow from Chennai, S10 from Shillong and Debamaitry ITES Consultancy participated in this Mega Job Fair to pick up engineers, developers and other graduates.

International Energy Day Observed

Talks on importance of energy conservation and role of chemistry were delivered by Prof. P. J. Das, Senior Retd Professor, Gauhati University and Dr. Devasish Chowdhury, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Advanced Science and Technology. The programme was organized by Dept. of Chemistry.

USTM Commemorates Dr Bhupen Hazarika on his 7th Death Anniversary

USTM paid tribute to Dr. Bhupen Hazarika on his 7th Death Anniversay on 5 November at Amenity Centre. The event was organised by Cultural Forum, USTM.

Swasth Bharat Cyclothon Rally

A team of 70 cyclists who are a part of the Government of India's "Swasth Bharat Yatra" campaign, rallied at USTM campus on 22 November. On the occasion, Prabhat Kumar Mishra, Assistant Director (Regulatory Compliance), FSSAI, delivered a talk on 'Food Safety and Management'. The talk was organized by the Dept. of Business Administration and Dept. of Food Science and Technology, USTM. Oath for eating healthy and safe was taken by all the participants present.

Free Eye Check-up Camp Organised by USTM at Byrnihaat

The Department of Business Administration, USTM in association with Guwahati Eye Clinic, successfully held a free eye check-up camp on 3 May 2018 for the labourers and residents of the industrial area at Byrnihaat. Around 50 patients got their eyes checked at the day-long Free Eye Check-up Camp.

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day was organised on 17 May by the Dept of Computer Science & Electronics, USTM to raise awareness about how artificial intelligence is being used widely in the telecom sector. Dr. P K Das, Professor, Dept of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Guwahati delivered a talk on the occasion.

Fulbright Specialist Prof. Jeane W Anastas from Silver School of Social Work, New York University delivered lecture on Women leaders is social work education & Disability and social work practice. The lecture was organized by Dept of Social Work on 3rd March.

CONPRENDO 2018

The Dept of Business Administration, USTM organized its first Alumni Meet, CONPRENDO 2018 on 7 May. The event was graced by around 50 Alumni of the department. Dr Amit Choudhury, Dean, SBUS, spoke about the formation of Alumni Association which has been named as BAUSTMAA.

Sports Forum members with the Chancellor at USTM on 28 April.To bring more vibrancy to the sports activities in the USTM campus, Chancellor M. Hoque held a meeting with the students of Sports Forum.

CONDOLENCE

Dr SC Das, Dean, School of Biological Sciences, USTM and a founder faculty member of the Institution, departed for his eternal abode on 14 August 2018.

Ajanta Bhuyan, faculty member, Department of Economics, USTM bade adieu to this world on 16 February, 2018.

Mukul Hussain, Asst. Professor at the Department of Mechanical Engineering died in a trigic road accident on 17 May.

Dikshita Borah, MCA 3rd Sem student alongwith her lone sister, parents and grandmother were found dead after 4 days of continuous search in Dikhou river in Sivagar as the car they were travelling drowned on 1st September.

Banggam Gao, a student of English Literature (BA, 1st Sem.) breathed last on 28 November at a city hospital after a road accident on 16 November 2018.

National Librarian's Day

Department of Library and Information Science celebrated "National Librarian's Day-2018" on 13 August, 2018. Prof. N. N. Sharmah from Gauhati University graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Library professionals from Maulana Azad Central Library, USTM and RIST Library were felicitated. The event was followed by the inauguration of the Departmental Wall Magazine: 'BIBLIOPHILE: 2018'.

Dubai Tour for Performer Faculties

Chancellor, USTM welcoming back a 13 member faculty delegation who visited Sharjah University and other places in Dubai in the month of July. This is the second group in 2018 going for international tour from USTM.

International Youth day

The Department of English showed an exquisite outplay of the students' expertise in stage performances by staging two plays on the occasion of International Youth day 2018 with the theme 'Safe Spaces for Youth'.

USTM Advisor Dr RK Sharma handed over the 1st Prize to the winners of the 2nd Pulin Das Memorial Open Prize Money Sports Quiz Competition 2018, organized by Guwahati Lawn Tennis Association on 2nd October at Kumar Bhaskar Natya Mandir, Uzan Bazaar, Guwahati.

18 Students from USTM cleared UGC NET in January 2019

Dokingla	Ruktsula	Ligam Basar	Tatumoni Taloh	Gitasri Talukdar	Damian Malang	Jaspee Gangte	Ojing Dupak	Imtikumla
Sociology	Sociology	Sociology	Social Work	Social Work	Social Work	Social Work	Social Work	Public Admin.

Bikash Das	Ujjal Sut	Tenzin Chimey	Sikha Englengpi	Rima Mani Devi	Anita Chetry	Dweyhunle Khing	Alisha A Sangma	Nabam Mania
Social Work	Economics	Commerce	Lib. & Info. Sc.	Lib & Info. Sc.	English	Education	Political Sc.	Political Sc.

(* Results of CSIR-NET exam held in December 2018 are yet to be declared)

CSIR-NET

Filbert War, Department of Physics, USTM secured 223 Rank in the Joint CSIR-UGC held in June 2018, results of which were declared in January 2019

USTM students bagged the First Prize for the second consecutive year in innovative Science Model Competition organized by Indian Institute of Advanced Studies in Science and Technology (IASST), DST, Govt of India on 27-28 February. The students were: Marina Sultana Afroza, Priyanka Roy, Pranjal Bhuyan, Anamika Nirala--all from M.Sc Botany 2nd Sem.

Ridip Sarma, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, USTM presented his research findings in one of the world's topmost conferences, "Progress in Electromagnetic Research Symposium 2018" which was held in Toyama, Japan from 1-4 August 2018.

Dr Nabarun Purkayastha, Asst. Prof. Dept. of Sociology was honoured with the prestigious IRDP National Award 2018 for his remarkable achievement in Research and Publications. The Award Ceremony was held in Chennai in October.

Samson Suting, pursuing BBA from USTM was awarded the GOLDEN BALL award for being the best player of the tournament for Reliance Foundation Youth Sports Football Tournament in Assam.

Few more Achievers

Sabur Ahmed, 1st batch Physics cleared BITS Pilani PhD entrance.

Ameera Yasmin, founder faculty of USLR, USTM has been selected for Assam Judicial Service.

- **Rimlee Saikia**, Physics student, secured 150th rank in the Joint Entrance Screening Test (JEST-2018) for Ph.D course.
- **Linu Sharma** and **Tarali Das** from Dept. of Sociology received the prestigious ICSSR doctoral fellowship in 2018 .
- **Haydar Hussain Mollah,** research scholar of Dept .of Physics presented a paper in the International conference, IONS 2019, organized by OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA (OSA) from 11 to 14 January 2019.

Nihar Kashyap, a Zoology 5th sem student of USTM received 2nd prize in Red Fm College Ki Tashan.

Glimpses of North East Graduate Congress 2018

The 5th edition of the three-day-long North East Graduate Congress (NEGC) was organized from 16 to 18 February 2018 at USTM. This mega event for the youths of the region was flagged off by Prof Jagdish Mukhi, Governor of Assam. The event was addressed by Sri RS Mooshahary, former Meghalaya Governor, Prof. Ved Prakash, former UGC Chairman, Prof. Bhabesh Chandra Goswami, Vice Chancellor, Cotton University, Sri Dilip Tirkey, MP and Olympian, Col. Kuldeep Singh Bhanstu, Director, Khelo India.

Event began with a magnificent cultural procession, a manifestation of the manifold ethnicity and culture of the North East

Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM welcoming the participants during the Inaugural of NEGC

Session on Personality Development by renowned motivational speaker Thomas John Rose

Glimpses of North East Graduate Congress 2018

Students at the end of Prize Distribution Ceremony

Panel discussions on "Youth, Politics and Corruption"

Volleyball

Kabaddi

Badminton

Get together at USTM for hassle-free coordination

On December 3, ERD Foundation Guwahati felicitated the officers and staff as a sign of recognition to the contributions made by them towards the growth of the educational institutions that are run by the organization. In order to build a bonding with the employees and to inculcate the culture of working in coordination, this traditional annual get together over lunch has been oirganised at USTM since the beginning of its inception.

Physical Education Centre Inaugurated

Coaching on several sports has been introduced in USTM with the formal inauguration of the office of Physical Education and University Sports Forum on 9 May in the presence of two reputed coaches, Govinda Chandra Kalita (Kho-kho) and Prafulla Gogoi (Baseball coach).

USTM Women's Driving School

On the occassion of International Women's Day on 8 March, USTM launched a driving school for women as a part of its outreach initiatives. Named "USTM Women's Driving School: An Outreach Initiative of ERDF", course for the school includes both practical and theory classes that would equip a woman to become a professional driver. Here, women from an economically weak background are given privilege.

Dream Venture: Medical College & Hospital

USTM is conceptualizing a dream project "PA Sangma International Medical College & Hospital". The founder CMD of Hosmac (Mumbai based medical consultancy firm working globally for setting medical college and hospitals) Dr V Desai with his team of architects and Dr Dhrubojyoti Bora visited the site of the proposed medical college and discussed various matters related to the project. The construction work for the medical college will begin soon.

Few Upcoming Events

- North East Graduate Congress, 15-17 February 2019
- USTM Social Work Excellence Award on 19 March
- North East College Principals' Conclave-2019

EDITORIAL TEAM

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