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USTM Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, MEGHALAYA

Unveiling Excellence

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Editorial

Tale of a Mango Tree

Once upon a time, there was a just king who had a habit of riding around his kingdom to look after the well-being of his subjects. One day, he chanced upon an old man laboring over a tiny sapling. After some moments of observation, the king asked, "Dear Father, what is it that you are doing?" Said the old gentleman, "This is a mango tree that I planted a few days ago. I hope it will bear the juiciest fruits." "But Father, you may not live to enjoy the fruit." "There was a big and beautiful mango tree here that died some years ago. When I was young I savored the fruit of that tree. That tree was not planted by me, but by someone who came before. Similarly, I plant this tree not for me, but for those who come after, like you!" In the history of mankind, it has been seen that there a precious few who plant the trees of knowledge so that the masses may savor the fruits.

- An Ancient Indian Verse

From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor

Greetings to all. I am happy to inform you all that this quarter (July-Sep) has been a rewarding one with many success stories and achievements. On 14th July 2014, our session has started with the Orientation programme for fresh batch of students for UG Courses.

The Research Scholar-Guide meet was held on 19th July to review the progress of research activities and the Ph D Programme of the scholars along with their guides.

On 23rd July, we had the North East College Principals Conclave on higher education, where in the former president of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam has visited USTM and addressed the Principals and the students in the valedictory function. The visit of former President of India to USTM was an honor to all in USTM and ERDF.

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Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam visited USTM

'Knowledge is creativity plus righteousness in the heart plus courage.'

'I am born with wings'

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, eminent scientist and former President of India, addressed the gathering at the valedictory session of the North East College Principals' Conclave (NCPC)-2014 that was hosted by the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya on 23rd July 2014.

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Mahbubul Hoque received Educlusion Award at Singapore

Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya and Chairman of ERD Foundation had received the eduCLUSION Award bestowed by Engineering Watch, India's most prestigious community of Engineering Stake holders on 15th September 2014 on the occasion of Engineers Day. The award was conferred in the Reengineering India Summit 2014 held in the Grand Ball Room of Furama City Centre, Singapore. The beautiful citation in a golden frame was handed over to Mr. Hoque by Prof. Thomas L Magnanti, President (Honourable VC) of Singapore University of Technology & Design in presence of Smt. Vijay Thakur Singh, High Commissioner of India to Singapore; Prof. K Lal Kishore, Vice Chancellor

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Chancellor Mr. M. Hoque receiving eduCLUSION Award from Prof. Thomas L Magnanti, President, Singapore University of Technology & Design, in presence of Smt. Vijay Thakur Singh, High Commissioner of India to Singapure

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Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam visited USTM

After his felicitation in the traditional way, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM & Chairman, ERD Foundation, welcomed Dr Kalam on behalf of the ERDF and its institutions and also on behalf of the participants at NCPC. The Chancellor also gave a bird's eye view of the modest beginning of his mission in 2001 and how it has grown into the fastest expanding education network of the region today.

Even though Dr Kalam had come prepared primarily to address the college principals, seeing an overwhelming presence of students and youth at the venue, he decided to address them first. He exhorted them to feel strong, and to realize that they have wings which meant that they are not born to crawl – they are born to fly high up in the sky and reach for the moon. He began his speech on 'I am born with wings' by asking students what they would be carrying with them after passing out from school. When the students replied that it was knowledge, Kalam redefined it. "Knowledge is creativity plus righteousness in the heart plus courage." Thereafter he turned to the principals, and opposing the commercialization of education, he said it should not be made into a business, but should be imparted by good teachers. He urged the Principals to be very good teachers first, then administrators. Principals must take regular classes to be in direct contact with the students.

"Education cannot be a business product or system. Education at the primary level has to be delivered in an integrated way by great teachers through good syllabus and promoting affinity between parents, students and teachers," Kalam said. "It is not a great building or a great facility or great advertisements which give quality, but lovable education and great teachers do," Kalam told the audience which vastly represented the academia and educationists.

Having graced the post of the President of India besides working as an administrator and scientist, the 'Missile Man' said he loved teaching the most.

"I have been a teacher, a scientist, and an administrator. Now I have come to teaching again. If you ask me what I love the most, I would say it is teaching," said the 83-year-old who travels regularly all over India to meet students.Presenting his vision of India in the next few years, he said, "We want a nation where crimes against women and children are absent and none in society feels alienated".

VC, USTM Honored

The Vice Chancellor of University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya, Dr Paruchuri Gangadhar Rao, has been honored with the prestigious "Eminent Engineer Award" by The Institution of Engineers (India) on 5th September 2014 at the National Institution of Technology (NIT), Agartala.

This year the 30th Annual Convention of Chemical Engineers and National Seminar on "Recent Trends on Research, Development and Innovations in Chemical Industries" was held at NIT, Agartala from 5th to 7th Sep. 2014. During the Inaugural Function,Dr Rao was honored with a Plaque and a Citation as Eminent Engineering Professional for his outstanding contribution to the profession of Chemical Engineering. Dr Rao received the award from the hands of the Honorable Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Chairman, Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Shri Jitendra Chaudhury who was the Chief Guest of the Inaugural function. The award was presented in the presence of Sri M Nagaraju, Secretary, Industry & Commerce Department, Govt. of Tripura; Dr LV Murali-krishna Reddy, Vice President, IEI; Mr NB Vasoya, Chairman, Chemical Engineering Division Board, IEI; Dr PN Singh, Former Chairman, Board of Governors, NIT Agartala; Dr Gopal Mugareya, Director, NIT, Agartala; Dr Swapan Bhaumik, Chairman, IEI, Tripura State Center; Delegates of the seminar; Faculty; staff and students of NIT, Agartala.

MPURB Team at USTM

An Inspection team comprising of six members of the Meghalaya Private University Regulatory Board (MPURB) led by Chairman Mr. L. Roy had visited the campus of USTM on 12th August, 2014.The team visited each and every Department of the University, Academic Blocks, Laboratories and the Library. They also interacted with the Faculty members and the students. The team was very happy to see the rapid growth of this infant University. They appreciated the state-of-the-art and well equipped laboratories and the well-stocked Library. Before leaving the campus, Mr. Roy remarked, "USTM is the No. 1 University of the entire region. It will also emerge as one of the best Universities of the country." They also expressed their appreciation of the fact that the faculty members are well qualified and that the students are satisfied with the facilities provided. The team wished All the Best for the well being of the University.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's address at the North East College Principals' Conclave

Creating Great Citizens

"As a teacher, I will radiate Knowledge and purty of life"

I am happy to address the North East College Principal's Conclave organized by the University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya here at beautiful atmosphere of Techno City, Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya. My greetings to all of you.

Friends, as Principal, you have a great opportunity and unique opportunity to work with always young team members. Youth is a dynamic force of the nation and shaping the minds of the youth for a great purpose is a unique mission. I firmly believe that of all the resources, the ignited mind of the youth is the most powerful resource on the earth, above the earth and under the earth. I am convinced that the youth power, if properly directed and shaped. could bring about transformational changes in humanity for its progress, meeting its challenges and bring peace and prosperity. Dear principals, you have this sacred duty of inspiring the youth with education with value system, guiding them towards a mission in life and also make them imbibe the values of the countries of their origin as well as the country of growing. Hence, when I am in the midst of all of you, I would like to talk on the topic "Creating great citizen".

Friends, before going to my talk, I would like share an experience of my visit to Sharjah, UAE a few months back.

Vision of 'Knowledge without borders'

Recently, I was at Sharjah to address at the 32nd Sharjah International Book Fair. I inaugurated the Seminar on "The birth of an author in you", attended by authors, writers, teachers, students and many others. It is one of the largest book fairs held anywhere in the world. My visit to Sharjah included address and interaction with students of Khalifa University, school students of UAE among other important meetings and events. On 6th November 2013, after address and interaction with the students of Khalifa University, I went to the 32nd Sharjah International Book Fair, to select books for my study. Although it was late in the evening, the book

fair was crowded with thousands of book-lovers around UAE. But, that is not what I wanted to convey here. To my amazement, I saw the Ruler of Sharjah, His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, in the book fair complex. As soon as he saw me, he greeted and embraced me with full of warmth and love. The Ruler himself is a great lover of books and has authored many books. One of his books, "My early life" attracted me a lot. This book is a beautiful creation of the story of a young man, how to become a Ruler. It is an inspiring book. The Ruler of Sharjah, His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, himself is the founder of the Sharjah International Book Fair and has promoted it for the past 31 years.

After meeting and discussions, the Ruler held my hand and started walking with me around the book fair explaining the various stalls and his vision of "Knowledge without borders". Through this project the Ruler gives books to families and encourages them to create home libraries. What a great vision that inspired me a lot. It is a very unique experience for me.

Teacher of Teachers

When I see all the principals, I look at you dear friends, as one integrated system of education, system of learning and system of knowledge. The seeds of peace in the world have their origin in the righteousness in the heart of every individual. Such righteous citizens lead to the evolution of enlightened society.

True education is the acquisition of enlightened feelings and enlightened powers to understand daily events and to understand the permanent truth by linking man, to his environment, human and planetary. I would like to quote from the great philosopher Dr. S. Radhakrishnan particularly for the benefit of students and teachers - "The sense of human need is there and the teacher can satisfy it by giving to the youth an idea of the fundamental power and worth of man, his spiritual dignity as man, a supra-national culture and an all embracing humanity."

Let us now hear the tribute given by the great teacher Albert Einstein to his teacher: "The ideals which have lighted my way, time after time, have given new course to face life cheerfully have been kindness, beauty and truth". This is the mission of teacher. By nature if the student has studied in a particular school or college they cherish the memories. For example, in the institution the teacher belongs, have created 100s and 1000s of alumni depending upon the strength. The successful alumni remember the institution with veneration and want to give back.

Dear Principals, now let us discuss for a few minutes on the ways of dynamic principal. Please look at the various dimensions and add or modify the dimensions based on your experience and requirement.

Let me share my views of an ideal principal.

An ideal principal

Friends, some time back, I met a principal who has become a role model to all his students. I asked the Principal what was the secret of his success. He told me the following:

a) He has been able to adopt himself to the age of the student.

b) As a principal, he makes sure that he takes two to three classes per week.

c) He considers that he is a teacher first and a principal later.

d) He practices everything he expects his students to do.

e) He ensures transparency in all his transactions and treats all students alike, irrespective of their religion, caste, language & economic status.

f) He has a foresight and visualizes the student's growth in long term perspective.

g) During his tenure of about five years, he has ensured that at least 1000 students who were average performers have been groomed to excel in their studies.

h) The teachers look at him as a role model and an understanding, which puts a great responsibility on him

I am sure many principals assembled here would reflect these characteristics and also add few more important traits.

Now, let me visualize a dynamic college system, how will it be?

Profile of a Dynamic College

1. A College that radiates greatness by teaching-capacity of the teachers.
2. A College is great because creativity is bubbling everywhere.
3. A College is great, because it cherishes the learning environment with library, internet, e-learning,
creative laboratories and above all, students walking with great minds.
4. A College is great, because it creates and generates students with confidence that "I can do it" that in-turn will generate the team spirit that "We will do it" and "India will do it".
5. A College is great because it has teachers who lead a unique way of life with purity and become role models for the students and develop them as enlightened citizens.
6. A College is great because it has the capacity to teach all, repeat, all students to succeed and excel.
7. A College that generates creativity among all students irrespective of whether they belong to arts or humanity or science stream.
8. A College is great, that generates alumni who cherish that they belong to the College.

When I see in front of me the teacher of teachers, I would like to talk about the role of a Teacher.

Role of a Teacher

I have interacted with more than 18 million youth and millions of teachers across the length and breadth of the country, in a decade's time. I have visited all the north-eastern states, number of times, sometimes I addressed their Legislative Assembly, what should be the mission of the state. Wherever I went, be it Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Jammu and Kashmir or any other part of India, the voice of the youth is unique and strong in articulating their vision and dream and they are willing to work for it. Everyone dreams of living in a prosperous India, a happy India, a peaceful India and a safe India. The combinations of prosperity, happiness and peace to a nation always have to come together. When all three of them converge, then India will truly be a Developed Nation. There are more than 550 million youth in India. When I address this gathering of Principals, I realize that I am interacting with a small cross section of the teaching and management community who lays the foundation for the future of youth and so the countries they serve. I am sure that you can ignite the minds of other teachers in addition to those of students by becoming a burning candle lighting another candle.

What can I do for you? - The Leadership Quality

Every one of us has gone through the various phases of education from childhood to profession. Please visualize a scene - a child, a teenager, an adult and a leader. How does each one react to a particular situation? The situation is human need. The child asks, "What can you give me"? The teenager says, "I want to do it alone". The young person proclaims, "let us do it together". The leader offers, "What can I give you". So, the Principals have got a tremendous responsibility to transform a child into a leader - the transformation of 'what you can give me' to 'what I can give you'. That will demand a Principal to be a visionary with an inspiring capability. Also, the Principal has to ensure that teachers impart learning to the youth in such a way as to bring out the best in them and for this, he or she has to be a good teacher. I am sure, the best of creativity among the students will emerge by integrated influence of principals, teachers, and parents.

Marvels of Universe

Friends, we should realize that human mind is a unique gift. You can enter into Marvels of Universe only if you have curiosity and thinking. I suggest, thinking should become your capital asset, no matter whatever ups and downs you come across in your life. Thinking is progress. Non thinking is stagnation to the individual, organization and the country. Thinking leads to action. Knowledge without action is useless and irrelevant. Knowledge with action brings prosperity. As a Principal, you have to cultivate the young minds to explore every aspect of human life. Look at the sky. We are not alone. The whole universe is friendly to us and conspires only to give the best to those who dream. Like Subramaniam Chandrasekhar who discovered the black hole through a quest, and found why most of the stars shine and few die. Today, using Chandrasekar limit we can calculate how long the sun will shine. Like, Sir CV Raman looked at the sea and the sky, and questioned why the sea should be blue? This led to the birth of Raman Effect, he found the blue of the sea was due to the molecular scattering of light and was not a case of reflection of the sky in water as most people imagined. Like, Albert Einstein, armed with the complexity of the universe, asked the question how the universe was born. The famous equation E=mc2 arrived, which can be used for the generation of electricity using nuclear materials and also lead to nuclear weapons. In India during 1960's one important event took place, Prof. Vikram Sarabhai gave a vision to the nation on the space programme. He said, India should build her own rocket system, build communication and remote sensing satellites, integrate and launch from Indian space launch centers and put them into the geosynchronous orbit and sun synchronous orbit. Today India can build any type of rocket systems and satellite and launch in a specified orbit. Mars orbiter has travelled beyond earth's influence. In September 2014, India's Mars orbiter will traverse 400 million kilometers distance from the earth and will go into the Mars orbit. That will be a great day for India and also for cosmic science.

Millions of people walk in this universe. But during last millennium one noble soul walked and walked in the Indian soil giving application of ahimsa dharma leading to Indian independence. My dear friends, can you make the students to dream to become noble minded persons like Mahatma Gandhi or Sir CV Raman or Einstein or Subramaniam Chandrasekhar or Vikram Sarabhai. You have the wonderful opportunity to generate creators of great nation.

Put the students, decades ahead

As young students, I had the opportunity at St. Joseph's College witnessing a scene. A unique, divine looking personality walking through the college campus every morning teaching Mathematics BSc (Honours) and MA (Mathematics) students. Young students looked at him with awe and respect, a personality symbolizing our own culture. When he walked, knowledge radiated all around. The great personality was, Prof. Thothatri Iyengar, the great teacher.

At that time, 'Calculus Srinivasan' was my mathematics teacher. Calculus Srinivasan used to talk about Prof. Thothatri Iyengar with deep respect. During those days, he and Prof. Thothatri Iyengar had an understanding to have an integrated class by Prof. Thothatri Iyengar for first year B.Sc. (Hons) and first year B.Sc. (Physics). I had the opportunity to attend his classes, particularly on the subjects of modern algebra, statistics and also once I heard him teaching complex variables. When we were in the BSc first year, Calculus Srinivasan used to select top

ten students for Mathematics Club of St. Joseph's, where Prof. Thothatri Iyengar used to give lecture series. One day, in 1952, I still remember, he gave a one hour lecture on ancient mathematicians and astronomers of India and introduced three great mathematicians and astronomers. For nearly one hour he spoke. The lecture is still ringing in my ears. I was introduced to the pride of the nation: pioneers in astronomy and mathematics (4th to 20th century) Aryabhata, Bhaskara and Ramanujam who gave to the world, the zero, computed the orbit period of the earth around the sun and discovered many stunning concepts in number theory. These incidents and knowledge became the foundation for my education, learning with hope and value system. My teachers of primary, secondary and college education had put me a few decades ahead. This was indeed the vision. I am confident there may be many parallels in this gathering, let us emulate them. How can the students be shaped as nation builders and colleges and schools become laboratories for such type of mission?

Education with value system

While I was in college, I remember the lectures given by the highest authority of a Jesuit institution Rev Father Re[illegible] Kalathil of St. Joshep's college, Tiruchirappalli, Southe[illegible]. Every Monday, he will take a class for an hour. He used to talk about good human beings present and past and what makes a good human being. In this class he used to give lectures on personalities such as Buddha, Confucius, St. Augustine, Califa Omar, Mahatma Gandhi, Einstein, Abraham Lincoln and moral stories linked to our civilizational heritage. In the moral science class, Father Kalathil used to highlight the best aspect on how the great personalities have been evolved as good human beings through parental care, teaching and companionship of great books. Even though these lessons were given to me in 1950's during my college days, they inspire me even to [illegible] that lectures are given by gre[illegible] in sch[illegible] once a week for an hour on [illegible]ational b[illegible] and de[illegible] value system. This may be called as Moral [illegible] Class that will elevate the young minds to love the cou[illegible], to love other human beings and elevate them to higher planes. Th[illegible]re embedding of righteousness in each citizen with eternal goodness and wholesomeness in conduct.

Let me share a spiritual hymn

Righteousness
Where there is righteousness in the heart
There is beauty in the character.
When there is beauty in the character,
There is harmony in the home.
When there is harmony in the home.
There is an order in the nation.
When there is order in the nation,
There is peace in the world.

This is true, for the whole world. When we need peace in the world, we need order in the nation; we need harmony in the home. The origin is righteousness in the heart.

Capacities for nation building

The most important mission for the nation for which you can contribute creation of capacities for nation building. In the education environment - What kind of human beings do we want to make of ourselves? What capacities do we want to give our youth? If we want to give them certain capacities, we must ask capacity for what? We want to give our youth the capacity for contributing to economic development and nation building. What kind of nation does India want to build? India transforming into a developed nation by 2020 is the vision of the nation. There is a road map, how to achieve this? There are five areas for simultaneous development: Agriculture and Food processing, Education and healthcare, Information and Communication Technology, Infrastructure development - including River network and self reliance in critical technologies.

For achieving the above mission, the capacities required in students are: **the capacity for research or inquiry,** the **capacity for Creativity and Innovation**, particularly the **creative transfer of knowledge,** the **capacity to use high technology,** the **capacity for Entrepreneurial Leadership** and the capacity for **Moral Leadership.**

Perfect learner

If all the five attributes are inculcated in a student, by his Principal, by his teacher, by his parents, he or she will have in him or her the burning desire to learn throughout one's life - will [illegible]et an example for others. A perfect learner will not only learn from the class room, but also from the environment. I finally believe that the Principals' mission is to generate Perfect learners.

[illegible]ege or School design for a Perfect Learner: For perfect learner what will be the type of schools and colleges that we have to design? Learning through enquiry or research using the latest technologies like the internet to acquire the information. Creativity should flourish in the schools and colleges by students learning to teach themselves and by teaching other students. Ethics of giving to others to be cultivated by asking the question how my learning can benefit others? How can I contribute to my own development and at the same time to the development of others and the nation? For imbibing Moral development, values such as team work, fair play, cooperation, [illegible]ing things right and doing the right thing, hard work and [illegible]itment to a cause larg[illegible] than oneself are to be [illegible]ed, while [illegible]nd our cultural fabric and our o[illegible]ue syste[illegible]

Leadership

What kind of leadership will be required to develop the schools and colleges for the 21st century? Educators today must exercise moral leadership, if our schools and colleges and educational institutions have to meet the challenges of the 21st century, they must develop a new vision for schools and colleges, a vision of an educational environment in which students can grow more autonomous through the very act and process of learning. We cannot lecture students into autonomy. Autonomy must be developed and acquired through a process of action, in the case of schools and colleges, the art of learning. Such an education to the students through you, Principals, will provide the nation, committed leaders who will transform any nation into a prosperous, peaceful, secure and happy nation.

Conclusion

Friends, I have designed a twelve-point oath for the teachers which I would like to administer to this important gathering of teacher of teachers.

Eleven Point Oath for Teachers

1. As a teacher of teachers, I realize, I have a mission to generate and create teachers of high knowledge with purity of life.
2. First and foremost, I will love teaching. Teaching will be my soul.
3. I realize that I am responsible for shaping not just students but ignited youths who are the most powerful resource under the earth, on the earth and above the earth. I will be fully committed for the great mission of teaching.

4. I will consider myself to be a great teacher for I can lift the average to the best performance by way of my special teaching.
5. All my actions with my students will be with kindness and affection like a mother, sister, father or brother.
6. I will organize and conduct my life, in such a way that my life itself is a message for my students.
7 I will encourage my students to ask questions and develop the spirit of enquiry, so that they blossom into creative enlightened citizens.
8. I will treat all the students equally and will not support any differentiation on account of religion, community or language.
9. I will continuously build the capacities in teaching so that I can impart quality education to my students.
10. I will celebrate the success of my students, with great élan.
11. I realize by being a teacher, I am making an important contribution to all the national development initiatives.
12. I will constantly Endeavour to fill my mind, with great thoughts and spread the nobility in thinking and action.

Once again, let me again greet all the Principals assembled here in this Principals Conclave of University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya. My best wishes to all of you for success in your mission of developing enlightened citizens for the nation through good educational practices. May God Bless you.

North East Forum for RUSA has been formed

Around 200 Principals of the colleges of North East India gathered in the campus of USTM to participate in the North East College Principals' Conclave organized by USTM. A seminar was organized on the occasion highlighting the problems and prospects of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhijan. Prof. G. D. Sharma, former Secretary, UGC, and Chairperson, Society for Educational and Economic Development, gave a very informative and comprehensive lecture describing in detail every aspect of RUSA.

The seminar was also addressed by Dr. K.G. Bhattacharya, the former Director, Gauhati University Academic Staff College. He described in details about the RUSA programme with particular reference to North East Indian States. Many Principals forwarded pertinent queries toward both the Resource Persons. A panel discussion was organized where the panelists were Prof. G. D. Sharma, Prof. K.G. Bhattacharya, Prof. Dinesh Baishya and Dr. B. K. Das. A forum has been formed to discuss the problems and prospects of RUSA in North East India. A committee has been formed to run the activities of the forum with the following resource persons - Prof. G. D. Sharma, Prof. K.G. Bhattacharya, Prof. P. G. Rao (VC, USTM), Prof. Dinesh Baishya (Dean, USTM), Dr. B. K. Das (President, ACPC), Dr. S. N. Barman (Principal, B. Borooah College), Dr. B. Gogoi (Principal, Margherita College), Dr. J. Kakati (Principal, Rangia College), Dr. Saumarjyoti Mahanta and Dr. Mitali Konwar. USTM will provide all facilities to hold meetings of the forum from time to time.

"Contribute Re. 1 daily to Serve the University Community"

A "Welfare Bank" will be constitued at USTM soon where all the faculty members, staff and students will contribute Re 1 everyday to serve the members of University community in need. An amount of Rs. 5 lakhs will be initially contributed to the 'welfare bank' by ERD Foundation. The members of USTM community can avail interest free loans for certain period and in urgent need.

Scholar-Guide Meet

USTM has organized a "Research Scholars' and Guides' Meet" for the smooth functioning of the research works ongoing in the departments of various schools. The intention behind this meet is to give emphasis on the research and development initiatives of USTM and bring all the research scholars, guides and faculties in the same platform to share each other's knowledge & to see the progress of the scholars. The Vice Chancellor of USTM Dr. P. G Rao chaired the meet in presence of the Chancellor, Mr. Mahbubul Hoque; Pro VC, Dr. Rabin Kumar Sharma; Registrar, Dr. C.R. Sarkar and all the Deans of the respective schools and faculty members. Pro VC, Dr. R.K Sharma welcomed the gathering followed by the speech of Registrar Dr C.R. Sarkar, who requested the scholars to identify the problems and to solve it immediately with their respective guides. Dr. P. G Rao, VC, USTM also requested the scholars and the guides to carry on the research work effectively on time and with relevance to society. Mr. M. Hoque, Chancellor of the University requested the guides and the scholars to carry out their research works sincerely so that

USTM can establish itself to be a research based Higher Education Institution. He also shared his vision to make the university known to the rest of the country for its research initiatives and academic excellence in coming years and a world class university by 2030. He requested the scholars and the guides to contribute toward making the university a centre for excellence.

NEW

NET & Civil Service Coaching Started at USTM

North East College Principals' Conclave-2014 (NCPC-14)

The North East College Principals' Conclave-2014 was organized by University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya in association with Assam College Principals' Council (ACPC) and Regional Institute of Science & Technology, supported by State Bank of India on 23rd July, 2014 with an aim to streamline the educational institutions, knowing each other's potential & working together to create a healthy and conducive environment for the promotion of educational scenario in the region. The highlight of the conclave was a Seminar on "Higher Education in North East with reference to Rashtriya Uchchatar Siksha Abhiyan (RUSA)". Eminent Scientist and honourable former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam had graced the valedictory session of the conclave and addressed the College principals as well as the school students of the vicinity with his valuable words. Dr. Kalam urged the Principals to emphasize on Science & Innovation to be cultured in educational institutions for the greater benefit of the students of the region as well as the country which will be a step towards Technological advancement to make India a developed country. He also mentioned that the North eastern region is full of vibrant potentials and this is the high time to explore them. The function was also graced by Dr. Mihir Kanti Chaudhury, VC of Tezpur University and Dr. Mridul Hazarika, VC of Gauhati University. Shri R. S. Mooshahary, Former Governor of Meghalaya had inaugurated the conclave. More than two hundred college principals of all the Degree Colleges of Assam as well as the other NE states, teachers and renowned academicians of the region and a large number of students attended the function.

Orientation Programme-2014

Research and Innovation can empower the Society : Eminent Academicians

Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua, VC, Assam Agricultural University speaking on the occasion

Many scientists and eminent academicians called upon the post-graduate students of the University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya on 23rd August, 2014, to be more focused towards research and innovation and make USTM a knowledge hub of the country and contribute towards India's efforts to emerge as a global knowledge power house. This theme was the main thrust of the scientists and eminent academicians while they addressed the new batch of post-graduate students of USTM on the occasion of the Inaugural Session of the Orientation Programme-2014. The Orientation Programme of more than one thousand students of the new batch of USTM was graced by Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua, Vice Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University, Dr. N. V. Deshpande, Director of NIT, Silchar, Dr. S. Sudhakar, Director of North East Space Application Centre, Shillong and Dr. N. K. Chaudhury, Former Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University.

Dr. N. V. Deshpande, Director of NIT, Silchar addresing the gathering

While addressing the new batch of students the Chancellor of the University urged them to be sincere in their studies, for which they will be rewarded accordingly. On the occasion, Laptops & ipads were awarded to the students of each department who secured highest percentage of marks in their qualifying examinations. A lucky draw was also organized among all the fresher students and their parents. The student winner, Ms. Mina Sharma, from the Department of English, received a laptop while the parent winner, Mr. Shashi Gogoi, received a mixer grinder. These awards were sponsored by those organizations that were constant service providers in the development process of the University. They were also felicitated with a citation as "Partners in Progress" in the same function. After the inaugural session parallel sessions for students of various departments like Biotechnology, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Computer Science, Commerce, Public Administration, Sociology, Social Work, English, Education, Rural Development, Business Management, Economics, Geography and Environmental Science were addressed by Professors and Scientists from IIT Guwahati, CSIR-NEIST, Gauhati University, NEHU, Cotton College State University, Aligarh Muslim University, Central Forest Academy, TISS Guwahati, SOS Village, Tezpur University, Jamia Millia Islamia University, NIRD and IIM Shillong. Besides orientation for academic courses, the students were counseled for facing competitive examinations for Civil Services and other services by Mr. H. N. Das, IAS, former Chief Secretary, Government of Assam; Prof. Dilip Kr. Barua, Retd. Principal of Cotton College and Mr. Sailen Baishya, Expert in Competitive Examinations. The University of Science and Technology Meghalaya, established by ERD Foundation, has the vision to achieve excellence and emerge as a World Class University and seeks to involve the top educationists and experts in various fields. The programme was a step towards this direction.

Dr. S. Sudhakar, Director of North East Space Application Centre, Shillong shairing insights with the audience

USTM to be mentored by Tezpur University

USTM had requested Tezpur Central University to be the Mentor University. A proposal had been submitted in this regard to TU. The Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University, Prof Mihir Kanti Chaudhury has kindly consented and gave in principle the approval to be Mentor University to USTM. Further process to formalize in this aspect is in progress.

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From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor

This year the admission of students to various courses has been very encouraging in all departments and it is an all time record of USTM. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and guardians of the students, who got admission in USTM for keeping faith on USTM. The Meghalaya Private Universities Regulatory Board has made their visit to the University on 12th August, as a part of their routine inspection and is happy with the progress.

On 23rd August, an orientation Programme for new batch of PG Students was conducted, where in a number of experts from Industry, Academia and Research Institutions were invited as Guest speakers to deliver the first lecture and inspire the students. I am extending a warm welcome to a large number of faculty, staff who has joined USTM in this crucial period and wish them an experience of wonderful stay and academic progression at USTM.

We all in USTM are proud of our Chancellor, Sri M Hoque, who had been selected to receive the EDUCLUSION award from Engineering Watch in due recognition of his services in furthering the technical education in North East India Landscape and for displaying extraordinary initiative in expanding the private institutional space for higher technical education through large number of institutions specially USTM run by ERD Foundation, thereby setting up example for others to emulate. I extend warm greetings and best wishes to all in advance for the coming Puja and Id celebrations.

I am congratulating the Editorial committee and their team for bringing this news letter in time.

With best wishes
PG Rao

Director IIT-G at USTM

Dr. Gautam Biswas, Director of IIT Guwahati had visited USTM on 2nd August, 2014. During his visit to the University he had visited the labs and the library of USTM. Dr P C Mahanta OSD of RIST had felicitated him on the occasion. Dr P G Rao, VC, USTM had also presented him with a Memento on behalf of the USTM family.

Dr. Biswas had addressed the students and the faculties during the occasion. During his speech he had focused on the importance of the higher education which is rapildy changing presently in the society. Dr. Biswas had asked the students to take the lead and understand the societal needs of today.

VISIT OF EMINENT PERSONALITIES IN RECENT PAST

Prof. M.K.Chaudhury
VC, Tezpur University

Prof. Mridul Hazarika
VC, Gauhati University

Prof. G. D Sharma
Former Secretary, UGC

Ms. L.R.Sangma
Chairperson MPSC

Dr. Ashok Dutta,
Member, NEC, Shillong

Prof. Samir Bhattacharya
Professor Emeritus, Vishwabharati University
Shantiniketan,

Shri P.P. Srivastav IAS
Former Member Secretary, NEC

Eminent Academicians & Scientists delivered first day Lecture during the Orientation Programme held on 23rd August

Prof. M. C. Kalita
Department of Biotechnology, GU

Dr. M. C. Kalita spoke on the "Scope and Application of Biotechnology in North East India" and focused on the application of biotechnology in upliftment of the society and gave special emphasis on bioremediation and biofuel technology.

Dr. P.K. Jain
Deptt. of Business Administration, GU

Dr P.K.Jain in his lecture encouraged students to pursue Higher studies, to be confident and develop their communication skill to get success in their professional career.

Prof. H P Sharma
Department of Environmental Science, GU

Prof. H P Sharma delivered a lecture on "Climate change with causes and its consequences". He expressed that the fast growth of population in the mid 19th century is the main source of present environmental problems and crisis.

Dr. B.B.P. Gupta, Professor
Dept. of Zoology, NEHU

Dr. Gupta spoke at length about the scope of zoology and discussed the various job opportunities in the field, and inspired the new students to opt for esteemed careers such as wildlife biologists, scientists and even to appear for the Indian Forest Service.

Dr. S. C. Srivastava
Deptt. of Rural Development, NEHU

Prof. S.C. Srivastava declared that the field of rural development is all encompassing. Along with individual, group or family oriented benefits, it also focuses on community assets in the form of infrastructure. A qualitative policy seeks to change the economic structure through the creation of new institutions, modification of existing institutions and nationalisation of private firms.

Dr. Kandarpa Kr. Sarma
Department of Electronics and Communication Technology, GU

Dr Kandarpa kr Sarma delivered a lecture on 'Multimedia and Mobile Device Technology' and briefly discussed on the topics like Computing Devices, Networking concepts and terminology, hardware used in the process, mobile devices as well as broadband technologies.

Dr. P. Goswami
Department of Biotechnology, IIT-G

Dr. P. Goswami delivered a lecture on the Scope of Biotechnology and its link with engineering branches like Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Bioprocess Engineering etc". He spoke about the future and various other aspects of biotechnology and its importance and has given a brief idea on biosensor and biocell technology.

Prof. A K Bhagabati
Department of Geography, GU

Prof. A K Bhagabati delivered lecture on the multi dimensional aspect of the subject Geography which makes it a multi-disciplinary subject. He discussed about the interaction of the human culture and the physical environment which is now the scope of the subject as multifold.

Prof Akhtar Siddique
Department of Education, JMI

Prof. Akhter Siddique described on the education of the teachers in India as a whole with reference to rules and regulations for establishment of teacher education institutions.

Mr. Susanta Ghosh, , Director, SOS Children's Village, Azara, SOS

Mr Susanta Ghosh has spoken on the history of Social Work and the scope. He also spoke on the international organizations, their significance and the job opportunities in such big organization. Career opportunities after acquiring degrees were dealt extensively.

Eminent Academicians from different Universities, Colleges and R&D Organisations delivered first day lecture to the newly admitted students during the Orientation Programme

Prof. KK Baruah
Department of Botany, TU

Prof. KK Baruah delivered a lecture on the recent advances in ecology and environmental sciences. He also discussed on the topics, biodiversity conservation sustainable development and role of students in the conservation.

Professor S. K. Mishra
Department of Economics, NEHU

Professor S. K. Mishra addressed the students and highlighted the importance of Economics in our daily life. He also discussed the prospect of Economics related to livelihood.

Professor Madhulika Singh
Deptt. of English, Arya Vidyapeeth College

Professor Madhulika Singh talked at length on different aspects of English Literature and tried to focus on issues relating to preparation of exams. She extensively dwelt on how to prepare for exams as study of literature at the Masters level is not like other subjects and special care has to be taken in this regard.

Prof. Dibakar C. Deka
Department of Chemistry, GU

Prof. Deka addressed the students about the current higher education scenario and the status of private universities in India. He explained various physiological reactions from the chemistry point of view with a pleasant outlook.

Dr. B. Panda
Department of Sociology, NEHU

Dr. B. Panda, spoke on the importance of Sociology in the present context. The students were told about the scope and prospects of the subject in the country and abroad. Further, he discussed the syllabus to be dealt in the courses to be taken up by the students.

Dr. Niroda Devi
Principal, Cotton College

Dr. Devi in her presentation talked various aspects of chemistry, popular chemistry, and major discoveries in chemistry like L-Dopa. She also explained the environmental issues and reminded the students about the environmental responsibilities.

N Luikham, IFS
CASFOS, Burnihat, Assam

N Luikham talked about the present challenges faced by the forestry sector keeping in view the various opportunities that exist in India and how to enter the Civil Services including the forestry sector.

Prof Abdul Rahim Vijapur
Aligarh Muslim University

Prof Abdul Rahim Vijapur delivered a lecture on the scope and opportunities in the field of public administration.

Dr. Tilak Hazarika
Department of DLISc, GU

Dr. Tilak Hazarika said, the study of Library and Information Science is gaining a worldwide standard and its contribution is duly recognized, the interrelation among the documents, the users and library staff has to be re-orientated in the modern context.

Dr. Dipak K. Dutta
Chief Scientist, Inorganic Chemistry, CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat

Dr. Dutta outlined the job opportunities for chemistry graduates and the chemistry carrier scopes. He highlighted his major achievements in his scientific carrier at NEIST including publications and patents.

Eminent Academicians from different Universities, Colleges and R&D Organisations delivered first day lecture to the newly admitted students during the Orientation Programme

Prof. Gayatri Goswami
Department of Education, GU

Gayatri Goswami spoke on the topic "Effective communication on the skill of Teachers." She had elaborately described on the best qualities of teachers and emphasized on the continuous updating of knowledge for the teachers.

Dr. NK Chrungo
Department of Botany, NEHU

Dr. NK Chrungo delivered a lecture on the recent advances in biochemistry research and interacted with the students.

Dr. P K Barooah
Deptt. of Library Science, NEIST

Dr P K Baruah said that the Library and Information centers have emerged as the knowledge resource centers in the present context of Information age... there is an urgent need to upgrade the management of libraries with the help of Information and Communication Technologies and job opportunities are opening up in different fields."

Dr. Dhruba Pratim Sarma
Deptt. of Political Science, GU

Dr. Dhruba Pratim Sarma gave a presentation about the importance of Public Administration in the present scenario with various examples stating that if there is any problem in the country, all its blame can be illustrated to administrative undertakings.

Prof. Monirul Hussain
Department of Political Science, GU

Prof Hussain talked about the importance of socialogy as a discipline in todays world. He further focused on the various aspects of sociology.

Prof. Manabendra Sharma
Dept. of English, B. Barooah College

Manabendra Sharma gave a distinct picture on different avenues open for students of English Literature. He talked on important issues related to NET preparation and other competitive examinations. He showed exemplary patience and interest in answering students' questions regarding career development

Dr J. U. Ahmed
Department of Management, NEHU

Dr J. U. AHMED delivered a lecture on the needs and requirements of management studies, in corporate sector, Professional commitment, and to nurture the talents of the students according to the market.

Dr. RR Hoque
Department of Environmental Sc. TU

Dr. RR Hoque discussed about the scope of Environmental Science in the present day context. He delivered lecture on different sects and segments of earth's and its environment as an ecosystem and its interaction with physical and biological components that forms different spheres in terms of biosphere.

Dr. Kanak Haloi
NIRD & PR, NERC

Dr. Kanak Haloi spoke on the "Changing Approach to Rural Development", he said that the Indian Village is not static and undifferentiated but it witnessed rains, floods, droughts, epidemics, exploitation, powerlessness, ignorance and many such problems which have made village life unbearable and unsustainable.

Prof. Nagari Mohan Panda
Dean of School of Management, Economics and Information Sciences, NEHU

Professor Nagari Mohan Panda discussed that the students should be disciplined and also highlighted recent development in the field of commerce education.

Eminent Academicians from different Universities, Colleges and R&D Organisations delivered first day lecture to the newly admitted students during the Orientation Programme

Dr. Ratul Rajkhowa
Deptt. of Zoology, Cotton College State University

Dr. Rajkhowa has given a lecture on Basic Zoology and to clear the basic concept, he has discussed the basic structure and functions of cell, importance and history of taxonomy, evolution and also the present scenario of various environment related issues.

Dr. D.K. Sharma
Dept. of Zoology, GU

Dr D.K.Sharma, Professor, Gauhati University delivered a lecture on Human Genome Project illustrating the basic gene concept, modern trends in the field of molecular biology and the systems biology.

Dr S. K. Borthakur
Department of Botany, GU

During the interaction he informed the students about the career opportunities in the field of Plant Taxonomy and encouraged the students to take up this field as our North Eastern Hill region is one of the biodiversity hot spots with lots of potential to identify new flora and fauna.

Dr B.G. Unni
Department of Biotechnology, NEIST

Dr Unni spoke about the future and various other aspects of biotechnology and its importance. He gave a brief idea about the biosensor and biocell technology. He further discussed about the biotechnology and its link with engineering branches like Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Bioprocess Engineering etc.

VC Jamia Millia Islamia Inaugurated 'Prof. Qoumrul Hoque School of Education'

North Eastern Universities should take lead to start courses like Disaster Management in order to sort out the problems of floods and earthquakes and to deal effectively with such Natural Disasters. NE states are full of potentials and opportunites which must be explored to the maximum extent. The development of a region mainly depends upon their education system. More importance must be given on the primary & basic education for which qualified trained teachers must be appointed. Government must emphasize on the right kind of practical training for the teachers. This was quoted by Prof Talat Ahmad, Honourable Vice Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia while inaugurating Prof. Qoumrul Hoque School of Education, a constituent college of University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya (USTM). This school of education will be catalyst in producing quality trained teachers in the region. Prof Ahmad further spoke that he had personally seen brilliant NE students doing well in University of Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia and other universities.

He also assured that Jamia Millia Islamia will be in full collaboration and association with USTM in terms of manpower and other Academic and Research related activities. On the same occasion the 'Centre for Innovation and Rural Development' of USTM was also inaugurated by Prof Ahmad.

Earlier Mr. Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of the University welcomed Prof. Talat Ahmad and shared his vision that Prof. Qoumrul Hoque School of Education of USTM would open up avenues for initiating steps for preparing teachers with values of dedication, wisdom and insight. He also added that, "We are trying to associate with the great institutions of the nation as well as abroad in order to make USTM one of best Universities of the world."

It can here be mentioned that the said School has got the approval from National Council for Teacher's Education (NCTE), ERC, Bhubaneswar to run B.Ed. Courses with an intake capacity of hundred which has been already filled up in the maiden year itself. USTM has plan to double the intake from the next year.

Glimpses : North East College Principals' Conclave -2014

Glimpses : Orientation Programme-2014

NSS CELL FORMED

The Governement of Meghalaya financially assisted the University to set up a NSS Cell recently, with the total number of 1000 volunteers leading by a program coordinator and five program officers. The cell was recognised by state Liasion Office Meghalaya & has adopted three villages near the premises of the university to uplift the social, educational and economic status of the rural communities. The volunteers have prepared different programs and need based service to the community people in various ways, and organizing different activities for women, children, youth and others by community organization, group work and case work with the client in need.

NSS volunteers and faculty members of USTM at Imphal

Mrs. Susen Miller & Mrs. Story Pascale from France are speaking on the occasion

The NSS Cell has also participated with 32 volunteers along with a Programme Officer and faculty members at North East NSS Festival and National Integretion Camp, organized by Ministry of Youth Affairs,Govt of Manipur from 21st August and 29th August, 2014 in Khuman lampak Sports Complex, Imphal..The programme was anougurated by Sri.Ibobi Singha,Honourable Chief Minister along with other dignatories in 21st August 2014.There are more than 400 volunteers were present from the eight state of the North Eastern Region.During the programme volunteers are involving in different activities like social service,Recreational activities,Youth Leadership, Sports Compitition, Blood Donation Camp, Cultural programme, Field Visit to Sandra, Loktak Lake ,Shramadan and Plantation, etc.

NSS Cell USTM, recently celebrated the Foundation Day with a day long program where a Health Check up Camp was organized at Baridua village, Ri Bhoi Meghalaya.

Remarks and Observations by joint UGC-AICTE Expert visiting Team on USTM

- The University campus has strategic location nearly 6 km away from the capital of Assam, which has proper connectivity by road, rail and air.
- The University when fully developed will play an important role to cater to the educational needs of the North Eastern region.
- Commitment and dedication of the top administration is reflected by the fact that distinguished persons have been included in various statutory bodies.
- The University administration and some of the academic buildings have been constructed within a period of two years, though they are located in hilly terrains.
- The overall built up area for administration and academic providing adequate support to the all the courses that are being offered.
- The University has made a provision for developing infrastructure to support sports activities. Other facilities such as back up for electricity, drainage system, fire safety, hostel facilities etc. are adequately take care off.
- The number of faculty recruited for teaching and research are adequate for the current level of enrollment.
- There is a central Library which provides all the library support for all the six schools. The number of titles and the volumes along with national and international journals are adequate for the current level of student enrollment. There are adequate space available for expansion of the library facility.
- The total land procured for the establishment of the USTM is quite adequate.

VC OF MJP ROHILKHAND UNIVERSITY AT USTM

Eminent Nano Technologist and Honourable Vice Chancellor of MJP Rohilkhand University Prof Mushahid Husain visited the campus of USTM on 24th September, 2014. During this visit, he went to each and every department of the University and thrilled to see the rapid infrastructural growth of this infant University. He had lauded the entrepreneurial efforts of the Chancellor Mahbubul Hoque for making quality education accessible to the students of the region. Prof Husain quoted him as a true visionary.

He further assured that Rohilkhand University will extend all kinds of collaborative help to USTM specifically in the field of Nano Science & Technology. He had a discussion with the authorities of USTM for signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two Universities.

Earlier Prof Husain was warmly welcomed and felicitated by Dr. P.G. Rao, VC of UTM in presence of the Chancellor and other high officials of the University. Prof. Husain wished for a bright future of USTM.

ERDF MISSION AWARD-2014

The First ERDF Mission awards were bestowed upon three employees of ERDF group of institutions in recognition of their excellent services rendered to ERD Foundation as founder Trustees. The Award consisting of a memento and cash of Rs. 50000 each. The Award was conferred to Ms. Anju Hazarika, Director, Welfare of ERDF, Mr. Azmol Hussain Barbhuiya, Registrar of Regional Institute of Science and Technology and Shri Balen Haloi, the first office bearer of ERDF. The awards were handed over by Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, honourable former President of India in the valedictory session of NCPC-2014.

USTM STUDENTS WELFARE FORUM TO BE FORMED

The student welfare forum of USTM will be created to exchange their views, ideas, and skills with other friends of the student community from different disciplines. Through this we want to bring out the skills of the students of the outside world.

LAPTOP DISTRIBUTION

To encourage the students and retain their enthusiasm a number of 17 laptops were distributed among the MBA students

Good News for IAS & NET Aspirants

The authorities of the university have declared that the students will get back the entire course fees if they qualify in the NET, Civil service and any national level competetive examinations. This step has been taken by the authorities to encourage and aspire the student community for target oriented achievement.

Overwhelming response towards Enrollment-2014

The University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya has enrolled more than 900 students in its 2014-15 batch. An overwhelming response from all over the Northeast has seen. Students from far-flung and interior corners of the region joined USTM to pursue higher studies. In most of the courses no seats left vacant.

The newly started B. Ed Course under the Prof Qoumrul Hoque School of Education (PQHSE) also has recorded full admission in its maiden year.

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Chancellor, Awarded at Singapore

of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University and Prof RL Sharma, Vice Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh Technical University along with other invited dignitaries of both India and Singapore.

Mahbubul Hoque has been selected for the award in due recognition of his yeomen service rendered by him in furthering the myriad aspects of technical education in North East India and for displaying extraordinary initiative in expanding the private institutional space for higher technical education through number of institutions thereby setting up example for others to emulate.

During this visit to Singapore, Mr. Hoque had visited the National University of Singapore and interacted with the high officials of the University about the education system of Singapore. They also discussed about student exchange programmes. Representatives of different Universities of Singapore had assured that they will visit USTM within a short period of time. Mr. Hoque is hopeful that once proper presentation is made, the Institutions in North East India will definitely attract students from South East Asian countries especially for its geographical location and in the backdrop of India's look East policy.

"A humble beginning Leads to USTM"

As every big tree emerges from a very small seed, ERD Foundation has also evolved from a very humble beginning. That seed was sown by the "Man Behind" this great Entrepreneurial effort - Mr. Mahbubul Hoque, a first class second MCA from Aligarh Muslim University, hailing from a very remote village in the Karimganj District of Assam, brought up with lots of struggle since his childhood having lost both the parents at an early age. But unperturbed by all the financial difficulties, he went on with his studies and ultimately came out with flying colors from AMU in the year 2000. Although he had got lucrative job offers from different MNCs & IT industries of the country as well as abroad but he decided to come back to his native place & started his career as an Educational Entrepreneur with only one computer & 4 students in the year 2001. That was the mere beginning, after that he did not have to look back. He continued his struggle in the field of education & succeeded to achieve milestones one after another. To streamline all the Institutions under a parent organization, he founded Education Research & Development Foundation in the year 2005 under his chairmanship. Today, under the aegis of the Foundation, he has established two CBSE Schools, one Engineering College, two professional Colleges, one University and a Coaching & Guidance Centre. More than 5500 students are studying in various disciplines under ERDF group of institutions and around 650 human resources are engaged in the foundation in different positions which is indeed an example for others.

Many awards and recognitions have come to him over the years for his great work. Recently he has been warmly felicitated at Chicago, USA and has been awarded with prestigious "EduClusion Award" at the Reengineering India Summit at Singapore which had given him much exposure in the International scenario.

Mr. Hoque is working relentlessly for the cause of Education. He has a strong determination to continue his mission of spreading Education to every nook & corner of the region. The managment of USTM has set different milestones to be achieved as **USTM Mission Bronze**-to make the University as one of the Best in the East by 2020, **USTM Mission Silver**-to become one of the Best in India by 2025 and the **USTM Mission Gold**-to become a Word Class University by 2030. Mahbubul Hoque is now dreaming for this World class University, as his dream resembles with the dream which is defined by Honourable former president of India Dr. A.P. J. Abdul Kalam as "Dream is not what you see while sleeping; it is something that does not let you sleep."

MRD at Rural Camp

Students of Rural Development visited Mawlynnong which was known as "Asia's cleanest Village" (Discovery,2003) on 18th and 19th September,2014. The purpose of the visit was to study the socio-economic life and livelihood of Mawlynnong and also to know the various indigenous technologies they have been using in order to improve their quality of life. Interaction with the headman as well as the villagers was accomplished by the students to get facts and figures.

In the Campus

Ms Story Pascale and Ms Suzen at the interactive session with the MCM first semester students.

Upcoming events

North East Teachers' Congress-2014

The University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya is dedicated towards organizing events like North East Graduate Congress, North East Teacher Congress and North East Principals' Conclave where students, teachers and principals from different colleges and Universities of north eastern India can participate and interact. The North East Teachers' Congress 2014, is being organized at the end of the year. Brisk preparation for the event has been in progress. Participation of at least 500 teachers from different colleges is being expected in this Congress. Several eminent academicians and academic administrators from all over India will participate in various events of the Congress.

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