

USTM Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY MEGHALAYA

Vol. 15

July - December 2020

Highlights of the issue

- 6th Convocation 2020
- USTM Signs MoU with ASTU
- USTM Students outshine in UGC-NET
- USTM FACC Students qualify APSC
- Students offered relief to 1 lakh + needy families
- 'Great Teacher of All Teachers' honour to Prof. N.K. Chaudhury
- Master of Hospital Administration launched in association with BBCI
- UGC Chairman delivers 6th Convocation address
- Webinar Lecture Series @ Covid-19
- National Education Day 2020
- USTM observes 74th Independence Day
- USTM provides free online NET Coaching
- Online summer training 'G-STEP' launched
- USTM Chancellor meets Governor of Meghalaya
- Seminars & Workshops



USTM

OUR APPROVALS & RECOGNITIONS



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

UGC



AICTE



गुरुगुरुतमो धाम

NCTE



PCI



BCI

OUR ASSOCIATION / COLLABORATION



TEZPUR UNIVERSITY



JNU



IIT-G



AMU



GAUHATI UNIVERSITY



JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA



NIT, SILCHAR



CSIR-NEIST



ASTU



IASST

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION



বাংলাদেশ
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন

UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA



**FATİH
SULTAN
MEHMET
VAKIF ÜNİVERSİTESİ
2010**



**BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY
OF HEALTH SCIENCES (BUHS)**



AIU

**The Association
of Commonwealth
Universities**

ACU

MEMBERSHIP

Wisdom Tree..

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the USTM editorial team has come up with this latest edition of Newsletter. Education plays an important role in enabling a person to face real life situation with adequate knowledge. University is a temple of learning and in the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya, we are making our best effort to give quality education to our students. Although our journey started with many obstacles, we converted all the difficulties into opportunities and presently, we are on the way to establish ourselves as a world class university.

Mount Everest is not only the highest peak in the world but also an ultimate symbol of challenge and achievement. Everyone knows that the first people to climb the Mt. Everest were Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay. But nobody knows that it was not their first attempt at scaling the world's highest peak. One day, Norgay looked at the Mount Everest and said, "I will come again and conquer you ! Because as a Mountain you cannot grow, but as a human I can !" With extraordinary passion, the ordinary people did extraordinary works, they identified a cause, larger than their own life, on which they invested every breath to their last breath. We can make history , when we have a cause that inspires us to wake up every morning a little early and keeps us awake a little late and fills every minute with the depths of passion. Every ordinary work we do with that 'extra' can become extraordinary.

Let us put a little that 'extra' in our each and every effort to build USTM a centre of excellence, a world class university. I hereby appeal to everyone to join our vision and mission and to convert our dream into a sweet reality. Together, we can do everything.



Mahbubul Hoque
Chancellor



GREETINGS OF THE SEASON!!

It gives me immense pleasure to present before you the various academic activities of the university during the year 2020. The University of Science & Technology Meghalaya had recently held its 6th convocation on 15th December 2020 where U.G, P. G & Ph.D. degrees were awarded along with Gold medals to the toppers in various disciplines. Shri Satya Pal Malik, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya graced the occasion.

The year 2020 has been one of the Guillain-Barre syndromes due to COVID-19 pandemic. On the other hand it brought digital transformation world over. We have been adapted to move forward in blended and online education through technological use during such natural disaster. Covid-19 has brought changes in social and working behavior. During this period our campus has been moving towards reducing the carbon emission and cleaning of environment. The crucial period of lockdown has provided us an opportunity to become technologically sound. We as a visionary university didn't allow the pandemic to hamper the academic progression of our students. We adopted virtual mode of conducting classes since the very first day of the lockdown, conducted online examinations on time in virtual mode and provided free online NET coaching for the aspirants.

During this period, various webinars have been organized by the university, out of which, the 'USTM webinar lecture series @ Covid-19' is a worth mentioning one. A new course, namely 'Master of Hospital Administration' has been launched in collaboration with Dr. B. Barooah Cancer Institute (BBCI) from this academic session. During this period, we have also signed MoU with 'Assam Science & Technology University' (ASTU) for various collaborative research works. To provide job opportunities to the students of USTM through virtual means of placement, the university has signed MoU with IBM using CSR facility. This will also create new approaches in creating entrepreneurship for E-Business.

The university has also introduced LOCF curriculum as per UGC guidelines in different subjects from this session. Students of USTM can get more choices to choose MOOCS courses during their degree programme. New batch of Ph.D. students will also be joining USTM in the month of January for their course work. While various academic and technological approaches have been adopted by the university, the security and healthcare for the students and staff have been top priority. Each Academic Block has been provided with sanitization tube and paddler operated system. Free face masks were also provided to the students during convocation. The university has also carried out various awareness programmes to safeguard our people against Coronavirus.

I congratulate the editorial team and advisors of this newsletter for their sincere efforts in bringing out this edition on time in spite of COVID-19 and invite suggestions from the university fraternity for its further improvement. I convey my best wishes to all the family members of the our university a happy, healthy, productive and prosperous New Year 2021.



Prof G D Sharma
Vice Chancellor



6th CONVOCATION



Shri Satya Pal Malik, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya & Visitor USTM graced the occasion as Chief Guest

The 6th Convocation of the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) was held successfully on 15th December 2020 in the presence of the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya Shri Satya Pal Malik and a galaxy of Vice Chancellors and dignitaries. Altogether 1332 graduates were awarded degrees, out of which 10 scholars were awarded Ph.D. degrees, 925 students were awarded Post Graduate degrees and 397 students were awarded Undergraduate degrees. Hon. D.Sc. was awarded to Prof Sanjay Deshmukh, Former Vice-Chancellor & Professor of Life Science, University of Mumbai for outstanding contribution in the field academic administration and promotion of science, technology and innovation. Hon. D.Litt. was awarded to Smt (Padmashree) Patricia Mukhim, Editor, The Shillong Times for her outstanding contribution in the field of education, journalism and literature. Satya Pal Malik, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya who is the Visitor of USTM had presided over this grand academic event and awarded the Degrees. All the COVID-19 safety protocols were strictly followed during the convocation ceremony. Social Distance was strictly maintained among the students and guests and proper sanitisation facilities were made available.

The event began with the solemn and elegant Academic Procession which was led by the Registrar of the university, participated by the Academic Council members, members of the Board of Governors, Deans of Schools, Heads of Departments and the Professors of the University. After the convocation was declared open by the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, a warm welcome address was delivered by the USTM Chancellor Shri M.Hoque.



Prof DP Singh, Hon'ble Chairman UGC, New Delhi delivered the Convocation Address



Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM delivered the Welcome Address

Shri Hoque expressed his gratefulness to the Government of Meghalaya for its continuous help in the growth of USTM. After the welcome address, Prof. G.D. Sharma, VC, USTM presented the university report. The Convocation Address was delivered by Prof DP Singh, Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC). After that, Hon. D.Sc, D.Litt & Degrees were awarded by the Meghalaya Governor who in turn congratulated all the graduates through a wonderful speech. He urged all the degree holders to serve the society with honesty and humanistic ideology.

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Best Post Graduate Award was awarded to Rezwana Farhin from the Department of Mathematics and PA Sangma Best Under Graduate Award was awarded to Nilotpal Deka from the Department of Physics.

Prof SK Srivastava, VC, North Eastern Hill University and Prof Vinod Kr Jain, VC, Tezpur University had also graced the convocation apart from the other distinguished dignitaries.



Prof. G.D. Sharma, VC, USTM presents the University Report



Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya handed over Hon. D.Sc. to Prof. Sanjay Deshmukh, Former VC, University of Mumbai

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Best Post Graduate Award was conferred on Rezwana Farhin, Dept. of Mathematics



PA Sangma Best Under Graduate Award was conferred on Nilotpal Deka, Dept. of Physics.



Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya handed over Hon. D.Litt. to Padmashree Patricia Mukhim, Editor, The Shillong Times



USTM SIGNS MOU WITH ASTU

On 5th November 2020, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Assam Science and Technology University (ASTU) which is expected to benefit both the institutes through faculty and student exchange program, submission of collaborative projects and conduction of seminar, workshops etc jointly as outreach program.

The ceremony which took place at the conference hall of USTM was attended by a delegation of ASTU led by their VC Dr. Dhiraj Bora, Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor USTM, Prof. G.D. Sharma, VC, USTM along with other higher authorities, administrative officials and faculty members of USTM. The event started

with a welcome speech by the USTM Chancellor M. Hoque. It was followed by speeches of the ASTU Vice Chancellor Dr. Dhiraj Bora and USTM Vice Chancellor Prof. G.D. Sharma. Dr. Nripen Das, Registrar, ASTU, Dr. B.R. Phukan, Academic Registrar, ASTU, Dr. S. Murli Mohan, COE, ASTU, Shri Debajyoti Goswami, FAO, ASTU, Dr. R.K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM, Dr. B.K. Das, Director, Admin, USTM were the other remarkable dignitaries present at the event.



Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM, Dr. Dhiraj Bora, VC, ASTU, and Prof. G.D. Sharma, VC, USTM during the MoU Signing ceremony

'GREAT TEACHER OF ALL TEACHERS' HONOUR TO PROF. N.K. CHAUDHURY



On the occasion of Teacher's Day, USTM along with all the other group of institutions run by ERD Foundation Guwahati have bestowed 'Great Teacher of All Teachers' honour to Prof. Nirmal Kumar Chaudhury, former VC of Gauhati University at his residence in Rukmini Gaon by following all the COVID-19 safety protocols of the Government on 5th September 2020. Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM felicitated Prof. N.K. Chaudhury with a citation and token of appreciation on behalf of the entire ERDF group of institutions. The felicitation ceremony was virtually joined by the Dr. Mridul Hazarika, VC, USTM along with the principals, faculty members and administrative officials of all the institutions of ERD foundation over zoom app. The event started with floral tribute to Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and was followed by a brief speech by Shri M. Hoque. Addressing the media, Chancellor Hoque offered his heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Chaudhury.

Overwhelmed on being bestowed upon with the honour, Prof. Chaudhury offered his sincere thanks to the entire ERDF family and addressed the media and other participants with a brief speech. He also expressed his concerns about the current scenario of the educational sector due to COVID-19.

ONLINE SUMMER TRAINING 'G-STEP' LAUNCHED

'G-STEP', a two-month online summer training programme for college students was officially launched by the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya on 23rd of June 2020 in an unparalleled move to boost the academic and career progression of UG final year students of the northeastern region amidst this crucial period of COVID-19. 'Graduate Summer training for Educational Progression' (G-STEP) has been mainly developed to provide the students a stimulating stage where they can exercise their talent under the mentorship of highly competent faculty members using various online platforms.

FORMER UGC CHAIRMAN INAUGURATES FREE ONLINE NET COACHING BY USTM

On 17th August 2020, Prof. Ved Prakash, former Chairman, UGC (India) virtually inaugurated the free online NET coaching classes by USTM via a webinar meeting held over zoom app. Taking in view of the present crucial situation of COVID-19 where the aspirants are not being able to avail coaching through contact classes, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) has decided to open its doors for all the students from all over the Nation to avail free online NET coaching classes under the guidance of experienced faculty members. The virtual inaugural ceremony which was graced by Prof. Ved Prakash as the Chief Guest and Keynote speaker also witnessed active participation by Shri. Mahbubul Hoque, Hon'ble Chancellor, USTM and Dr. Mridul Hazarika, Hon'ble VC, USTM along with other dignitaries. The virtual orientation session which began with a wonderful welcome note by Chancellor Hoque was attended by a large number of NET aspirants across the country through Zoom app and Facebook live streaming in the official USTM Facebook page. It was followed by the keynote speech by Prof. Ved Prakash. He congratulated the UGC-NET forum of USTM for this major step. 452 USTM students have qualified the UGC NET till date.

Prof. Ved Prakash speaks on "NET/JRF for Academic Excellence" | USTM



"We need to standardize the entry of people into Higher Education" : Prof Ved Prakash

USTM CELEBRATES NATIONAL EDUCATION DAY 2020



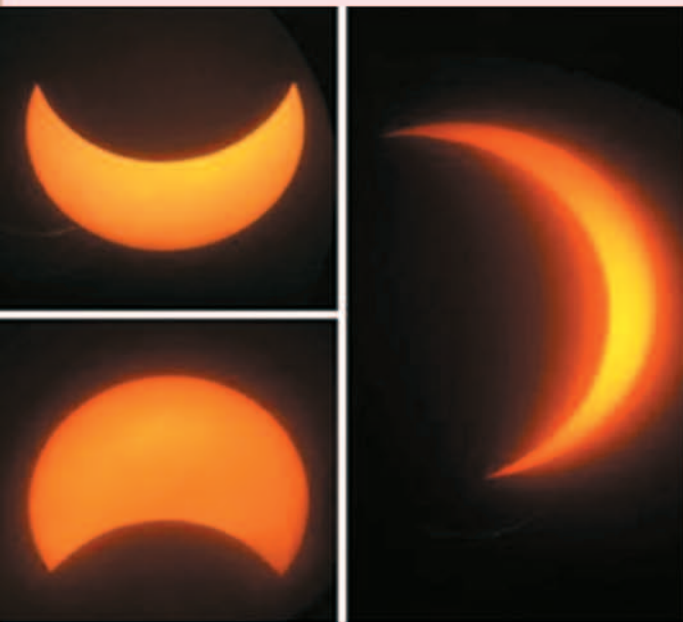
Prof. G.D. Sharma addressing on the occasion of National Education Day

To commemorate Maulana Abul Kalam Azad- the great visionary and architect of the Nation's education system, National Education Day was organized by University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) on 11th November 2020. The function was participated by the administrative officials and faculty members of USTM apart from the dignitaries. The event started with a short welcome speech by Ms. Anju Hazarika, Registrar, USTM, which was followed by the keynote address by Prof. G.D. Sharma, Hon'ble VC, USTM. Delivering his speech Prof. Sharma said, "I salute Maulana Abul Kalam Azad for his immense contribution to the national educational scenario. We should think about upgrading our education and be innovative and impart cooperative teaching". "While universities were earlier considered as places of study and research only, the present concept is that universities should produce people who think not only about personal growth, but also try to reach out to people," he added.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. R.K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM said that Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was a great executor and remembered that all the big educational and cultural establishments such as IIT, UGC, Jamia Milia Islamia, Sangeet Natak Akademy, Lalit Kala Academy etc are the brainchild of this great visionary. "He gave great importance in building institutions. He laid the foundation stone and streamlined the whole education system of India", he added.

SOLAR ECLIPSE PHENOMENON DEMONSTRATED BY USTM ASTROPHYSICS TEAM

As the entire Nation was continuing its fight against COVID-19 during this crucial period of time, with the educational institutions trying their best to come up with various strategies and protocols to continue their respective academic activities as per the guidelines provided by the Government, the Astro-Science Centre & Observatory, USTM had successfully conducted an outreach program on 21st June 2020 to celebrate the Annular Solar Eclipse (~80% Partial from Assam) in a remote village of Charaideo District, Assam. With the help of school going kids (trained) Dr. Nitu Borgohain, Assistant Professor of Department of Physics, USTM demonstrated the science behind this spectacular event through physical observation of different phases of the eclipse. The Astro-Science Centre & Observatory, USTM, offered its sincere thanks to Shri Mahbubul Hoque, (Chancellor, USTM) for his kind guidance and constant support towards this successful event.



USTM/RIST OBSERVES 74TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

As the Government of Assam gave relaxation in terms of its on going curfew hours thereby enabling the people to move for Independence Day observance, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) along with the Regional Institute of Science and Technology (RIST) observed the 74th Independence day in their head office 'ERD Foundation' located in Bhetapara, Guwahati on 15th August 2020. The safety guidelines provided by the Government were strictly followed during the observation ceremony. The event witnessed participation of Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Hon'ble Chancellor, USTM, Dr. R.K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM and 30 per cent of other administrative officials of both the institutions. The program started with hoisting of the National flag at 8.30 am and was followed by a short speech by Chancellor Hoque. Dr. Sharma also addressed the gathering with a brief speech. The speech session was followed by a short felicitation ceremony where security personnel, helping staff and the children present at the event were felicitated. The short yet joyous celebration concluded with singing of the National Anthem. It is also worth mentioning that the administrative officials and other staff members of both the institutions residing inside the USTM campus too observed the 74th Independence Day by hoisting the tricolour in front of the Amenity Centre, USTM.



USTM LAUNCHES MASTER OF HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH BBCI



On 2nd September 2020, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya in association with Dr. B Barooah Cancer Institute officially launched a new Master Degree program namely 'Master of Hospital Administration' (MHA) at the BBCI auditorium. The mega launching ceremony took place in the presence of Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM, Dr. Amal Chandra Kataki, Director, BBCI, Dr. M. Bhattacharya, Deputy Director (Research), BBCI, Dr. Amit Choudhury, Dean, Business Science, USTM as well as other dignitaries and administrative officials from both the institutions. The Master Degree holders in Hospital Administration course will be qualified to manage diverse roles of leadership, management and administration in the Healthcare sector. The course is a mix of theories, assignments and case studies that differ according to college norms. Students interested in making a respectable career in health services can achieve significantly by branching their medical knowledge to the management sector. The main objective behind launching of this fresh master degree program is to cater to the need of the present day health sector where skilled and trained administrators as well as managers are required in the hospitals and other healthcare institutes for their smooth functioning. The duration of the course is 2 years and candidates with bachelor's degree in any discipline with 50% aggregate marks will be eligible to pursue this brand new master degree program.

The event started with a short welcome speech by Dr. Amal Chandra Kataki and was followed by a brief speech by Shri Mahbubul Hoque.

At the end of the program, Dr. AC Kataki also announced that considering the economic hardship arising due to COVID-19, a special incentive will be given to the economically under privileged students. Chancellor Hoque also announced that USTM will be starting a new fellowship in the fond memory of Dr. Bhubaneswar Barooah where two academically brilliant students will be provided free education.

USTM Chancellor visits Governor of Meghalaya

On 27th October 2020, A team led by the Chancellor of University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) Shri M. Hoque along with Dr. R. K. Sharma, Advisor, Ms. Ifegenia Kharkrang, Executive Assistant and other officials met the new Governor of Meghalaya Shri Satya Pal Malik at Raj Bhavan, Shillong who had assumed office on 18th August after his successful tenures as Governor of Goa, J&K, Bihar & Odisha.

The team welcomed Shri Malik with mementos, flower bouquets and gifts. Shri Malik is also going to be the visitor of the University very soon. In the brief interaction, Shri M. Hoque, the Chancellor of USTM apprised the new Governor about the progress and performance of the university. The Hon'ble Governor had also called upon the research activities being carried out by the university. He also assured to extend all kinds of support to USTM during his tenure. On this particular meeting, the Hon'ble Governor had given his consent to grace the 6th Convocation of USTM and confer the degrees.



ACHIEVEMENT

UGC NET/JRF QUALIFIED STUDENTS : JUNE 2020

25 USTM students qualified UGC-NET in the year 2020



Rakib Hussain
Commerce



Bhagyashree Boro
Library & Information Science, (JRF)



Rima Mani Devi
Library & Information Science



Rangdondor Doloi
Political Science



Dipasha Patiri
Earth Science



HB Warningson Anal
Political Science



Esther Lalhriatpuii
Earth Science



Nima Tsering Rhomo
Political Science



Duhaphi Annie Marsing
Education



Joseph Kolo
Social Work



Rachester Marwein
Commerce



Toni Koyu
Library & Info Science



M M Kharkongor
Education



Samikshya Madhukulya
Sociology (JRF)



Juri Goankhowa
Economics



Anjali Tayeng
Economics



Lalita Reang
English



Lamung Rijiju
Sociology



Ujjal Sut
Economics



Raknang B Sangma
Commerce



Bishnu Maya Devi
Education



Jenny Sarma
Education



Lony Das
Education



Dip Jyoti Chakma
Earth Science



Sukriti Das
Commerce

FACC- ERDF STUDENTS QUALIFIED APSC



Hiya Medhi



Bedanga Kashyap Das



Manoj Kumar Dutta



Ayaz Tanvir Alam



Lucas Baishya



Kabita Phangcho



Devangan Sharma



Anish Beria



Rajib Bhagawati



Rajarshi Choudhury



Penaz Rahman

7 USTM STUDENTS SELECTED FOR NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

7 students of the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya have been selected for two different prestigious National Fellowships. Out of this, five students have been selected for the prestigious 'DST Inspire' fellowship offered by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, for doing research work in various prestigious institutions of excellence.

On the other hand, two Ph.D scholars from the Department of Political Science, USTM, have been selected for National Fellowship 2019-20 offered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India.

'DST Inspire' Fellowship



Miss Nasrin Sultana
Chemistry



Mr. Zinnat Hassan
Mathematics



Miss Semina Safique
Applied Biology



Mr. Rezaul Karim SK
Physics



Pallab Bora
Mathematics

MoTA National Fellowship



Keneisepe U Koza
Political Science



Arkynti Nylla Basan Shrieh
Political Science

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS



Dr. Palmee Borthakur, Assistant Professor, Department of Earth Science, USTM has been awarded Ph.D by the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya for her thesis on the topic "Modern Music in Guwahati (GMA), Assam : A study of Cultural Fusion and Diffusion".



Dr. Fariza Sadin, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, USTM has been awarded Ph.D by the Gauhati University for her thesis on the topic "A comparison of Neuro Cognitive profiles among Digital & Non Digital children in Guwahati Metropolis".



Dr. Girmallika Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, USTM has been awarded Ph.D by the Assam University, Silchar for her thesis on the topic "A study on the problems of women domestic workers in Guwahati city, Assam".



Dr. Chandan Bharadwaj, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, USTM has been awarded Ph.D by the Patna University, Bihar for his thesis on the topic "Socio-economic hegemony and schooling in a Matrilineal Society: A study of the Khasi Society of Meghalaya".



Dr. Kangkan Jyoti Sarma, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, USTM has been awarded Ph.D by the Maharaja Sayaji Rao University of Baroda, Gujarat for his thesis on the topic "Fish and Fishery of Hilsa (Family: Clupeidae) of Gujarat state with reference to Migration."



Mr. Anurag Rudra, Director, Centre for Competitive Examination, USTM secured 8th rank in APSC.

WEBINARS

USTM WEBINAR LECTURE SERIES @ COVID-19

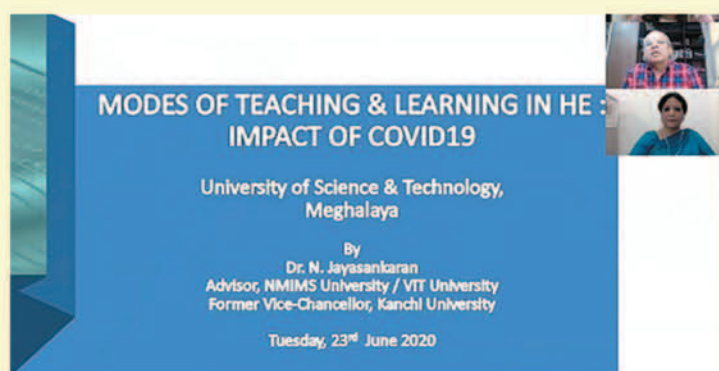
As the entire educational sector of the Nation was trying its level best to keep the students updated with their syllabus amidst this crucial period of time brought about by the deadly COVID-19, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya had successfully conducted its more than a month long innovative Webinar Lecture Series. The Lecture series was mainly organized for the benefit of the students community during this crucial period of COVID-19. The Webinar Lecture Series which began with an appealing lecture by Prof. Ved Prakash, former Chairman, UGC, on the topic 'Institutional Strategies toward promoting quality in tertiary education: Continuity, Adaptation and Innovation' on 10th June 2020 successfully concluded with the final lecture delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Dipika Deka, VC, SSUHS, Guwahati, on the topic 'Responsibilities of Educational Institutions towards Health Safety Measures.'

The various sessions of this webinar lecture series organized by USTM witnessed many eminent personalities across the Nation as the keynote speakers on various topics. Prof. DP Agarwal (Former Chairman, UPSC), Prof. S S Mantha (Former Chairman, AICTE), Prof. Liaquat Ali (Former VC, BUHS, Dhaka, Bangladesh), Prof. Yasmin Saikia (Professor, Arizona University, USA), Prof. Sanjay Deshmukh (Former VC, University of Mumbai), Prof. KRS Sambasiva Rao (VC, Mizoram University), Dr. N. Annamalai (Associate Professor, IIT Kootayam, Kerala), Dr. Rupam Barman (Associate Professor, IIT Guwahati) etc are few of the eminent personalities who addressed the participants on various topics throughout the webinar series.



Challenges in Higher Education during and Post Covid -19

DR. S. S. MANTHA
FORMER CHAIRMAN, AICTE
ADJ. PROF. NIAS, BANGALORE
CHANCELLOR, KL UNIVERSITY
PROF. EMERITUS, VJTI, MUMBAI

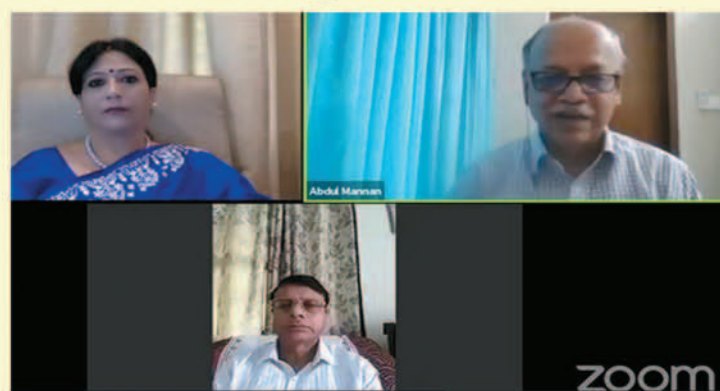


MODES OF TEACHING & LEARNING IN HE : IMPACT OF COVID19

University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya

By
Dr. N. Jayasankaran
Advisor, NMIMS University / VIT University
Former Vice-Chancellor, Kanchi University

Tuesday, 23rd June 2020



Short-term shifts

- Personal behavioural adjustments that are taking place: Getting used to living indoors. venturing out is risking themselves
- to keep safe and alive is continuous on mind. Can't even shake hands.
- Staying sane is also difficult
- Video chats, u-tubes have now become a rage. Zoom, remote conferencing are popular.
- Pollution in cities like Delhi have come down. Now our lungs are filled with the quality of clean air going in for breathing!
- Indoor exercising options have enhanced with video guides motivating many of us to practice in-home-walking, freehand-exercises or yoga.

"CHALLENGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION DURING & POST COVID-19"

'Responsibilities of educational institutions towards - health safety measures'

By

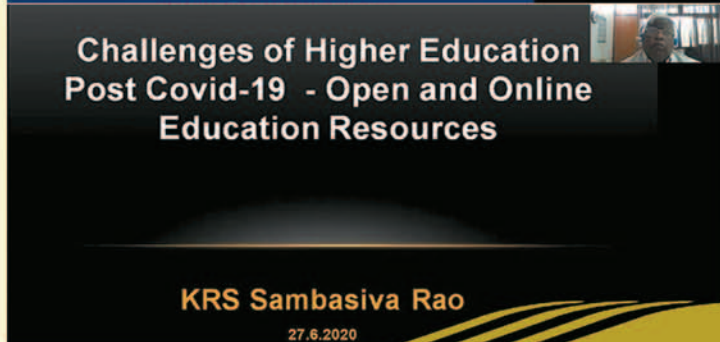
Prof (Dr) Dipika Deka, MD, FICOG, FICMCH, FIMSA
VC, SSUHS, Assam



ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

USTM WEBINAR LECTURE SERIES
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MEGHALAYA

SANJAY DESHMUKH, PhD, DSc
PROFESSOR OF LIFE SCIENCES; FORMER VICE-CHANCELLOR
University of Mumbai, INDIA



Challenges of Higher Education Post Covid-19 - Open and Online Education Resources

KRS Sambasiva Rao

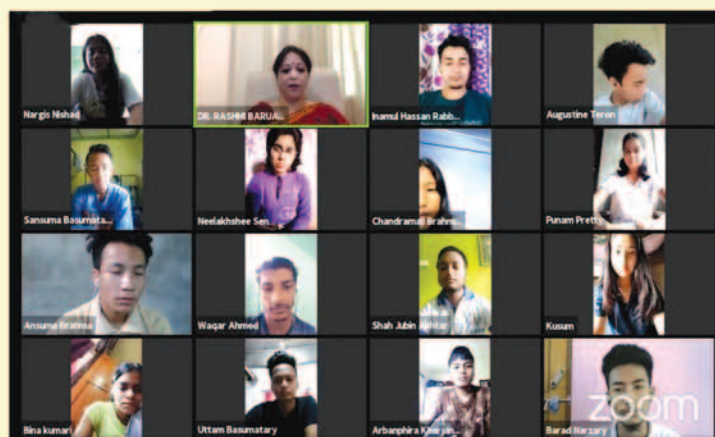
27.6.2020

INTERNATIONAL ONLINE CONFERENCE ON “EMERGENCE AND RESURGENCE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES – SOCIAL SCIENCES PERSPECTIVES”



The University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) hoisted an International Online Conference on “Emergence and Resurgence of Communicable Diseases – Social Sciences Perspectives” during July 21-22, 2020. It was in collaboration with the Indian Sociological Society; University of Delhi; Forum for Learning & Action with Innovation & Rigour, Delhi; and Tripura Bamboo & Cane Development Centre, Agartala.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE BATCH OF 2020-21



When the educational institutions remained closed throughout the Nation as per the direction of Government of India due to COVID-19, USTM successfully conducted its orientation programme for the new batch of students through virtual mode. The university further made sure that the academic progression of the students was not get hampered at any cost for which regular classes were conducted virtually after the orientation. USTM is the first university in the North East India to conduct online orientation programme as well as virtual classes during the pandemic.

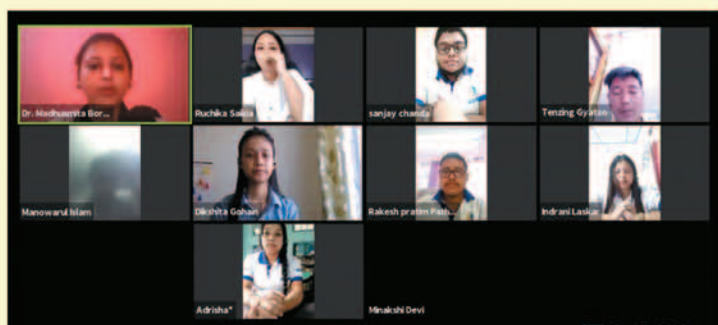
RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS & PROJECTS

Academic Session 2020

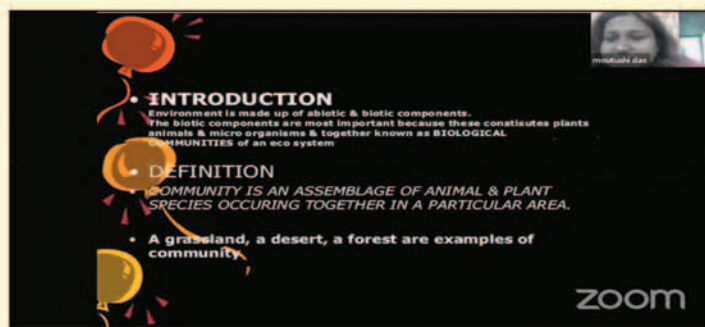
Research Papers published in Journals	: 164
Papers published in edited books	: 81
Books published	: 7
Research Project	: 26

ONLINE CLASSES

To make sure that the COVID-19 pandemic does not hamper the academic progression of our students, classes are being conducted virtually on regular basis. All the departments of USTM are conducting online classes for the benefit of the students.



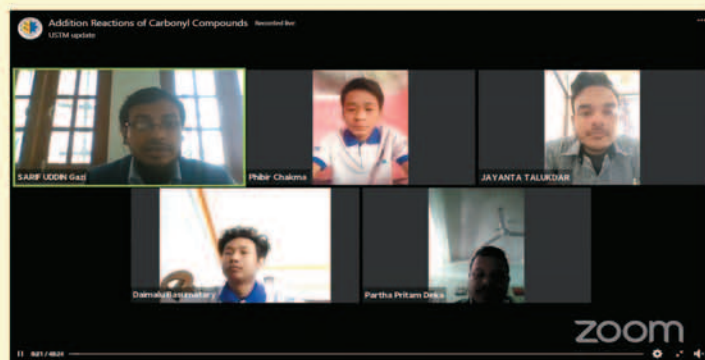
Dr. Madhusmita Borthakur, Asst. Professor, Department of Applied Biology, USTM, conducting online class for B.Sc Biotechnology 3rd semester students.



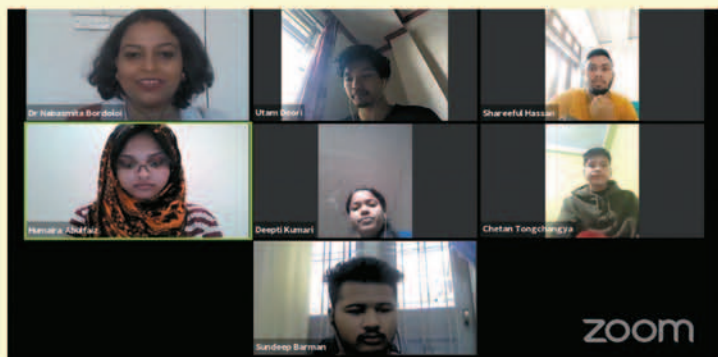
Dr. Mautushi Das, Asst. Professor, Department of Botany, USTM, conducting online class for M.Sc Botany 3rd semester students.



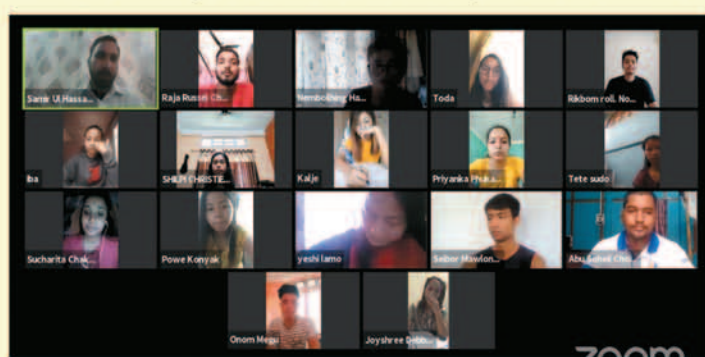
Dr. Rashmi Baruah, Associate Professor, Department of Business Administration, USTM, conducting online class for BBA 1st semester students.



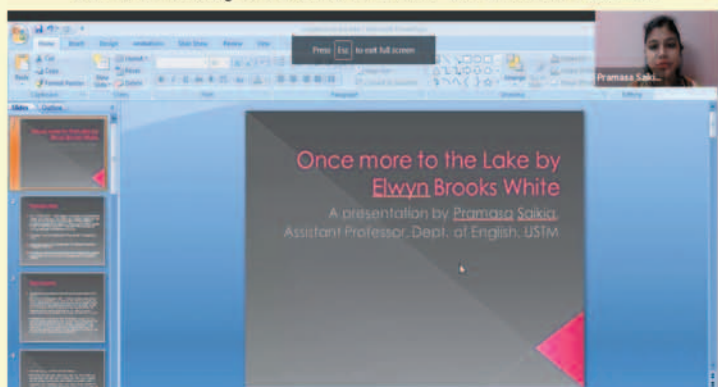
Dr. Sarif Uddin Gazi, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, USTM, conducting online class for B.Sc Chemistry 3rd semester students.



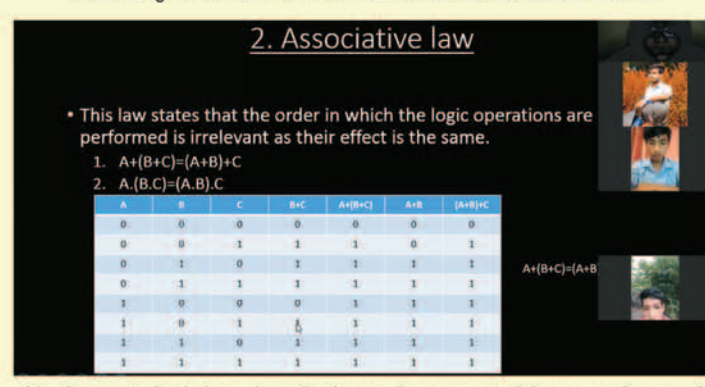
Dr. Nabanita Bordoloi, Asst. Professor, Department of Commerce, USTM, conducting online class for B.Com 5th semester students.



Dr. Samir Ul Hassan, Asst. Professor, Department of Economics, USTM, conducting online class for M.A. Economics 3rd semester students.



Ms. Pramasa Saikia, Asst. Professor, Department of English, USTM, conducting online class for B.Sc Biotechnology 3rd semester students.



Ms. Sangeeta Borkakoty, Asst. Professor, Department of Computer Science & Electronics, USTM, conducting online class for MCA 3rd semester students.

GET TOGETHER LUNCH 2020



On 1st December 2020, an annual get together lunch was held at the amenity centre of USTM. One of the special feature of this event was that all the administrative high authorities, admin officials, faculty members, supporting staff and students of the university meet together for a common interactive session followed by a lunch. Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Hon'ble Chancellor, USTM, Prof. G.D. Sharma, Hon'ble VC, USTM and Dr. R.K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM added more colors to the session through their gracious presence.

TALK BY Dr. BIRENDRANATH BANERJEE ON MOLECULAR LIFE SCIENCES IN 21ST CENTURY

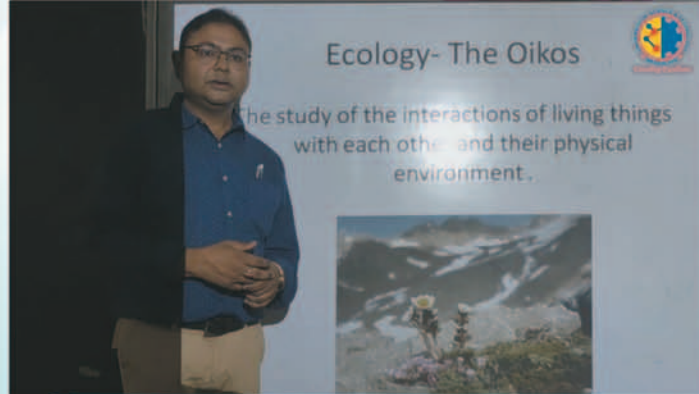
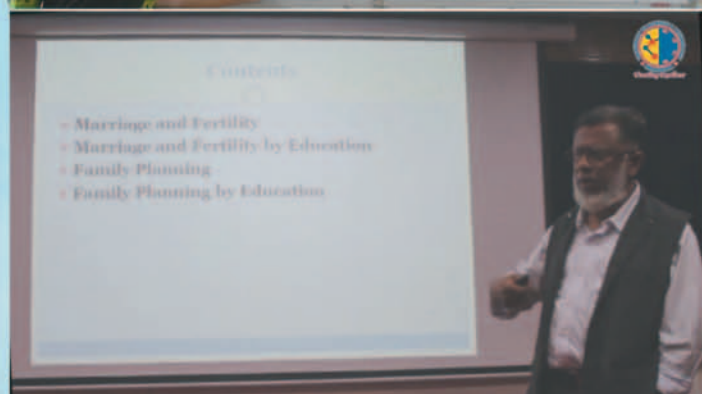
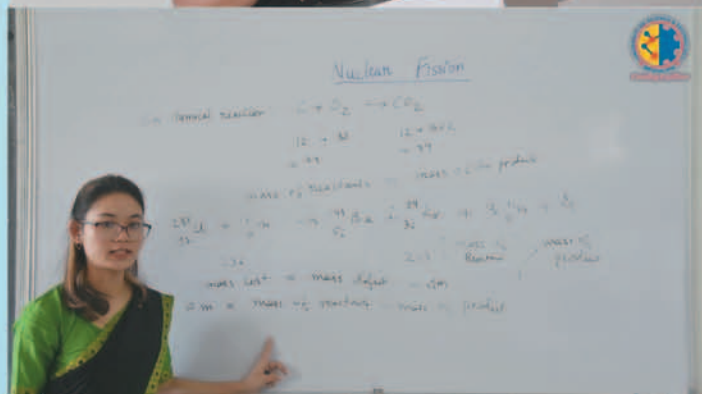
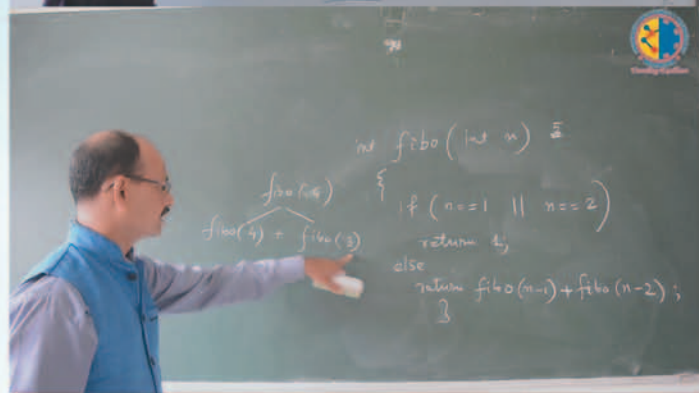
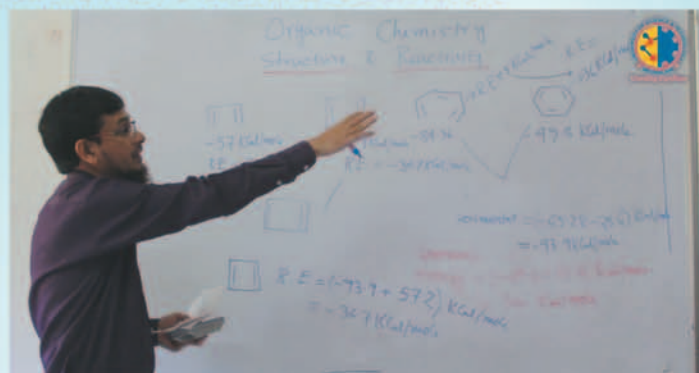
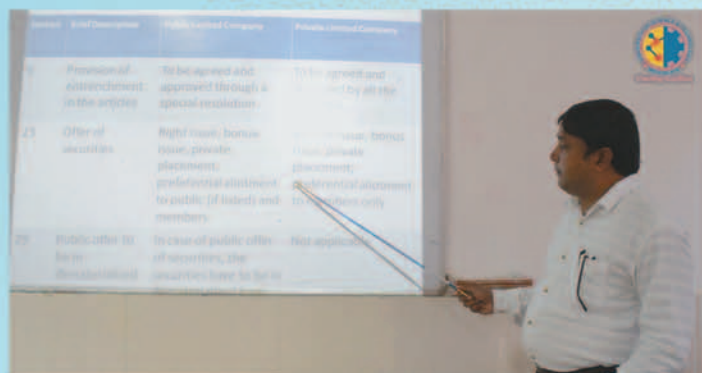
On 23rd November 2020, a talk on the topic "Molecular Life Sciences in 21st Century: Genes to life" was held at the conference hall of the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya. The talk was delivered by Dr. Birendranath Banerjee, Head R&D and Innovation, Division of Molecular Research in DNA Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.



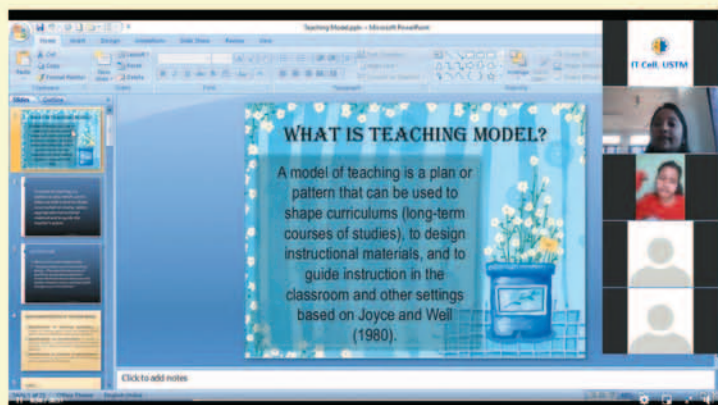
The event started with a welcome speech by Prof. G.D. Sharma, Hon'ble VC, USTM and was followed by a felicitation session. After that, Dr. Birendranath Banerjee delivered the talk. He spoke about how the COVID-19 pandemic taught everyone the importance and power of a single RNA molecule with a protein. He also spoke about how genes affect our mind and body. He also stressed on the importance of understanding the molecular basis of life in complex organisms. The session was attended by administrative higher authorities of USTM along with the admin officials and faculty members. A large number of dignitaries also attended the session virtually via zoom app.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ON LMS



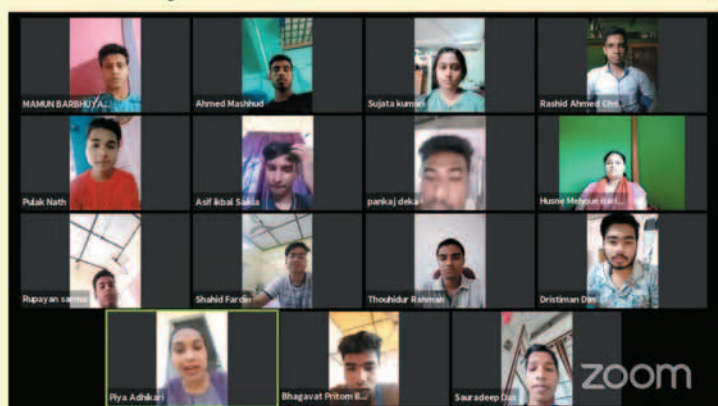
ONLINE CLASSES



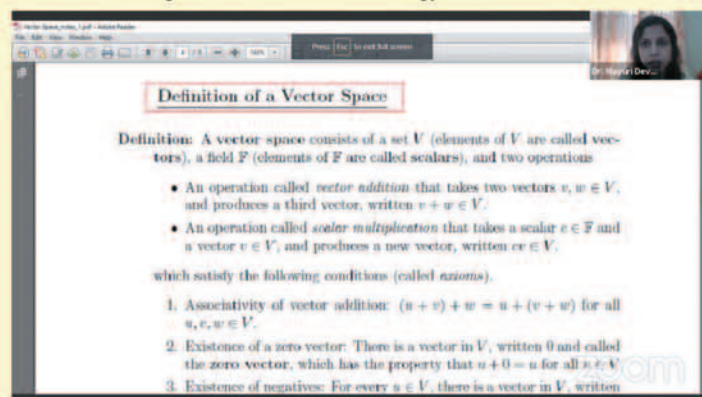
Dr. Sarmistha Choudhury, Asst. Professor, PQHSE, USTM, conducting online class for MA Education 3rd semester students.



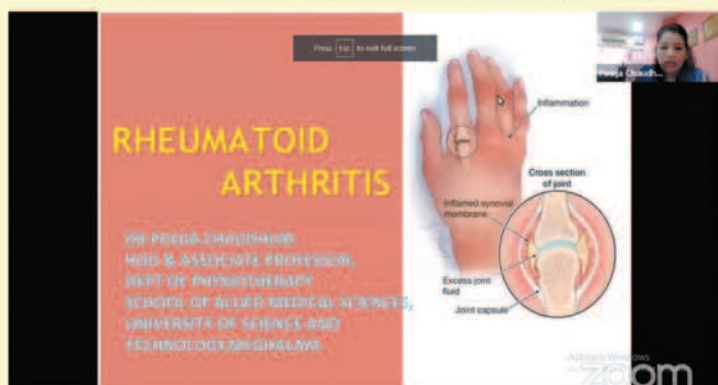
Mr. Rizaul Ahmed, Asst. Professor, Department of Zoology, USTM, conducting online class for M.Sc Zoology 3rd semester students.



Dr. Piya Adhikary, Asst. Professor, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, USTM, conducting online class for B.Pharm 5th semester students.



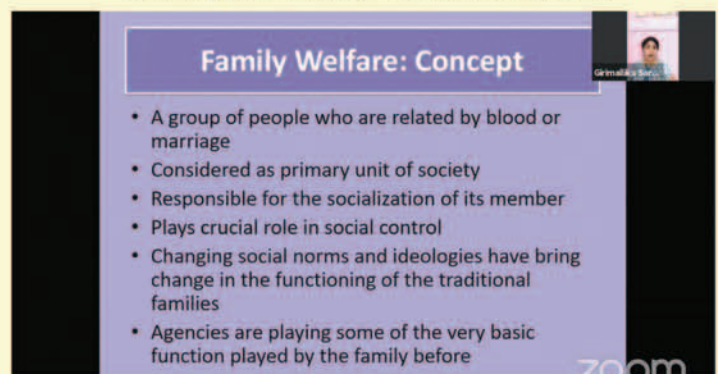
Dr. Mayuri Devi, Asst. Professor, Department of Physics, USTM, conducting online class for B.Sc Physics 3rd semester students.



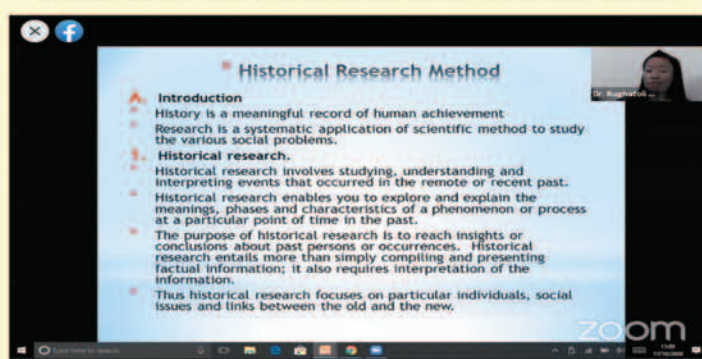
Dr. Pooja Adhikary, Associate Professor, Department of Physiotherapy, USTM, conducting online class for BPT 3rd semester students.



Ms Fahmida S Bora, Asst. Professor, Department of Political Science, USTM, conducting online class for M.Sc Political Science 1st semester students.



Dr. Girmallika Sarma, Asst. Professor, Department of Social Works, USTM, conducting online class for BSW 3rd semester students.



Dr. Kughatoli V. Aye, Asst. Professor, Department of Sociology, USTM, conducting online class for B.A. Sociology 3rd semester students.

ONLINE EXAMINATION

During the crucial period of lockdown imposed by the Government of India due to COVID-19, USTM made sure that the academic progressions of the students doesn't get hampered. Virtual classes were started from the very first day of the lockdown on regular basis. Apart from this, USTM not only conducted online examinations for the final semester students, but also for the intermediate semester students as well.

TEN-DAY FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

School of Business Sciences, University of Science & Technology Meghalaya with active cooperation and help from esteemed Academicians/ Researchers from the Julius Maximilians University of Wurzburg, Germany; the University of Tasmania, Australia, Rockford University, USA, the M S University of Baroda, Green School, Bali; Allahabad University, and a host of Institutions conducted successfully the Ten Day Faculty Development Program from 15th July 2020 to 24th July 2020 on Crafting Qualitative Research. The FDP consisted of 25 comprehensive sessions as a part of the International Lecture Series and topics ranging from Research Basics to diverse presentations on Common Qualitative Research Framework like – Ethnography, Grounded Theory, Postmodernism, Case Study, Policy Analysis and Comparative Research. Hands-on demonstration sessions were also a part of the FDP which demonstrated the use of technology in research, use of Qualitative Data Analytics.



The purpose of the FDP was to enable the participants from different disciplines to develop an understanding and provide them a comprehensive overview of qualitative research framework and nuances of designing, conducting and reporting studies using qualitative methods. The sessions designed will facilitate the participants to appreciate and critically reflect on a variety of methods employed in qualitative research.

Resource persons were Dr Nicol Barnes (University of Tasmania), Dr. Paed Soeren Elhers and Dr Shalini Singh (Julius Maximilians University of Wurzburg), Dr Deepdhikha Shukla (Rockford University, USA), Dr. K Pushpanadham and Dr S C Panigrahi (M S University, Baroda), Dr Mukulesh Baruah, AIM; Dr Remith George Carri (Assam University) and Dr V P Singh, Allahabad University.

In the valedictory session Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Honorable Chancellor USTM emphasized upon the educational leadership during the period of crisis. Dr. Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chancellor, USTM too addressed the gathering.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, USTM, ORGANISED A THREE-DAY WEBINAR ON IMMUNITY AND INFECTION

As the entire Nation was trying its level best to fight against the deadly Covid-19, the Department of Botany, USTM successfully organized a three-day long webinar on 'Immunity and Infection' from 17th to 19th May, 2020. Dr. Brajen Sharma (Incharge, Critical Care, Excelcare Hospitals, Guwahati), Dr. Amal Bawri (Botanist, NEIFM, Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India, Arunachal Pradesh) and Dr. Sanjeeb Kalita (Post Doctoral Fellow, Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine, Bengaluru) took part in the webinar as the keynote guest speakers.

Post Covid-19 Academic Challenges

- Paradigm shift in thought process in learning
- Students and faculty not tuned for digital learning
- Lack of digital infrastructure
- No basic facilities for students at home
- No way of conducting the labs for sciences
- Demotivation in learning
- Socio-economic factors and psychological factors influencing the academia

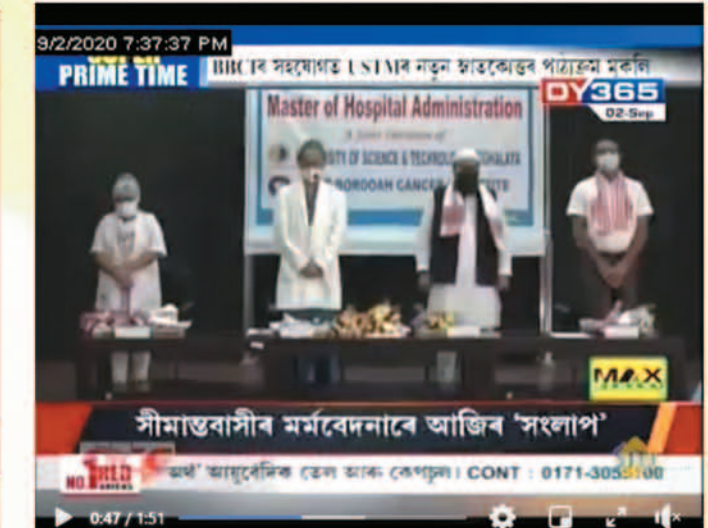
GREEN CAMPUS

Located in the scenic beauty of nature, we are always committed towards maintaining a clean and green campus. Being eco-friendly is one of our biggest priority. Various initiatives have been undertaken by USTM in this regard. The solar plant which was established in the year 2018 is one of the major highlights of our eco-friendly campus. We have also introduced rain water harvesting system for the conservation of water. Our waste management system is committed towards collecting and treating solid and liquid wastes in and around the campus. It also includes various constructive solutions for recycling items that do not belong to garbage or trash. It also includes proper initiatives for the disposal of e wastes. Oxygen rich office is another notable initiative undertaken by USTM for maintaining a clean and green campus by massive plantation of trees in and around the campus. Various floras are also planted in tubs which are placed in all the rooms and corridors of all the blocks of USTM which play a vital role in providing fresh oxygen in the campus. Introduction of Green vehicles is one of the most important boost towards the green campus initiatives of USTM. These vehicles are battery operated and therefore no fuel is required to run them. Everybody inside the university are regularly encouraged by the management to commute with these eco-friendly vehicles within the campus.

Our Initiatives ..



MEDIA SPEAKS ABOUT USTM



MEDIA SPEAKS ABOUT USTM

**NEWS
LIVE**

'GREAT TEACHER OF ALL TEACHERS' HONOUR TO PROF. N.K. CHAUDHURY



GUWAHATI: On the occasion of Teachers' Day, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) along with all the other group of institutions run by ERD Foundation, Guwahati bestowed 'Great Teacher of All Teachers' honour to Prof. Nirmal Kumar Chaudhury, former vice-chancellor of Gauhati University at his residence in Rukmini Gaon by following all the COVID-19 protocols.

Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM felicitated Prof. NK Chaudhury with a

The Sentinel
of this land, for its people

Governor of Meghalaya Satya Pal Malik to grace USTM convocation



SHILLONG: The Governor of Meghalaya, Satya Pal Malik gave his consent to grace the ensuing sixth convocation of the University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) and confer the degrees. The convocation is likely to be conducted in the first half of December, 2020. He also assured to extend all kinds of support to USTM during his tenure. The Governor gave the assurances while interacting with a

**My
NEWS**

USTM signs MoU with ATSU



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SHARES



The University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) has today signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Assam Science and Technology University (ASTU) which is expected to benefit both the institutes through faculty and student exchange program, submission of collaborative projects and

**NEWS
LIVE**

GUWAHATI: USTM, RIST OBSERVE INDEPENDENCE DAY



GUWAHATI: The University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) along with the Regional Institute of Science and Technology (RIST) today observed the 71st Independence Day at their head office 'ERD Foundation' in the Bhetapara area Guwahati.

The COVID-19 guidelines set by the government were strictly followed during celebration. The event witnessed participation of Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, UST Dr. R.K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM and 30 percent of other administrative officials of the institutions.

The program started with hoisting of the national flag and was followed by a speech by the Chancellor Hoque.

Advisor Dr. Sharma also addressed the gathering with a brief speech. The session was followed by a short felicitation ceremony where security personnel helping staff and the children present at the event were felicitated. The short affective celebration concluded with singing of the National Anthem.

It is also worth mentioning that the administrative officials and other staff members both the institutions residing inside the USTM campus have too observed the 71st Independence Day by hoisting tricolour in front of the Amenity Centre, USTM.

The Shillong Times

USTM Chancellor meets Governor of Meghalaya



SHILLONG: A team led by the Chancellor of University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM), M. Hoque along with Dr. R. K. Sharma, Advisor met the new Governor of Meghalaya Shri Satya Pal Malik at Raj Bhavan here on Tuesday.

The USTM team felicitated Malik with mementos, flower bouquets and gifts. The Governor of Meghalaya is also the Visitor of the University. In the brief interaction, M Hoque, the Chancellor of USTM apprised the new Governor about the progress and performance of the University.



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USTM pays tribute to former Meghalaya CM Donkumar Roy

The University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) observed the first death anniversary of the former Meghalaya



GUWAHATI: The University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) observed the first death anniversary of the former Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr Donkumar Roy at its head office located here on July 28. The event began with a brief welcome speech by the USTM Chancellor Mahbubul Hoque, stated a release. Addressing the selective officials of the university present at the event, Hoque said, "Donkumar Roy sir's contribution towards setting up of our autonomous university will never be forgotten. He was indeed a visionary politician."

USTM LAUNCHES GREEN ENERGY VEHICLES UNDER GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVE



With a constructive step to address the environmental issues under its green campus initiative, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya launched two green energy carts for use of students and staff inside the campus. The carts were flagged off from the Amenity Centre of the university by Shri Prashanta Rajguru, Executive Editor of Amar Asom. The occasion was graced by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, Dr Mridul Hazarika, Vice Chancellor; Prof Suhail Sabir, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr PK Goswami, Principal Advisor and Dr RK Sharma, Advisor of USTM, apart from many others.

Speaking on the occasion, Chancellor Mahbubul Hoque said, "We have taken many constructive steps to address the environmental issues inside our campus and the neighbourhood areas. The battery operated carts are one of such measures. The international scientific community has been nearly unanimous in telling us that reliance on carbon-based fossil fuels is causing global warming and climate change. Our campus should not be contributing to this ecological time bomb called global warming. Being an institution of higher education, we have a special responsibility to address the continuing environmental crisis." He stated that more such carts will be operating in the campus, especially for convenience of the physically challenged students of the "I Can I Will Academy" of the university.

MEGHALAYA GOVERNOR LAUNCHES NEW PHARMACEUTICAL COLLEGE

On 26th July 2020, the then Meghalaya Governor Shri Tathagata Roy officially launched the 'ALLAMA TR COLLEGE OF PHARMACY', a new institution of ERD Foundation, Guwahati, through a virtual launching ceremony organised over Zoom App with active participation of eminent dignitaries across the north-eastern region. The welcome address was given by Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM and Chairman, ERDF/ATRCF after which the inaugural speech was delivered by Shri Tathagata Roy. The Keynote Address was given by Prof. Dipika Deka, VC, SSUHS which was followed by the short speeches of various dignitaries including Prof. Dilip Ch. Nath, VC, AU, Prof. GD Sharma, VC, ABVV, Prof. Rajat Gupta, Director, NIT-Mizoram, Dr. Dhiraj Bora, VC, ASTU, Prof. Vinod Kr. Jain, VC, Tezpur University, Prof. K R S Sambasiva Rao, VC, Mizoram University. The mega launching ceremony came to an end with the Presidential Remark by Maulana Yousuf Ali Saheb. It is worth mentioning here that considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to launch the first batch of the ALLAMA TR COLLEGE OF PHARMACY through virtual platform.



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