

USTM Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY MEGHALAYA



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VC, USTM meets Vice President of India

The Vice Chancellor of USTM Prof GD Sharma and the dynamic Secretary General of the Association of Indian Universities Dr (Mrs) Pankaj Mittal had the opportunity to meet the Honourable Vice President of India Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar on 2nd January 2024. During the meeting, they discussed important initiatives and collaborations that aim to further strengthen the educational scenario of India. As the President of the Association of Indian Universities, Prof GD Sharma has been actively taking the higher education scenario to new visions including innovation, inclusivity and excellence.



Smile Train India's Meghalaya Smiles Campaign held



Smile Train, the world's largest cleft-focused NGO, joined hands with USTM to host a student awareness and fundraising activity on 20th January, 2024. This pioneering initiative witnessed the active participation of nearly 2000 students at the USTM campus. The campaign was graced by Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor USTM, Prof. GD Sharma, Vice Chancellor USTM, Dr D. Momin, Senior Medical Officer cum District Nodal Officer RBSK, Smt. M. Tmung (DEIC manager, Ri Bhoi District), Mr Johnson, State coordinator, National Health Mission; representatives from Smile Train, Woodland Hospital, and a large number of USTM students.

The Meghalaya Smiles event raised awareness through engaging activities such as quizzes and games hosted by RJ Baio from Red FM, a Phawar performance on the importance of smiles, a flash mob, and a screening of the Oscar-winning film 'Smile Pinki'. A fundraising campaign was also launched, encouraging USTM to support Smile Train's cause. Students of USTM actively participated in the campaign. Ms. Anjali Katoch, Head of Communications and Business Development at Smile Train India, conveyed her gratitude to the university and its students, stating, "Ensuring that children with clefts receive safe, timely, and quality cleft treatment is a core focus for Smile Train".

National Seminar by Centre for Gender Studies

Centre for Gender Studies USTM, in collaboration with Indian Social Science Academy organized the National Seminar on "Social Science Research, Institutions and Development in North East India" on 6th January, 2024. The seminar was supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, NERC. Many eminent professors graced the event. Prof Sambit Mallick, IIT Guwahati, Prof Rana Pratap



Singh, School of Environmental Sciences, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and Dr Sabrina Iqbal Sircar, attended the national seminar. Prof. Amit Choudhury, Director ODL, USTM addressed the welcome session. Prof GD Sharma addressed the audience and highlighted on gender equality for the development of the society. A total of 24 research papers were presented by the scholars.

Chancellor M Hoque Graced IUKD



On 6th January, USTM Chancellor Shri Mahbubul Hoque graced as a distinguished guest at the inaugural of the Institute of Urology and Kidney Diseases (IUKD) at Sonapur Assam. During his visit he addressed the Promotive Health Session and inaugurated the Yoga Centre. The organisers of the event stated that it is eastern India's first Super Speciality kidney hospital.

Lt. Gen Rana Pratap Kalita visits USTM

Lt. General Rana Pratap Kalita, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, former GOC-in-C of the Indian Army's Eastern Command visited USTM on 12th January 2024. During his visit, USTM Chancellor discussed on topics regarding various developments.



Blackboard Teaching cannot be Replaced by Online Classes: VC, Cotton University

USTM hosted a week-long Faculty Development program which started from 8th January to 13th January, 2024. The program was organized by AIU-USTM Academic and Administrative Development Centre at the NKC Auditorium of the university. Mr Anjan Chowdhuri, empanelled trainer of Dibrugarh University and Assam Administrative Staff College graced the event as the resource person. Prof Ramesh Ch Deka, VC Cotton University, Prof GD Sharma, VC USTM, Dr RK Sharma, Advisor USTM and Dr BK Das, Pro Vice-Chancellor USTM with other members attended the valedictory session.

At the event, Prof Ramesh Ch Deka mentioned that classroom delivery of a teacher is very essential. He stated, "Blackboard teaching cannot be replaced by online classes". The FDP reinforced various strategic ways of enhanced classroom delivery with multiple applicable theories in classroom pedagogy. It was designed metaphorically with various games, activities, storytelling, and experience-sharing pertinent to the modules executed. Several other faculty members also shared their experiences and learning from the FDP.



Students participated in a Youth Conclave

Students from the Department of Business Administration participated in a prestigious event titled '14th Assam Rising Youth Conclave', which was held at Hotel Vivanta in Guwahati on 5th January. It was organized by the Alokprabhanjan Welfare Society in collaboration with the Dainandin Barta Group. The theme for the Youth Conclave was 'Today's student; Tomorrow's good citizen of the country' throwing light on "youth entrepreneurship".



Campus Recruitment Drive



On 19th January 2024, USTM hosted a campus recruitment drive. Many eminent dignitaries were present at the recruitment drive. Students from the university participated in large numbers. Recruiters Kibriya Group of Companies were impressed after interacting with the students.

Prof GD Sharma graced the 21st Convocation of the Institute of Management, Jaipur

Institute of Management Jaipur invited Prof GD Sharma, VC USTM to deliver the 21st Convocation Address. Prof Sharma who is also the President of the Association of Indian Universities New Delhi delivered the Convocation address on 4th January 2024. Dr Kiran Hazarika Pro Vice Chancellor IGNOU and Prof. Somesh Dhamija from GLA were the Guests of honor. Prof Sharma while delivering his address, emphasized the changing business and international alignments. He also presented gold medals to the toppers.



VC addresses Central Zonal Vice Chancellor Meet

Prof G D Sharma, President of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and VC, USTM delivered an important address during the Central Zonal Vice Chancellor Meeting. Prof. Sharma gave a Presidential address on the theme "Creating innovation and research ecosystem in higher educational institutions". He spoke on bringing research and innovation as an integral part of NEP 2020 implementation. He said, "To emerge as leader and achieve the vision of Vikshit Bharat, universities have to play a creative role". The learning-centric approach of teachers will contribute towards the ecosystem of learning and skill development needed for the socioeconomic development of the nation by creating incubators and startups.



National Education Summit



Prof. GD Sharma, VC, USTM and President, AIU was lauded for his immense contribution and was felicitated in the National Education Summit. It was organized by Indian Council of Accounts New Delhi in partnership with AIU, NCERT. It was supported by UGC, NCTE and Skill Development Council of India on 22nd and 23rd January 2024.

Parakram Divas

USTM celebrated 127th Parakram Divas on 23rd January 2024. On the occasion of Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, an Inter-Departmental Elocution Competition was held. The event, organized by the Department of Political Science,



focused on the theme, "Netaji's Views on Emerging India: Prospects and Challenges". Various departments participated in the competition including Political Science, the Department of Law (USLR), and B.A. Administration & Governance (BAAG). The panel of judges comprised distinguished academicians Prof. Mitali Goswami, Head of the Department of English, and Dr. Shamikhu Changmai, Assistant Professor in the Department of Earth Science, USTM.

BARC Scientists Unveil Career opportunities for NE Students

Department of Physics, USTM hosted a workshop titled "Career Opportunities at Department of Atomic Energy". The workshop was organized in collaboration with the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Govt. of India.



Dr. Manoranjan Ghosh, Scientific Officer, Technical Physics Division, BARC, and Dr. Biplab Ghosh, Scientific Officer at RRCAT Indore, a unit under DAE, were the resource persons of the workshop. The workshop aimed to provide students with valuable insights into the diverse career prospects available within DAE.

Model Parliament Session

The Department of Political Science in collaboration with NSS-Cell & Debate Forum organized a Student Parliament. Around 100 students from the Departments of Political Science, BAAG and USLR participated in the event. There were 16 Speakers representing Treasury and Opposition who participated and simulated the proceedings of the Model Parliament of India.



Speaker of the House, Prof. A.C. Talukdar introduced the Bill, "Basic Structure Doctrine of the Constitution of India: Absolute or Amendable in the House". Following the introduction of the Bill, both the members of the Treasury and the Opposition started giving their views and opinions regarding the Bill.

Republic Day



As the nation commemorates its 75th Republic Day, signifying the day India's Constitution was enacted, USTM joins the celebration too and witnessed active participation from students, faculty, and administrative staff. The ceremonial unfurling of the tricolor was led by the Vice Chancellor Prof. G. D. Sharma and Advisor Dr. RK Sharma.

Following the flag-raising ceremony and the rendition of the national anthem, Prof GD Sharma addressed the gathered audience. Celebrations included students singing patriotic songs and various cultural and sports competitions among students and staff.

Doctors' Community Concerned for Quality Healthcare in North East Region

About 100 eminent and progressive doctors of the region participated in a vibrant brainstorming session at USTM on January 7, 2024. The session was held to understand the issues of the upcoming PA Sangma International Medical College & Hospital (PIMCH)— an initiative of USTM and ERD Foundation Guwahati. The doctors' meet was organised by USTM and was graced by renowned nephrologist Padma Shri Dr Sarbeswar Sahariah and Dr R. C. Deka, former Director, AIIMS, apart from others.

The session began with the welcome address by Prof GD Sharma who said that the views and suggestions of the doctors' community would be really helpful in transforming the ideas into action. Speaking to the participants at the meeting, Dr Sarbeswar Sahariah said that there is no dearth of talent in the region, and if a state-of-the-art private medical college is established here, the flow of students from the North East to other parts of the country or abroad for medical education will be checked to a great extent.



Educational Visit to Campus

Students and Teachers from Holy Mary explored USTM



Students and Teachers from Holy Mary International School Duminuchowki, Darrang visited the USTM premises on 9th January, 2024. Knowledge guides from USTM addressed the students and teachers and helped them explore the university to the fullest. The students explored the campus to embrace the academic opportunities of USTM.

USTM hosted Jamaluddin Ahmed Memorial High School Students



USTM hosted 80 enthusiastic students and 10 dedicated teachers from Jamaluddin Ahmed Memorial High School who visited every part of the university on 17th January 2024. USTM expressed gratitude to the students and teachers of the school as they decided to visit the university for their exposure visit.

Students of Bakultala Madrasa explored USTM



USTM hosted 43 bright students and 11 dedicated teachers from Bakultala Pre Senior Madrasa for an enlightening educational exposure tour on 18 January 2024. The Computer Science Department of USTM conducted a comprehensive training program on Smart Systems. The students explored the world of cutting-edge technology of how IoT is shaping future developments.

Exposure visit of Raja Ali MEM School at USTM



USTM on 25th January hosted students from Raja Ali MEM School, Kathiatoli, Nagaon. A group of nearly 50 students, teachers explored the university during the educational tour. USTM arranged this outreach program for the students.

Students from Shiksha Vikash Senior Secondary School explored USTM



USTM hosted 40 students and 3 teachers of Shiksha Vikash Senior Secondary School, Kaliganj, Karimganj, who came to explore its vibrant campus. The enthusiastic group explored the campus on 30th January 2024.



Faculty Achievement

Dr Tamanna Bhuyan Assistant Prof, from the Dept of Applied Biology, USTM has been awarded the National Level Women Scientist Award 2023, by the Microbiologists Society, India (MBSI). The award ceremony was held at the International Conference on Microbiological Research on January 9, 2024. The award was conferred to recognize her extraordinary work and contribution to academics. She also won the Best PhD Thesis Award 2020 after earning her PhD from IIT Guwahati, and she has since been actively involved in research.



Dr. Sudarshana Borah Khanikor, Associate Professor of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, USTM, was selected for the 'Award of Excellence in Research'. The selection was done by the Executive Committee of the International Organization for Academic and Scientific Development (IOASD). Dr. Borah Khanikor will be honored with the Award at the Annual Awards Ceremony by IOASD.

Students Achievement



B. Pharm Students of USTM in Shillong Football Team

Mamun Rashid Barbhuiya and Abu Hanif, two students from the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences of USTM represented the university in a football tournament with the Shillong team at NCC. Both players emerged as champions at Tezpur University during "Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat" (EBSB) from January 5th to January 13th, 2024.



Best Students Awarded on International Day of Education

USTM marked the International Day of Education on 24th January 2024. On this occasion, some of the best students of the university were awarded. The ceremony was organized by the Department of Applied Biology at USTM. A total of 7 students were rewarded by Prof GD Sharma.



USTM Alumni Shines in the APSC-CCE Examinations

A proud alumna of USTM's Botany Department (2017-18 batch) shined in the APSC-CCE examination, in 2023. Mercilla Sarania, standout in the Assam Urban Administrative Services, by securing the 91st rank. USTM family extends best wishes on Mercilla's success.

USTM shines on the global stage!



Three students from USTM, Harshita Mishra, Suchitra Nepram, and Dania Khatun participated in the Cultural Exchange Program in Japan after earning the prestigious Japan-East Asia Exchange Scholarship. Chancellor, USTM Shri Mahbulul Hoque extended heartfelt congratulations and felicitated the students at his office. The students extended their gratitude and shared experience of their Japan tour. They were among the 30-member Indian team who visited Japan by availing the scholarship.

Sports Achievement



USTM Robotics team won the first prize in the Robo Soccer competition

USTM Robotics team secured the first position in the Robo Soccer Competition at Udbhaban 2.0 at Scholars Institute of Technology and Management, Guwahati. The competition was held on 25th January. Kashyap Kalita, Musabbir Islam, Nishanga Bora from the Department of Physics and Jintu Barek from the Department of Computer Science, contributed to the team's success.



USTM Tennis Star Tania

Tania Kumari, a student of BA Political Science of USTM has achieved many accolades in the recent past. She won a double crown in the 32nd Jorhat Open Tennis Tournament held from 25th to 30th December at Jorhat. Tania secured the U-18 Singles title and paired up to triumph as the U-18 Doubles winner in this prestigious state-ranking tennis tournament. She also secured the Girls U-18 singles and doubles at the 16th Kalyani Open State Ranking Tournament held at NRL Township. In the 26th India Club Open Tennis Championship, Tania clinched the coveted title of Girls U-18 Singles Champion, Tania also secured the Runner-Up position in the Ladies Singles category.



Prayashi & Baishali

Prayashi Chutia from MSW 2nd semester and Baishali Buraguhain from BAP 4th semester won the bronze medal in the National Sambo Championship held in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. Prayashi Chutia showcased her skills in the -54 kg category (Sports Sambo), while Baishali Buraguhain dominated the -72 kg division (Sports Sambo and Combat Sambo). Their coach Chinmoyee Rajkhowa, who is also a student of USTM, supported them throughout the journey.

Sports Achievement



AIU East Zone Inter University Chess Tournament (Women)

The AIU East Zone Inter University Chess Tournament (Women) started from 3rd January and continued till 6th January at USTM. Under the esteemed guidance of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi, USTM proudly hosted over 30 universities from the East zone, competing for chess glory. The tournament showcased the strategic brilliance of more than 30 universities.



Arbiters Biswajit Bharadwaj and Monimala Sinha, both international arbiters, alongside Golap Chandra Gogoi, Homen Chandra Rabha, and Paresh Rajbongshi, ensured fair play. Dr. Balendra Kumar Das, Pro Vice Chancellor of USTM, and Dr. RK Sharma, Advisor, USTM, hoisted the AIU and USTM flags. Adamas University dominated the Tournament. Ghosh Samridhaa, Chitlange Sakshi Chandreyee Hajra, and Angira Choudhuri from Jadavpur University won the awards. In a thrilling competition, Adamas University emerged victorious, securing the first prize, followed by Jadavpur University in 2nd place, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University in 3rd place, and Banaras Hindu University claimed the 4th prize.



AIU East Zone (Men) Chess Tournament

The AIU East Zone Inter University Chess Tournament for men started from 8th to 11th January 2024 at USTM. It was organised by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi and hosted by USTM. Strategic moves and intense battles unfolded in the tournament. Majhi Fakir from KIIT University, Debi Prasad Nayak from Utkal University, Prashant Kumar Singh from Munger University, and Subhayan Kundu from Adamas University secured the top four positions, respectively.

Research Publication

(November 2023 - January 2024)

Sl. No.	Month	Name of the Faculty	Department	Journal Name	Title
1.	November	Priyanka Sarma	Computer Science	Business Management and Economics Engineering	A Non-Classical Approach In Selection Of Feasible Candidate For Contesting An Election Using Fuzzy Logic
2.	November	Dhritiman Chanda	Botany	Current World Environment	The Potential use of Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) for Medicinal Plant Cultivation in Meghalaya: A Review
3.	November	Dr Priyanka Shankarishan	Applied Biology	Uttar Pradesh Journal of Zoology	Avipox: Morphology, Host Spectrum, Epidemiology, Symptoms, Diagnosis, Prevention and Treatment
4.	November	Dr Yugal Kishore Mohanta	Applied Biology	Plants (Basel)	Abiotic Stress in Rice: Visiting the Physiological Response and Its Tolerance Mechanisms
5.	November	Pinku Chandra Nath	Applied Biology	International Journal of Biological Macromolecules	Recent advances in cellulose-based sustainable materials for wastewater treatment: An overview
6.	November	Dr. Sony Kumari	Applied Biology	International Journal of Biological Macromolecules	In-situ biofabrication of bacterial nanocellulose (BNC)/graphene oxide (GO) nano-biocomposite and study of its cationic dyes adsorption properties
7.	December	Kangkan Choudhury	Mathematics	Heat Transfer	Natural convection MHD mass transfer through an infinite vertical porous plate in the existence of radiation embedded in porous medium

8.	December	Pinkimani Goswami	Mathematics	Jnanabha	Security Of Public Key Encryption Using Dickson Polynomials Over Finite Field With 2k
9.	December	Dr Dharendra K Sharma	Zoology	International Journal of Agriculture and Biosciences	Impact of Wild Yeast Added to Culture Media on Drosophila Abundance in and Around a Banana Market, Daranggiri, Assam, India
10.	December	Bedabati Chowdhury	Botany	Indian J. Applied & Pure Bio.	Morphological study and analysis of leaf architecture in two primary and two secondary food plants of muga silkworm, <i>Antheraea assamensis</i> Helfer in Assam
11.	December	Dr. Mithu Deb	Commerce	Eur. Chem. Bull.	Analysis of Marketing Obstacles and Difficulties Faced by MSMEs in India
12.	December	Dr. Sudarshana Borah	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Chelonian Conservation And Biology	Biology Science Challenges And Impact For Human Health In India
13.	December	Mr. Abdul Kadir Jilani	Pharmaceutical Sciences	Tuijin Jishu/Journal of Propulsion Technology	Phytochemical Analysis of Curcumin from the rhizome of <i>Curcuma Longa</i>
14.	December	Dr Yugal Kishore Mohanta	Applied Biology	Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications	Promising applications of phyto-fabricated silver nanoparticles: Recent trends in biomedicine
15.	December	Dr. Sony Kumari	Applied Biology	Future Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences	Phytochemical profiling, antioxidant and antimicrobial investigations on <i>Viburnum simonsii</i> Hook. f. & Thoms, an unexplored ethnomedicinal plant of Meghalaya, India
16.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	Physica Scripta	Impact of topological defects and Yukawa potential combined with inverse square on eigenvalue spectra of diatomic molecules O ₂ , NO, LiH, HCl
17.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	Annals of Physics	Cosmological constant Petrov type-N space-time in Ricci-inverse gravity
18.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	International Journal of Geometric Methods in Modern Physics (IJGMMP)	Generalized Duffin-Kemmer-Petiau oscillator under Aharonov-Bohm flux in topological defects backgrounds
19.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	International Journal of Modern Physics A (IJMPA)	Topological defects on relativistic quantum oscillator in wormhole space-time background
20.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	International Journal of Modern Physics A (IJMPA)	Relativistic quantum oscillator under rainbow gravity's effects in traversable wormhole with disclination
21.	December	Faizuddin Ahmed	Physics	Acta Physica Polonica B (APPB)	Topologically Charged Rotating Wormhole
22.	January	Pinku Chandra Nath	Applied Biology	International Journal of Biological Macromolecules	Recent advances in the production of sustainable and biodegradable polymers from agro-food waste: Applications in tissue engineering and regenerative medicines

Upcoming Events

- 47th Indian Social Science Congress
- International Conference on Frontiers in Pure and Applied Physics

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