



TEZPUR UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER

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deeksharambh





I extend my heartiest congratulations to all the newly-admitted students on becoming a member of the prestigious Tezpur University family. This is a momentous occasion, and I wish you intellectual growth, happiness and success.

As we embark on a new academic session, I am filled with optimism and excitement about the opportunities that lie ahead. Tezpur University has always been a beacon of knowledge and innovation, and I am confident that this session will be no different.

In today's rapidly-changing world, where challenges are as diverse as they are complex, the role of higher education institutions like ours becomes increasingly significant. Therefore, from this academic year, the University has introduced eight new academic programmes i.e Bachelor of Design, Bachelor in Chinese, M. Tech in Semiconductor Technology, Electrical Engineering, and Data Sciences, MA in Women Studies, Master of Education and Ph.D. in Law. We are in the process of implementing NEP 2020 reforms and the Undergraduate programmes of TU are offered as per the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) of National Education Policy.

I wish the entire Tezpur University community all the very best for the upcoming academic year. Let us work together with renewed strength and aspiration to learn and grow as an institution.

EDITORIAL

It's with great pleasure that we present the July to September 2024 edition of the Tezpur University Newsletter. In our academic life, July is considered as transition time when the academic calendar flips a new page. For our students, it's a time of examinations, results, and new beginnings. As we bid adieu to the previous academic session and embraces the new one with renewed vigour and zeal.

This edition of the newsletter coincides with a particularly exciting time for our institution. As we welcome our fresh batch of students, we would also like to wish success for our graduating students.

The world outside is evolving at an unprecedented pace. Technological advancements, global challenges, and societal transformations are reshaping the landscape of higher education. We must stay relevant and competitive. Tezpur University must continue to adapt and innovate. This requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders – students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Here's to a promising academic year ahead!

Editorial Team

TU launches programme on semiconductor technology



In view of the rapidly-evolving field of semiconductor technology, Tezpur University (TU) has started admission for Master of Technology (M. Tech.) program in Semiconductor Technology from academic session 2024-25. This specialized programme designed to equip students with advanced knowledge and skills in the field of semiconductor technology shall be offered by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering.

This shall be a two-year, full-time programme that combines rigorous academic coursework with practical, hands-on experience. The curriculum is meticulously crafted to cover key areas to produce graduates who shall be well-prepared to meet the industry's expectations.

TU and Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences Sign Memorandum of Understanding



TU and Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences (SSUHS) on July 30, 2024 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) focusing on collaborative research, academic exchange, and capacity-building initiatives. The MoU was signed by Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor of TU, and Prof. Dhruba Jyoti Borah, Vice Chancellor of SSUHS, in the presence of Deans, Heads, and other officials from both universities.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh said, "This MoU represents a significant milestone in our journey towards enhancing health-care education and research. By joining hands with SSUHS, we aim to leverage our combined expertise

to address critical health issues and improve the quality of education in this field."

Prof. Dhruba Jyoti Borah said, "We are excited about this partnership with Tezpur University, which opens new avenues for research and academic excellence. Both institutions should aim to contribute to cutting-edge research that addresses current challenges, pushes the boundaries of understanding, and generates new insights."

Prof. Dhanapati Deka, Dean of Research & Development at TU, mentioned that the MoU has ample scope in areas like Biomedical Engineering, Health and Medicine, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Computer Science and Engineering, and Artificial Intelligence, among others.

Dr Biren Das, Registrar, TU emphasized that both institutions should now facilitate exchange of research scholars, and experts to engage in collaborative research projects and provide access to R&D research laboratories, equipment, and facilities.

During the occasion, Prof. Dhruba Jyoti Borah, a noted writer and former president of Asom Sahitya Sabha, presented the university with his collection of writings.

The MoU will be effective for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of renewal based on the progress and outcomes of the collaborative initiatives.



National Seminar on Yoga for Women, Peace, and Wellbeing

As part of the TU Yoga Mahotsav 2024, Centre for Yoga and Sports Sciences and National Service Scheme (NSS), TU organized a national seminar titled “Yoga for Women, Peace, and Wellbeing: Exploring New Domains” on June 15, 2024.

Dr Indranoshee Das, Director of AYUSH, Assam and Dr Aarti Jagannathan, Additional Professor, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore delivered lectures during the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Indranoshee Das highlighted how yoga offers a comprehensive approach to health and well-being. The chief guest spoke of the initiatives taken by the Dept of AYUSH for strengthening health care facilities at all levels by integrating AYUSH systems into National Health Care Delivery Systems.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr Aarti Jagannathan explained the connection between Yoga and mental wellbeing. She said that regular yoga practice reduces stress and anxiety by promoting relaxation and mindfulness. She demonstrated different models of Yoga developed at NIMHANS. “We have

yoga for caregivers, schizophrenic people and people suffering from Parkinson’s disease”, she said.

Delivering the Inaugural address Prof M.K.Sarma, Vice-Chancellor i/c, TU lauded the Centre for Yoga and Sports Sciences for creating awareness on Yoga. He said that Yoga is beneficial for all generations, especially the younger generations looking for calm and clarity.

Addressing the gathering, Prof Robin Dutta, Dean, School of Sciences shared his battle with Asthma and how Yoga helped him to fight the disease.

Prof. Papori Baruah, Head, (i/c), Centre for Yoga and Sports Sciences highlighted various activities conducted during the Mahotsav. She remarked that Yoga not only strengthens the body but also cultivates resilience and confidence, essential for women’s empowerment.

The seminar also featured two technical sessions, viz.-Yoga as Therapy, women’s health and sports and Yoga in stress, well-being and spirituality, besides having a poster presentation. The seminar started with the lighting of the lamp and sloka recitation followed by a recital of a Borgeet.

Academic Year starts

The University commences the academic year 2024-25 with the enrolment of new students in various undergraduate (UG), postgraduate (PG) and PhD programmes. This year marks the beginning of several innovative programs designed to enhance the learning experience and broaden the horizons of the students. The University is currently offering 79 academic programmes for various UG/PG/PhD/Certificate and Executive programmes

offered across multiple disciplines. The university offered 08 new programmes this year. The programmes are Bachelor of Design, Bachelor in Chinese, M.Tech in Semiconductor Technology Electrical Engineering, Data Sciences, MA in Women Studies, Master of Education and Ph.D. in Law. In addition to these seven programmes, the University has opened Ph.D. for industry personnel and professionals.





Being critical does not mean anti-national, Public Lecture by JNU VC

TU hosted a thought-provoking public lecture on “National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and Indian Knowledge Traditions,” delivered by Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, noted academican and Vice-Chancellor (VC), Jawaharlal Nehru University on June 06, 2024 at the KBR auditorium of the University.

Prof. Pandit’s lecture delved into the synergies between the NEP and India’s rich traditional knowledge systems (IKS). While doing so, Prof Pandit gave examples of both contemporary times and Indian traditions. “NEP focuses on a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach and the importance of this approach was evident during this election”, the Vice Chancellor said. The exit polls predicted something, and the result was something else. This was because the human mind can’t be predicted and requires a multidisciplinary approach, she said.

Taking a dig at the colonial mindset, the JNU VC said that knowledge is power, and narratives are created by controlling it. Due to the colonial mindset, we have formed an inferiority complex, and it is time through NEP the focus should be on ancient Indian wisdom. Giving examples of Ahom and Chola

kingdom, she said that earlier few would have come across the glory of these kingdoms.

Linking IKS and Science, Prof Pandit said that Indian tradition advocates respect for five elements, i.e. earth, water, fire, air, and space without which nature’s balance would be disturbed. Prof Pandit pointed towards the rising temperature in India and climate change.

She then urged the august gathering to decolonize one’s mindset to reimagine and reconstruct our knowledge. “Education brings inclusivity, and we should study local to understand national and global phenomena”, the VC said. She further said that the Northeast being a diverse region has a lot to contribute to IKS. However, the VC emphasized that while exploring India’s rich traditions, one needs to be critical and critical does not mean anti-national. She urged the new government to increase expenditure on Education and to empower publicly-funded educational institutions.

Earlier, delivering the welcome address, Tezpur University VC, Prof Shambhu Nath Singh said that the University shall continue this public lecture series by inviting distinguished speakers for greater academic engagement and intellectual discourse.

Public Lecture on “National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and Indian Knowledge Traditions”

Delivered by
Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit
Vice Chancellor
Jawaharlal Nehru University



Thank you for the very generous introduction. Respected Vice Chancellor Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, respected Deans, faculty members, principals, research scholars, students, my colleague, Professor K Kumar Sharma, and ladies and gentlemen.

Most of you might be thinking about the recent elections, and as most of you know, this election will be remembered for decades to come. The party that won felt like they lost, and the ones that were defeated felt like they won. This election showcases the robustness of Indian democracy and teaches lessons to everyone.

As you know, NEP 2020 is the latest education reform brought in after 34 years, and it is crucial that the education sector is given a lot of importance. If India aspires to become a global power,

education must play a crucial role. We are currently ranked fifth in the economic ladder and aim to become the third most powerful economic power. As students of economics and political science know, money and power go hand in hand. Economists who think they can predict outcomes with just numbers are wrong; understanding the structure of power is essential. For political scientists, knowing the money trail is crucial to understanding real power structure. Hence, it is extraordinarily important that NEP 2020, stresses on interdisciplinarity, multidisciplinary, and holistic knowledge.

All of you must be aware that we are at Education 4.0. As per the India Report initiative submitted at the World Economic Forum Digital-technologies cannot be the only focus. The election predictions were wrong because human beings are unpredictable. This was something I learned in research methodology in the United States: statistics can be manipulated to suit agendas, as shown by the election exit polls versus the actual EVM results.

Therefore, Science and technology without philosophy, social sciences, or humanities are empty. In ancient India, great scientists were often good at other skills. Srinivasa Ramanujan, the greatest mathematician from India, who learned mathematics from his astrologer mother. He failed the 12th standard and never attended college, yet he made groundbreaking contributions to mathematics.

We come from a civilization that places great importance on the role of teachers. If the government fails to respect the teaching community and intellectuals, it is doomed. No robot can replace the human mind. Take, for instance, election predictions—they often go awry because the human mind is always superior and unpredictable. Americans, too, learned this through their Behavioral Revolu-

tion in social sciences, which emphasized facts over values. They soon realized that human beings cannot be easily predicted. We are complex creatures, capable of saying one thing and doing another, as was evident in the recent elections.

If we teach today's students as we taught them yesterday, we rob them of their future. Education needs significant changes, as highlighted by the NEP and the Indian knowledge systems. Why do I consider these the most important aspects of the NEP 2020? If India wants to become an intellectual superpower, it must focus on knowledge production. Power, as Michel Foucault famously said, is closely connected to knowledge. Thus, we need an education system that fosters intellectual growth.

The Prime Minister's vision, articulated in the Panch Pran, emphasizes the goal of a developed India and the need to shed colonial mindsets. Many Indians still see themselves as inferior, a mindset rooted in our colonial history. To overcome this, we must build on our ancient knowledge systems, which are diverse and not limited to Sanskrit alone. For instance, Tamil, the oldest language in the world, predates Sanskrit. Recent archaeological excavations, such as those in Rakhigarhi and Keezhadi, have shown that these settlements were over 8,000 years old. This challenges the long-held belief that Indian civilization began with invasions.

The so-called Aryan invasion theory, which suggests that civilization was brought to India by invaders, is the greatest fraud perpetuated without evidence. When Europe was in its infancy, and America was nonexistent, India was already a thriving, civilized state. The recent findings from Rakhigarhi, where archaeologist Professor Shinde confirmed that most Indians have the Indus Valley genome, further prove that we are a mixed race, debunking the myth of racial purity and the Aryan invasion theory.

I am from Tamil Nadu—do I look Aryan? Many in Delhi mistook me for a Jat when I was a student because of my assertiveness. My point is that these myths were created with specific intentions. As Robert H. W. said, every ideology is created for a purpose. If India is to become a major power, it cannot rely solely on economic, scientific, and technological advancements. America's influence, even in decline, still rests on its knowledge and in-

tellectual power.

Education 4.0 emphasizes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and holistic education, which aligns with the Indian knowledge system. The NEP 2020 brings back the emphasis on integrating philosophy, social sciences, and humanities with science and technology. This is vital for our education system.

Looking at countries that gained independence around the same time as India, such as South Korea and China, we see the importance of investing in public education. They invested significantly in education, which we did not. India invests only 3.6% of its GDP in public education, despite recommendations to increase this to 6%. To become a major economic power, we need to increase our investment in education to at least 10%, still less than South Korea's 15%.

Policies must be backed with commitment and investment. The policy is good, but without financial support, it will not succeed. Education 4.0 encourages innovative, out-of-the-box thinking, celebrating diversity with inclusivity. Innovation must come with integrity, inclusivity, excellence, equity, equality, and empathy.

Today's education must evolve to meet the needs of tomorrow. NEP 2020 emphasizes interdisciplinary education, connecting tradition with modernity, myth with reality, continuity with change, and regional diversity with national unity. This is crucial for building a knowledge-based civilization.

Finally, I want to highlight the importance of celebrating Indian knowledge systems. India is a feminist civilization, with goddesses of knowledge (Saraswati), wealth (Lakshmi), and power (Parvati) being highly revered. India's history includes many powerful queens and female leaders, demonstrating the country's long-standing respect for women.

NEP 2020 provides an opportunity to reconnect with our rich heritage and integrate it with modern education. By investing in education and respecting our intellectual traditions, we can build a narrative power that supports India's rise as a global leader.

Thank you once again to the Vice Chancellor and Tezpur University for giving me this opportunity. Thank you so much.



Talk on Languages without Borders

Department of Linguistics and Language Technology (LLT) organized a thought-provoking talk titled “Languages without Borders: Distinguishing Linguistic Systems in the Bhili Dialect Continuum”, on June 05, 2024.

Prof. A. Deo and Prof. D. Beaver, noted linguists from the Department of Linguistics at the University of Texas, Austin, USA graced the occasion and delivered lectures.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. D. Beaver said that Language has been instrumental in the establishment of modern nations, serving as a fundamental tool for communication and cultural identity. Therefore, documenting, learning and preserving language is important. “Languages can give you enlightenment, educate generations and give political identity”, Prof Beaver said.

Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest, Prof Shambhu Nath Singh, VC said that India’s North-east region is linguistically most diverse and culturally

vibrant area in the country. However, there are languages, which are facing threat and being endangered. Prof Singh urged the Department not only to study these languages for academic purpose, but also to help preserve their linguistic, cultural, and ecological heritage.

The other noted linguist, Prof Deo gave a detailed presentation on the topic and explained various nuances related to language and dialect. She said that sometimes it is the political context which defines the boundaries of language or a dialect. She also spoke of colonial mapping efforts of languages in India.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Farheena Danta, Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences said that the talk challenges the idea of languages as fixed entities and highlights how languages change across geographic space, influencing each other.

Earlier, inaugurating the event Prof Gautam K. Borah explained why language is the most valuable single possession of the human race.

Workshop on GRASSROOTS COMIC CREATION

In connection with the AWAAZ Campaign, a workshop on Grassroots Comics was organised. The workshop was conceptualised by Dr. Samhita Barooah from the Department of Social Work with student The one-and-a-half-day workshop was conducted on April 27-28, 2024 under the guidance of Mr. Amrith Basumatary, a noted comic artist who did hands-on training to develop grassroots comics. The volunteers prepared more than 20 comics, the central theme of which was Child Sexual Abuse. These comics were used as a communication tool in several schools to generate awareness on the issue.





World Environment Day observed

The Department of Environmental Science celebrated World Environment Day with a series of impactful events and activities aimed at raising awareness about environmental conservation and promoting sustainable practices. The day started with Prof Shambhu Nath Singh, VC planting saplings inside the campus.

Inaugurating a seminar organised in conjunction with the celebration of the day, Prof Singh highlighted this year's theme, i.e land restoration, stopping desertification and building drought resilience. Addressing the august gathering, he said that ecosystem restoration is not just about planting trees or cleaning rivers; it is about envisioning and creating a sustainable future. "It involves policy change, community engagement, and innovative solutions that respect and enhance our natural world", the Vice

Chancellor added.

Shri Jatindra Sarma, former Field Director, Kaziranga National Park was present on the occasion as Guest of Honour and Resource Person. In his address, Mr. Sarma said that World Environment Day is a reminder of our responsibility to protect our planet. Delivering a Talk titled "Biodiversity of Kaziranga National Park (KNP) and Rare Plants of Assam, he said that the rare plants found in Kaziranga significantly contribute to Assam's ecological wealth.

Earlier, Prof. K. Marimuthu, Head of the Department urged all to integrate environmental consciousness into every aspect of our lives, from daily habits to long-term planning.

The Department also organised slogan writing, mobile photography, drawing and quiz competition on the occasion.



TU NSS shines

The Contingent of National Service Scheme representing the state of Assam which included 6 volunteers from Tezpur University shone in Northeast NSS Festival organised at Gangtok, Sikkim during July 15-19, 2024. The festival was organised by the Sikkim State NSS cell in collaboration with Department of sports and youth affairs, Government of Sikkim and with Ministry of Youth Affairs and sports, Government of India. The TU NSS team won the cultural exchange competition by performing Naga Dance.

The volunteers also actively participated in the physical zumba sessions, technical sessions and other cultural activities.



TU Chancellor interacts with students, faculty members

To assess the academic progress of the University, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor of Assam and Chancellor, TU visited the University on June 30, 2024. Shri Kataria engaged in interactive meetings with Vice Chancellor, Statutory officers of the University, students, faculty members and Deans and Heads of Departments. Governor Kataria also addressed the Assam government teachers who were undergoing the Science Teachers Training program at the University.

Addressing the teachers at the KBR auditorium of the University, the Governor said that Teaching is the noblest profession because everyone remembers the Guru. Drawing reference from Indian philosophy, he said that Lord Krishna and Sudama had studied together in one Gurukula and that suggested that there was no class division in India. “The class division is due to our colonial mindset”, the Governor added. Governor Kataria urged the teachers to be mindful of

weak students in the class. “It is the duty of the teachers to empower a weak student”, he advised.

Warmly welcoming the Governor of Assam to the TU campus, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Singh said that Governor Kataria’s visit to the campus is sure to lift the spirit of TU’s academic community.

The interactive session provided students, faculty members and other Academic heads a platform to voice their concerns and suggestions directly to the Governor. Topics discussed during the interactions included the need for initiatives to bridge the gap between academia and industry, more research opportunities, updated infrastructure with the help of the Governor’s office, funding, research grants, and collaboration with other universities etc. Governor Kataria assured the TU academic community that their feedback would be taken into serious consideration and efforts would be made to address their concerns.

TU to start Centre for Hindu Studies

TU is starting Centre for Hindu Studies, an initiative aimed at promoting the comprehensive understanding and appreciation of Hindu philosophy, culture, and heritage. The proposal has already been cleared by the Academic Council and Board of Management (highest executive body) of the University. Once established, the Centre shall offer interdisciplinary research, scholarly exploration of Hinduism and its diverse traditions.

Hindu studies shall provide advanced knowledge of Hinduism, traditions, history, con-

temporary affairs, and spirituality. The University has already written to the University Grants Commission to provide necessary resources and support to ensure the success of the Centre. TU will be first higher educational institution in Northeast India to offer programs on Hindu Studies.

The University has also constituted a committee to prepare a detailed outline including curriculum design etc. for starting the Centre. Besides this Centre, the University is also starting Centre for Indian Knowledge System to encourage multidisciplinary research in rich Indian traditions.

Brainstorming Session on Promoting Geographical Indications of Assam



Tezpur University Intellectual Property Rights Cell (TUIPR), in collaboration with the Assam Science Technology & Environment Council (ASTEC) and the Science Technology and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Assam organized a day-long program titled “Brainstorming Session on Prospects of Promoting Geographical indications (GIs) of Assam” on June 18, 2024.

Dr. Jaideep Baruah, Director, ASTEC was present on the occasion as Chief Guest and Shri. Er. Biman Chandra Barua, Head i/c, Science & Technology Division, ASTEC was present as resource person.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Baruah, an expert in Intellectual Property Rights and GI promotion, delivered an insightful presentation on the economic benefits of GIs. He highlighted successful case studies from Assam and the potential growth trajectory for Assam’s GI products. Giving examples of Muga Silk of Assam, Assam Orthodox Tea, Tezpur Litchi, Judima, Bodo Eri Silk etc., Baruah said that GI is a protection that ensures quality and brand value. He further said that mere GI registration doesn’t make a product saleable as it requires good packaging and branding.

Addressing the gathering, Prof Shambhu Nath

Singh, VC stated that the objective of the brainstorming session was to develop a comprehensive roadmap for enhancing business prospects for various stakeholders of registered GIs in the region. He urged the TUIPR cell and ASTEC to work closely to ensure that ethnic products of the region are facilitated through GIs.

Earlier delivering the inaugural address, Prof. Pritam Deb, IPR Chair Professor, TUIPR briefed the august gathering that the attendees will benefit from the collective wisdom of around 100 Authorized Users and Registered Proprietors of GIs, alongside experts from various core and practical areas. These will include discussion on the laws covering GIs, prerequisites for becoming an Authorized User and obligations; adapting innovative industrial designs to facelift GI-tagged products in domestic and international markets and improving product packaging towards sustainable alternatives as important marketing strategies.

Apart from three technical sessions that discussed various aspects of GI in Assam, various crafts persons and Farmer Producer Groups (FPOs) working on 33 granted GIs of Assam such as Muga Silk of Assam, Assam Orthodox Tea, Tezpur Litchi, Judima, Bodo Eri Silk etc., showcased their products in the exhibition.

Talk on Semiconductor Technology

School of Engineering organised an insightful talk on the rapidly evolving field of semiconductor technology June 04, 2024. The talk was delivered by Dr. Krishna Raghav Chaturvedi, Outreach manager from the American Chemical Society, ACS International India.

During the deliberation, attended by the faculty and students of School of Engineering and School of Sciences, the role of semiconductors in emerging technologies and its challenges and opportunities were discussed. The talk was followed by an interactive session where attendees had the

opportunity to engage directly with Dr. Chaturvedi.

Attending the talk, Prof. Partha Pratim Sahu, Dean, School of Engineering said that the objective of the interaction was to explore possibilities of offering industry-standard skilling to TU students on semiconductors. Giving example of the recent semiconductor unit set up in Jagiroad, Assam, the Dean said that the University is developing academic programme on the cutting-edge area to meet regional and national priorities. Apart from semiconductors, Dr. Chaturvedi also explained to the students how to write and publish scientific research papers.



Tezpur University organizes Science Teachers Training Programme for School Educators

TU in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Government of Assam organised a seven days Science Teachers Training Programme for secondary level teachers of Government and Government Provincialised schools from June 18, 2024. The training was organised for two batches for 1200 teachers.

Teachers from the districts of Nagaon, Sonitpur, Morigaon, Hojai Udalguri, Jorhat, Golaghat, Biswanath and Darrang participated in the training program. TU faculty members were the resource persons focusing on the subjects such as, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Communicative English and Education Pedagogy.

Speaking on the occasion as the Chief Guest during the inaugural function, Prof Shambhu Nath Singh, VC explained the importance of the programme. “Every profession demands upgradation

with time which is pivotal to 21st century, as it is the era of ever-evolving knowledge and technology”, the Vice Chancellor said. Teachers are the builders of the nation and therefore, teachers need to constantly upgrade their knowledge to refine their teaching methods, Prof Singh further added.

Highlighting the programme objectives, Ms Sangita Saikia, Officer on Special Duty, Samagra Shiksha Assam said that the programme is designed in such a way that teachers shall be imparted Innovative Teaching Methods.

Earlier explaining the program structure and orientation, Dr. Akhilesh Kumar, program coordinator and Director, Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, TU said that participants shall be introduced to modern pedagogical techniques which makes science learning more engaging and effective.

Special Convocation

Tezpur University on July 01, 2024 organised a special convocation for its outgoing international students. The event was filled with warmth and camaraderie as students from various countries gathered to celebrate their achievements and bid adieu to their alma mater. The event was attended by Deans of all schools and Heads of all departments. Prof Shambhu Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor of the University conferred upon the certificates.





International Day of Yoga observed

TU joins the rest of the world on June 21, 2024 in observing the 10th International Day of Yoga. The event commenced with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the ushering in of knowledge and enlightenment. Prof Shambhu Nath Singh, VC graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Delivering the inaugural address as the Chief Guest, the Vice Chancellor emphasized the importance of integrating yoga into daily life to have a healthier and more balanced lifestyle.

“Yoga implies the union of mind, body and spirit with the supreme being. It is a way of life and regular practice of Yoga even if it is for 30 minutes can have numerous benefits for our physical and mental health”, Prof Singh said.

The Vice Chancellor also inaugurated the second edition of “MANTHAN”, an e-magazine, published on the occasion of International Day of Yoga.

Delivering the welcome address, Prof Papori

Baruah, Head, Centre for Yoga and Sports Sciences and Chairperson, organizing committee highlighted how the Yoga activities at TU have transcended beyond the boundaries of the University to the people outside through outreach activities, such as cycle rally, children camp, Yogathon, meditation camp etc.

The attendees then practiced common yoga protocol led by experienced yoga instructors, Mr Nagendra Jain and Mr Partha Pratim Das. The session focused on various asanas, pranayama (breathing exercises), meditation and other exercises.

During the celebration, Tezpur University students and Children of various age groups, who were attending the yoga camp exhibited Yoga performance.

It is worth noting that the University observed the 51-day Yoga Mahotsav, which also concluded today. The Yoga Mahotsav was organised by Centre for Yoga and Sports Sciences, TU in collaboration with the National Service Scheme wing of the University.





Department of Business Administration organises Orientation Program

The Department of Business Administration organized an orientation program titled “Deeksharambh” on July 29, 2024 to welcome the newly admitted students in the Department for the academic year 2024-25. The event was held in the council hall of the University, attended by newly admitted students, faculty members, and distinguished former alumni of the Department.

Noted alumni, Dr. Rouhin Deb, Chief Economist, Chief Minister’s Secretariat, Government of Assam and Dr. Miftahul Barbaruah, Director at Vet Helpline India Pvt Ltd, were present on the occasion. Delivering the first alumni orientation talk, Dr. Barbaruah familiarized the students with the department’s ethos, academic programs, and the various opportunities available for holistic development. He shared his experience of how the department shaped his life.

Addressing the gathering as guest of honor, Dr. Rouhin Deb emphasized the importance of a robust foundation in business education and encouraged the students to embrace the diverse learning

experiences that the university offers. He urged the students to work hard and pursue their dreams with self-belief. He also reminded everyone of the nation’s commitment to the poor.

Delivering the Deeksharambh address, Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, VC explained to the students the tradition of Guru-Shishya bonding. He said that learning is not just about passing on the legacy of knowledge and wisdom to the next generation but also includes igniting the pupils’ minds to ask new questions. The Vice-Chancellor, however, informed that the universities are not placement agencies but provide the necessary skills and assistance to excel in life.

The program included interactive sessions where students had the opportunity to learn about the University, academic information, and students’ activities from various speakers of Department including Prof. Chandan Goswami, Dean, School of Management Sciences, Prof. M. K. Sarma, former Dean, Academic Affairs and Dr Tridib R Sarma, Head, Department of Business Administration.

Independence Day observed

Tezpur University celebrated the 78th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. The event commenced with the hoisting of the national flag by the Vice-Chancellor, followed by the singing of the national anthem. In his address, the Vice-Chancellor emphasized the importance of freedom and the responsibilities that come with it, urging students and staff to contribute actively to the nation’s progress. The university showcased cultural performances, including traditional dances and patriotic songs, reflecting India’s diverse heritage.



Vice Chancellor's Deeksharambh Address

Since time immemorial this great country of ours has followed the tradition of a Gurukul, where learning takes place with The Teacher – Guru, Acharya, by whatever name we call them – imparting knowledge and skill to the students – Shishya. A tradition that not only passes on the legacy of knowledge and wisdom to next generation, but ignites the pupil's mind to ask new questions. A healthy practice of our Land that enriches our knowledge pool, and takes Mankind to a higher level of Adhyatmicata (आध्यात्मिकता).

Dear Students, such a process starts with an initiation, a starting point when parents and guardians leave the little ones in the lap of Gurukul. That day their learning starts, Deeksha starts. A day of Deeksharambha - when the mind of the guru and the shishya become one, when the disciple gets initiated by the guru. We hope to embrace you into the tradition of Tezpur University, into the culture of this young and vibrant University. We hope to make you a better citizen of the World.

Yes, a citizen not only of this region, this country – but it is the world for which we hope to prepare you. The potters amongst us will definitely be harsh and rough with you from the outside – but with a loving hand they will mould you into the finest of pot. We shall strive to polish the rough diamond within you, and bring out the sparkle. It would be with your success that Tezpur University will succeed in achieving a higher platform.

And that would be possible only when you promise us to deliver your best. To bring out the maximum possible positivities within yourselves. Tezpur University seeks not only your Academic excellence – but a total personality development. Take up sports – we have ample facilities – a cricket ground curated by ACA, a world class gym. Learn to dance, play violin, practice Taekwondo, join our drama team. Teach the under-privileged, take up photography, watch birds, do adventure sports. Speak out your mind, develop your oratorical skill. Learn to dress smartly. Score higher, win competitions, bring in medals. So that tomorrow we can lift our head higher of you being our Alumni.

Dear parents, pray for us, that we may have the capability to give back to the family, to the society a better person than what you are entrusting to us today. Tezpur University seeks your support.

Within this young age, Tezpur University had earned reputation for itself. The Department of Business Administration where you are enrolled, has been consistently ranked amongst the best of this region.



Our Return on Investment – total expenses you incur during your stay versus the packages you would expect to get – is amongst the top in our country.

But remember, we are not a Placement agency, neither do we guarantee placement. All we do is provide assistance for you to prove your own mettle and secure positions. On the other hand, why don't you strive to be Job provider, rather than being job seeker. Take advantage of our University's support and assistance for setting up your own venture. Think of innovative idea for a Start-Up, and we have a mechanism to take that forward. Develop your own product / service – possibly Patent it, or initiate Copyright – and then start making money out of it. Provide jobs, increase our country's GDP.

On 18 JUL 2019, our Government had brought out a guide to Student Induction Programme – to help new students adjust and feel comfortable in the new environment, inculcate in them the ethos and culture of the institution, help them build bonds with other students and faculty members, and expose them to a sense of larger purpose and self-exploration. Let us walk that same path which I have just laid down for you.

Your mentors, the teachers, are well qualified and experienced – make their life uncomfortable. Get the best out of them. And then a day will come when we shall hand you back to your family. Some may call that day as Convocation, but our tradition has the beautiful name – Deekshant.

Welcome to the Tezpur University Family.



Deeksharambh Ceremony

Respect for women is non-negotiable; without it, society is on the brink of collapse. This was stated by Shri Gyanendra Pratap Singh, Director General of Police (DGP), Assam, citing the recent R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital incident. Shri Singh was delivering the Deeksharambh oration as the Chief Guest at Tezpur University's (TU) Deeksharambh Ceremony for its newly admitted students on August 19, 2024.

The University formally commenced the new academic session 2024-25 by organizing the Deeksharambh Ceremony at the KBR auditorium. Addressing the gathering, the DGP spoke about India's demographic dividend, emphasizing that the youth are the nation's most valuable asset. "The focus should be on building a strong society and nation. And you will become part of a good society by becoming a good human being," Shri Singh said.

Good people naturally succeed and contribute to a better society, the DGP further added.

"I am hearing that the new generation is going into depression and anxiety. One way to deal with these negativities is to have a strong connection with your parents, teachers, and mentors," he advised the students. He also emphasized the importance of respecting diverse viewpoints for progress and foster-

ing a healthy democracy.

Welcoming the students, Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor urged the students to engage in academic pursuits with passion. "The success of higher learning institutions depends on the bonding between students, faculty members, and the administration. Therefore, when you bond with the institution, both the institution and the individual grow," the Vice Chancellor said. He also urged the students to actively participate in co-curricular activities to develop life skills.

The Deeksharambh Ceremony featured several engaging and informative lectures aimed at familiarizing the students with the university's ecosystem. Prof. Sankar Deka, Controller of Examinations, provided an overview of the University. Academic regulations were explained by Prof. Raza R. Hoque, Dean, Academic Affairs. An introduction to Students' Welfare activities and General Conduct & discipline was discussed by Prof. Manabendra Mandal, Dean, Students' Welfare, and Prof. Papori Baruah, Chief Proctor, respectively. Deans of three schools, namely Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Engineering, highlighted activities from their respective schools.



Kanaklata Barua hostel Inaugurated

Celebrating the 78th Independence Day, the University inaugurated a state-of-the-art girls' hostel, named after freedom fighter Kanaklata Barua. The 500 capacity girls' hostel was inaugurated by Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor of the University in presence of Tezpur University community.

AWARDS



Reema Borah, filmmaker and a Research Scholar in the Department of Cultural Studies, was awarded the Sher Choudhary Creative Awards 2024 at an award function in Kumar Bhaskar Natya Mandir, Guwahati, on June 30, 2024.



SNIPPETS

Prof Debarshi Prasad Nath has joined Shinawatra International University, Thailand (Formerly Metharath University) on invitation as an Honorary Research Fellow in the Faculty of Liberal Arts for a period of three years. He will be collaborating with colleagues from Shinawatra for research and publications apart from delivering lectures from time to time.

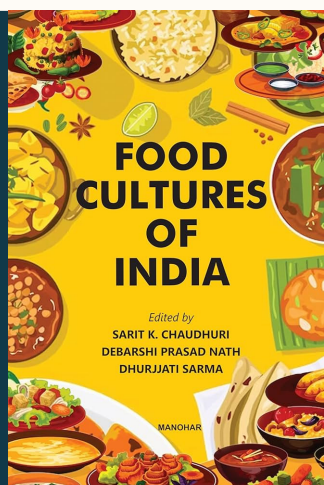
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIA



1. Dr Parasmoni Dutta made a presentation titled "Narrativizing the 1990s: Some Reflections on the '#90's Kids' Memes on Indian Social Media" in the 19th Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research (ISFNR), June 17 - 21, 2024, organized by the University of Latvia at Riga, Latvia.

2. Dr Juri Gogoi Konwar was invited as a resource person and made a presentation titled "E-Governance in Assam: Empowering Women and Overcoming Challenges" in the International Symposium 2024 on "Sustainable Community Development for the Next Century: Success Showcases" In Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Chiang Mai Rajabhat University, Thailand on July 5, 2024.

3. Ms Puwati Dutta, a Research Scholar in the Department of Cultural Studies, presented a paper titled "The Growth of Content Creators and their impact on Regional Identity Formation in North East India" in Global Digital Intimacies Conference organized by Global Digital Cultures, University of Amsterdam on June 27-28, 2024.



BOOK PUBLISHED

1. A book titled 'Food Cultures of India' jointly edited by Debarshi Prasad Nath, Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, and Dhurjjati Sharma has been published by Manohar Publishers, Delhi. The book brings together a collection of essays written by academics and scholars from a wide range of disciplines who have analyzed various dimensions of Food Studies, highlighting its interface with folklore, social practices, fictional representation, famines, memory, and media studies.







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Published by:

The Registrar
Tezpur University

Contact: 03712-27-3110, 9717361277 (M)

Email: prio@tezu.ernet.in

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