



Newsletter

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Dewang Mehta Outstanding Contribution Award for Vice-Chancellor

Tezpur University bagged two of the prestigious Dewang Mehta B-School Awards during the 18th Business School Affaire and Dewang Mehta Business School Awards presentation ceremony held at Hotel Taj Lands End, Mumbai on November 24, 2010. While Prof. Mihir K. Chaudhuri, Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University who is already a recipient of prestigious awards such as SS Bhatnagar Prize, Chemito Award, NE Excellence Award, Distinguished Alumnus Award 2010 of IIT Kharagpur, etc. was awarded in recognition of his outstanding contribution

to education, the Department of Business Administration of the University which has been rated "A+" by Business India was given the B-School Leadership Award.

The glittering award presentation ceremony was attended by a host of B-School leaders of the country including Vice Chancellors, IIT & IIM Directors, Chief Executive Officers besides top executives of various corporate houses. Tezpur University and IIM Shillong were the only B-Schools from the North East India to receive the Dewang Mehta Awards this year.

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V C ' s C o r n e r

Keeping pace with the dynamics which the world is progressing with, Tezpur University (TU) is also transforming itself. It is significant, though many of us might not have time to sit back, relax and analyze what TU has transformed into and where it now stands among Indian universities. All of us certainly have been a part of this humble but affirmative transformation. Friends, progress is a dynamic phenomenon and change is perpetual, and so we realize right, though late at times, to march forward – with vigor. It is not an easy task to convert a ‘dead-river bed’ at Napaam to an institution of higher learning worth taking note of. Local dynamics is yet another factor that cannot be ignored.

To catch up with the amenities, we are now having a Cafeteria, a market complex, the ‘SoE Dhaba’, students’ Amenity centre, and coffee-kiosks in the hostels and other locations. The State Bank of India (SBI) has now set up a full-fledged branch on the campus, in addition to our having two fully functional ATMs (SBI and Punjab National Bank). A Punjab National Bank extension counter, especially for evening service, is now under active consideration. While there is 100% increase in the students’ strength compared to what it was in 2006-07, a chain of four new hostels has been built in order to provide accommodation to students. Two more state-of-the-art hostels are now getting ready welcoming the academic year 2011-12.

Students’ placement has been encouragingly better during the current season, but we are determined to perform far better.

While the University has been able to attract good faculty, the teaching and research laboratories are continuously augmented and upgraded, and the library strengthened. Kudos to my dear colleagues for being successful in securing a good number of externally funded research projects attesting to peers’ recognition. This indicates our taking cognizance of the fact that quality teaching requires high quality research for institutions of higher learning. We look forward to better and yet better output in terms of both quality research and the quantity. I am also looking forward to active participation of our alumni in furthering the cause of our University.

Finally, a sustainable environment and eco-consciousness is the order of the day. And to this end, I urge upon my dear students and colleagues to apply mind so that a green, clean and benevolent environment is ensured for the future generation.

Let us all join together to bring glory to our University.



E d i t o r i a l

This issue of the Tezpur University Newsletter is appearing after a long gap. As editors, one of the problems we have always had is limited space. The Newsletter is meant to report and record all newsworthy events that happen on the Tezpur University campus (and occasionally outside). Because of space constraints, each issue has required the editors to decide what to include and to – unhappily – exclude. With this issue this problem was particularly acute since the period this issue covers (two semesters) is a particularly long one. We are fully conscious that we have not been able to do justice to the very many events that have taken place over the last year or so. However, we do hope that we have been able to give at least a glimpse of the vibrant life of the University. Important events like the visit of the eminent scientist Professor C N R Rao, the Dept of

Business Administration’s annual industry interface Sam-park, and the popular celebration of science and technology TechXetra 2010 had to be excluded, albeit reluctantly. Tezpur University readers will be able to add this list of exclusions. However, we hope that we have been able to record at least some of the important events to have occurred in the last two semesters.

The problem of inadequate coverage of University events can be addressed only if the issues of the Newsletter appear on time. Because some members of the current editorial team have left the University (or will be doing so), a new editorial team (which will include a few current members) is being put in place. We wish the new team luck in their editorial endeavours.

Ninth Convocation



The IXth Convocation of Tezpur University was held on February 12, 2010 in the Kalaguru Bishnuprasad Rabha Auditorium in the campus. While 346 students were awarded post graduate degrees and diplomas, 17 scholars were awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Out of the post graduate degree awardees, 16

students were awarded gold medals. The governor of Assam Shri J. B. Patnaik presided over the Convocation, awarded the degrees and delivered the Convocation address. Participating as the Guest of Honour the Assam Chief Minister Shri Tarun Gogoi appealed to the intellectuals to hold harness the tourism potential of the North-east

region. While appreciating the development of state-of-the-art facilities of Tezpur University, he hoped that Assam has now the infrastructure required for pursuing world class education and research. Vice Chancellor Prof. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri presented a report of the activities of the University since the VIIIth Convocation held in December 2008. Prof. Chaudhuri who was awarded the North East Excellence Award on January 8, 2010, also highlighted the recent achievements of the University which included the Department Molecular Biology & Biotechnology getting a Nodal Centre for upgrading the infrastructure of medical colleges of the North-east India, the Department of Business Administration getting A Grade in a countrywide assessment, granting of US and Indian patents, to name a few.

Campus News

Computer Center

The Computer Centre has further upgraded the Tezpur University web portal by adding a Selfcare portal to help the users to configure their computers for easy connectivity to the University network and the Internet. The Centre has also developed an online grievance registration system for both students and employees of the University for prompt handling of grievances. As part of the National Knowledge Network (NKN) project of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Tezpur University will very shortly be connected to the NKN through one 1-Gbps fiber optics link. In addition to these activities, the Computer Centre recently submitted a detailed project report on "Implementation of Virtual Class Room Facility in Central Universities of North-Eastern States of India" to UGC for final approval. It is expected that with the help of virtual class room facility participating universities will be able to meet the shortage of manpower by extending their class room walls beyond the physical boundary of the university.

Central Library

The Central Library added 192 books during the current semester (August to December 2010) bringing its total collection of books (and other print documents) to 47267. In 2010 the Library subscribed to 96 Indian journals and 124 foreign journals (33 online, 69 print, and 22 in both print and online versions). The Library's holdings at present include 4391 back volumes of journals, 117 theses and more than 1200 CDs and VCDs. E-resources include 5758 journals and ten databases provided through UGC-Infonet Consortium and 740 periodicals and 1 database subscribed to by Tezpur University. The Library extended its working hours: it is now open from 9 am to 10 pm during working days and from 10 am to 5 pm during holidays. A "Walk to the Library" programme organized at the beginning of the semester in order to encourage the reading habit met with an encouraging response from students and was enthusiastically supported by many faculty members.



Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, Prof. M. S. Ananth, and Prof. Mihir K. Chaudhuri

The final meeting of the National Committee on the Autonomy of Central Educational Institutions was held at Tezpur University during 17 – 18 February 2011. The high power committee with noted legal educator of the country Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon as its chairman and eminent educationists as members, examined the existing system of autonomy enjoyed by the central institutions including central universities, IITs, IIMs, etc. and explored all relevant aspects to suggest more autonomy to such institutions for

greater effectiveness and more efficient delivery. All the members of the Committee consisting of Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Prof. M. S. Ananth, Director of IIT Madras, Prof. Pankaj Chandra, Director of IIM Bangalore, Prof. Syed E. Husnain, Vice Chancellor of University of Hyderabad and Prof. Mihir K. Chaudhuri, Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University, attended the meeting. The Committee has put forward its suggestions and recommendations to the Government of India.

Faculty Achievements

Professor Nasreen S Islam, of the Department of Chemical Sciences and Dean, Research and Development, has been awarded a CRSI bronze medal in recognition of her research contribution.

Dr Pritam Deb, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, recipient of an amount of Rs 363 lakh for his project on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology by DST, Govt. of India, has been selected for the prestigious Max Planck Fellowship for the period 2009-12.

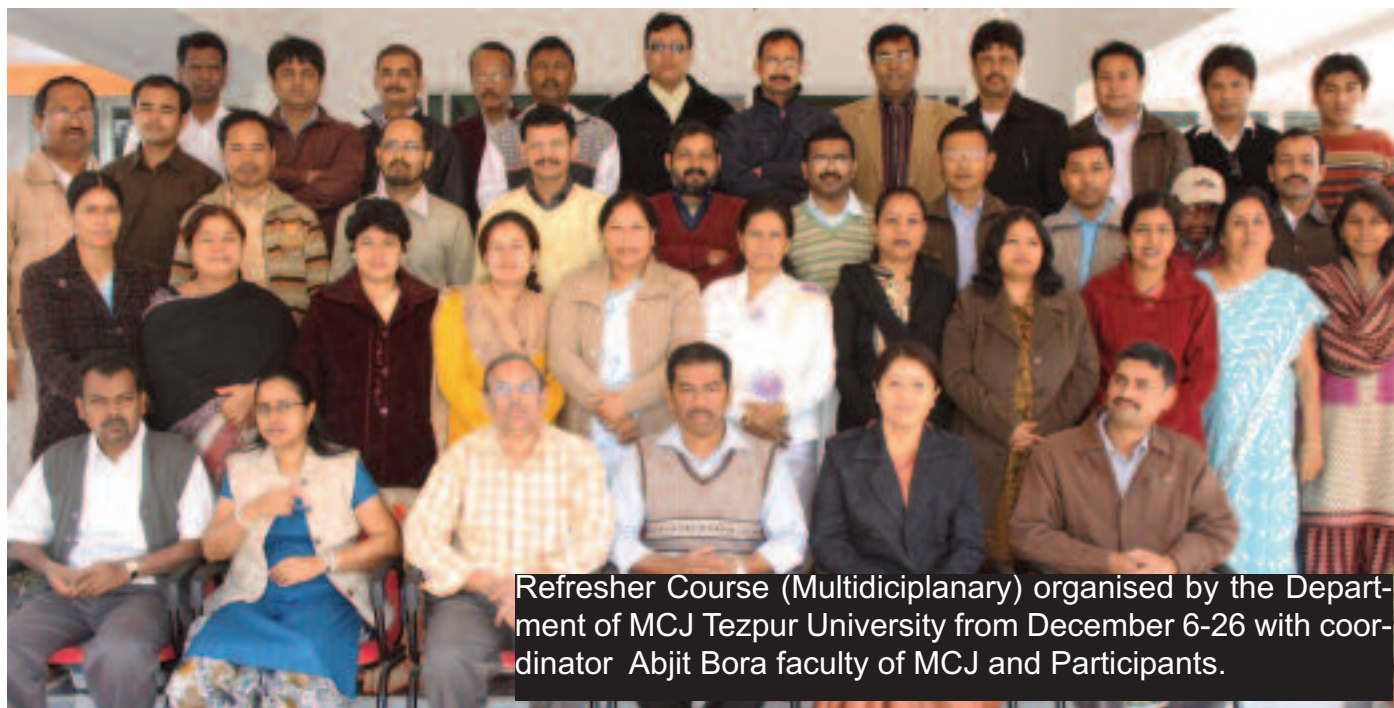
Dr. Rupam Barman, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mathematical Sciences has been awarded a four months (April- July 2011) Post Doctoral position at MATCH, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Biswakabi Rabindranath Thakur Award

The prestigious Biswakabi Rabindranath Thakur Award 2011 has been conferred on Professor Mihir K Chaudhuri, Vice-Chancellor, Tezpur University, in recognition of his scholastic achievements and service to society through education.

The award, instituted by the Indian Institute of Oriental Heritage, Kolkata was presented at a function held at Kolkata on February 12, 2011 on the occasion of the 34th International Conference on Oriental Heritage.

Seminars / Workshops



Refresher Course (Multidisciplinary) organised by the Department of MCJ Tezpur University from December 6-26 with coordinator Abjit Bora faculty of MCJ and Participants.

Computer Science & Engineering

The Dept of Computer Science and Engineering organized ISI-TU Winter School on Soft Computing' in collaboration with ISI Kolkata (Machine Unit) from December 20 to December 23.

Mass Communication & Journalism

A Refresher Course in Mass Communication (Multidisciplinary) was organized from December 6 to December 26 by the Dept. Dr Abhijit Bora, Head of the Dept, coordinated the Refresher Course with sponsorship from UGC. External experts invited include Prof KV Nagaraj, Head of the Dept of Mass Communication of Assam University, Silchar, Prof Ram Mohan Pathak, Dean, MMM institute of Journalism, MG Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi, Mr PJ Baruah, Executive Editor, The Assam Tribune, Guwahati and Mr Samudra Gupta Kashyap, Bureau Chief-NER, The Indian Express, Guwahati in addition to TU internal faculty members. A total of 36 teachers and technical officials from various colleges and universities including TU participated in the programme.

A National Conference on Research Methodology in Journalism and Mass Communication: De-Westernizing Media Studies, under the sponsorship of ICSSR with Dr.C.S.H.N. Murthy, Associate Professor, as Convener was held in the Department from November 26 to 28.

Mathematical Sciences

The Department of Mathematical Sciences organized a Workshop on Algebra and Number Theory for College/University students during December 22-26, 2010. The workshop was sponsored by National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM), Department of atomic Energy and DST, Govt. of India and attended by 60 participants from IITs, Central Universities and universities and colleges of the North East region. Mathematicians from University of Saint Louis, USA, University of Roma, Italy, IIT Delhi, IIT Guwahati, IMSc, Chennai, JNU, Delhi, NEHU, Shillong and Tezpur University delivered lectures on various topics of Algebra and Number Theory.

The Math Club of the Department of Mathematical Sciences presented a 'Magic Show on Numbers' at TechXetra, 2010 organized by the School of Engineering, Tezpur University.

Physics

The Dept of Physics organized a seminar on preparation of "Science & Technology Vision Document for the state of Assam" on September 9.



The Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata has entered into an agreement with Tezpur University to establish its fourth Centre at Tezpur. To this effect, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed on December 5, 2010 in Kolkata in presence of the Union Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherji who is also the Chairman of the ISI Council. While Prof. Mihir K. Chaudhuri, Vice-Chancellor of Tezpur Uni-

versity represented the University, ISI Director Prof. Bimal K. Roy signed on behalf of the Institute. The establishment of a Centre of the country's premier statistical institute at Tezpur is viewed as a significant development and a matter of elation for the North East India as it will immensely benefit not only the academia and student community, but also the policy makers, employees and the society at large. Notably, ISI, among others, offers job-oriented short-term courses at various

levels orienting and guiding the youths to their respective goals. With its headquarters in Kolkata, ISI has established its Centres in Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai and now at Tezpur. The Tezpur Centre which will initially function from the Tezpur University premises, has already been allotted land by the Government of Assam near the University.

Forthcoming Events

National Conference
On
Chemistry, Chemical technology
and Society,
11-12 November 2011
Conducted by Department of
Chemical Sciences

International Congress
on
Renewable Energy (ICORE)
2-4 November 2011
Conducted by Department of
Energy

National Seminar
Role of Bio Active Compound
in food on Human Health
14-16 November 2011
Conducted by Department of
Food Technology



The Centre for Assamese Studies at Tezpur University was formally inaugurated on June 7 by well-known littérateur Dr Lakshi Nandan Bora. The inaugural function was attended by the Vice-Chancellor, M K Chaudhuri, and the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Amarjyoti Choudhury, who is also the Chairman and Coordinator of the Centre. Professor Choudhury outlined the objectives of the Centre. Professor S K Dutta (Convenor) welcomed the guests while Professor M M Sarma (Member) offered the vote of thanks. Some eminent citizens of Tezpur town also attended the inaugural function. Among its several aims, the Centre hopes to set up an archive with both digital and documentary holdings in the form of manuscripts and audio-visual products related to the Assamese language, literature and culture.

Annual Meet

Tezpur University's educational vision gives due importance to activities other than just the academic. The University has been able to provide students with such facilities as a state of the art gymnasium etc. The University also organizes an annual week in which students get an opportunity to exercise their talents in sports and cultural activities. Student look forward to the annual week since it provides a much needed break from the rigours of the semester system.

The fourteenth Annual meet began in August-December 2010 with football, volleyball, basketball and table tennis competitions.

A number of inter-departmental sporting events were held in the Tezpur University campus. In football, the Department of Computer Science & Engineering emerged as the champions, the runners-up being the Department of Mathematical Sciences. The Department of Computer Science & Engineering won the basketball competition with the Department of Mechanical Engineering coming second. In the women's edition of the basketball competition Subansiri Women's Hostel were declared champions while Dhansiri Women's Hostel were the runners-up. In Volley ball the Department of Business Administration and Subansiri Women's Hostel (A) emerged as champions of the men's and women's events respectively while the Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering and Dhansiri Women's Hostel (B) were

the respective runners-up.

Individual Best Performers

Football

Champion-Department of Computer Science & Engineering
 Runner up -Department of Mathematical Sciences

Basketball (men)

Champion-Department of Computer Science & Engineering
 Runner up - Department of Mechanical Engineering

Basketball (women)

Champion- Subansiri Women's Hostel
 Runner up -Dhansiri Women's Hostel

Volley ball (men)

Champion - Department of Business Administration
 Runner up - Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering

Volley ball (women)

Champion - Subansiri Women's Hostel (A)
 Runner up -Dhansiri Women's Hostel (B)

Table Tennis (Men Single's)

1st- Mr. Rohan Buragohain, Department of ECE, 7th Sem.
 2nd - Mr. Aroop Sharma, Department of ECE, 3rd Sem.
 3rd - Mr. Nihar Saikia, Department of Mechanical Engg. , 5th Sem.

Table Tennis (Men Double's)

1st - Mr. Rohan Buragohain, Department of ECE, 7th Sem.
 Mr. Uttam Borthakur, Department

of ECE, 7th Sem.

2nd - Mr. Aroop Sharma, Department of ECE, 3rd Sem.
 Mr. Nihar Saikia, Department of ECE, 5th Sem.
 3rd - Mr. Prantik Nayak, Department of CSE, 5th Sem.
 Mr. Gaurav Kayal, Department of CSE, 3rd Sem.

Table Tennis (Women Single's)

1st- Ms. Kanta Roy, Department of B. Admn., 3rd Sem.
 2nd- Ms. Vanlalrinchhani, Department of MBBT, 3rd Sem.
 3rd - Ms Antora Borah, Department of Sociology, 1st Sem.

Badminton (Men Single's)

1st - Mr. Jayanta Kr. Dutta
 2nd- Mr. Aniket Chakraborty
 3rd- Mr. Nastajis Niyaz Ahmed

Badminton (Men Double's)

1st - Mr. Jayanta Kr. Dutta & Mr. Niyaz Ahmed
 2nd- Mr. Bhaskar Basumatary & Mr. Nihar Saikia
 3rd- Mr. Bhaskar Sharma & Mr. Uttam Borthakur

Badminton (Women Single's)

1st - Ms. Sharmimala Saikia
 2nd -Ms. Sandhya Rani Gogoi
 3rd -Ms. Nizwara Boro

Badminton (Women Double's)

1st -Ms. Sandhya Gogoi & Ms. Namrata Karmakar
 2nd -Ms Sharbani Kaushik & Ms. Anushree Baruah
 3rd -Ms Nizwara Boro & Ms. Shalini Khan

Faculty Publications

The following list of publications by Tezpur University faculty (july-Dec 2010) is necessarily selective because of limited space. (For a complete list of research publications by Tezpur University faculty, please see the University's annual reports.).

Environmental Science

Baruah, K.K., Gogoi Boby and Gogoi, P. Plant physiological and soil characteristics associated with methane and nitrous oxide emission from rice paddy. *Plant Physiology & Mol. Biol.*, 16:79-91 (2010).

Hoque R.R., Goswami K.G., Kurse B.C., Sarma K.P.: Distribution and solid phase distribution speciation of toxic heavy metals of bed sediments of Bharali tributary of the Brahmaputra river. *Environ. Monit. Assess.* doi 10.1007 / s 10661-010-1647-5 (2010).

Goswami R., Deb P., Sarma K. P., Thakur R. Basumallick A. Removal of Arsenic by surface functional ultrafine nanoparticles. *J. Separation Science* (In Press).

Devi. A., Kumar A: Status and conservation of slow Loris *Nycticebus bengalensis* in North East India. *Ecetone* 2(1):18-20 (2010).

Baruah K.K, Gogoi Boby, Gogoi P, Gupta P.K. N₂O emission in relation to plant and soil properties and yield of rice varieties. *Agronomy Sustain Dev.* doi: EDPSC 10.1051/Agro/2010021 (2010).

Computer Science and Engineering

Sarma N & Nandi S. Service Differentiation using Priority based MAC Protocol in MANETs, *Int. J. Internet Protocol Technology* 5 (3), 115-131 (2010).

Majumder, A & Sarma, N. DEMAC: A Cluster-Based Topology Control for Ad Hoc Networks. *Int. J. Computer Science Issues* 7(5), 82-88 (2010).

Bhuyan B, Sarma, H K D, Sarma N, Kar A & Mall, R. Quality of Service (QoS) Provisions in Wireless Sensor Networks and Related Challenges. *Wireless Sensor Networks* 2 (11), 861-868. doi:10.4236/wsn.2010.211104 (2010).

Nath B, Bhattacharyya, D K & Ghosh, A. Discovering Association rules from Incremental Datasets. *IJCS* 1 (2), 713-721 (2010).

Priyadarshini, G. , Chakraborty, B, Das, R, Bhattacharyya, D K & Kalita, J.K .Highly Coherent Pattern Identification Using Graph-based clustering., *Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Symposium* 29-38 (2010).

Chemical Sciences

Deka, H. & Karak, N. Influence of highly branched poly(amido amine) on the properties of hyperbranched polyurethane/ clay nanocomposites. *Mater. Chem. Phys.* 124, 120-128, (2010).

Karak, N, Roy, B. & Voit, B. s-Triazine Based Hyperbranched Polyethers: Synthesis, Characterization and Properties. *J. Polym. Sci. Part A: Polym. Chem.* 68 (2010) 3994-4004.

Nath, S.K. & Dutta, R.K. Enhancement of limestone defluoridation of water by acetic and citric acids in fixed bed reactor. *Clean – Soil, Air, Water.* 38, 614-622, (2010).

Nath, S.K., Bordoloi, S., S.& Dutta, R.K. Effect of acid on mor-

phology of calcite during acid-enhanced defluoridation. *J. Fluorine Chemistry*, doi. 10.1016/ i.ifluchem. 2010.10.007 (in press), K.J. Borah, P.Dutta & R. Borah. Synthesis, characterization and application of poly(4-vinylpyridine)supported Bronsted acid as reusable catalyst for acetylation reaction. *Bulletin of the Korean Chemical Society* (in press).

Phukan, A.K. & Guha, A.K. Nature of Transannular Intramolecular Interactions in Group 4 and 6 Metallatranes : A Combined Density Functional Theory and Atoms in Molecules Theory Study. *Inorganic Chemistry*, 49, 9884- 9890 (2010).

Cultural Studies

Mahanta, P.J. The Khol: A View from Inside. *Swar Bharali* (2010).

Sociology

Sumesh, S.S Decentralising the Primary Health Care and Decision Space Discourse in Governance: A Kerala Model. *Loyala Journal of Social Sciences* (accepted)

Sharma, C K. "Religion and Social Change: neo- Vaishnavism vis-à-vis the Tribal Groups in the Brahmaputra Valley". *Religion and Society in North East India.* (Ed) D. Nath. Delhi: D. K Publications, 2010.

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Borah, M, Deka, S. & Kakaty, S. Statistical analysis of annual maximum rainfall in North-East India: An application of LH-moments, *Theoretical and Applied Climatology* (In Press).

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Physics

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Banerjee, S & Kumar, A. Micro-Raman studies of swift heavy

ion irradiation induced structural and conformational changes in polyaniline nanofibers. Nucl. Instr. 7 Meth.B 268, 2683-2687 (2010).

Sarmah, S., & Kumar, A. SHI irradiation effects on electrical and optical properties of PPy-SnO₂ nanocomposite. Phys. Stat. Sol A 207 (10), 2279-2287 (2010).

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Deka, M., Nath, A.K., & Kumar, A. Ionic Conduction and Phase separation studies in PE-P(VdF-HFP)-LiClO₄- dedoped Polyaniline nanofiber Composite Polymer Electrolytes -I. Ind. J. Phys. 84 (10), 1299-1305 (2010).

Baishaya R., & Sarma, S.K. DGLAP evolution equation in NNLO at small -x and method of characteristic: non-singlet case. Ind. J. Phys. 84 (12), 1471-1305 (2010).

Baruah, S., & Das, N. The effect of magnetic field on the structure of Coulomb Crystal in dusty plasma. Phys. Plasmas 17 (2010).

Borah, S., & Bhattacharyya, N.S. Broadband measurement of complex permittivity of composite microwave frequencies using scalar scattering parameters. Progress in Electromagnetic Research, 13, 53-68 (2010).

Sarmah, D., Deka, J., Bhattacharyya, S & Bhattacharyya, N. Study of LDPE/TiO₂ and PS/TiO₂ Composite as Potential Substrates for Microstrip Patch Antennas. Journal of Electronics Materials 9 (10), 2359-2365 (2010).

Borah, K.& Bhattacharyya, N. Magneto-dielectric material with nano ferrite inclusion for microstrip antennas: Dielectric characterization. IEEE Transactions on Dielectric and Electrical Insulation 16 (6), 1676-1681 (2010).

Dept of Mechanical Engineering

A Cycle Simulation Model for Predicting Performance of a Diesel Engine Fuelled by Diesel and Bio-diesel Blends, Energy 35 (2010) 1317-1323; DOI No.: 10.1016/j.energy.2009.11.014.

Ajith, M., Das, R., Uppaluri, R. & Mishra, S.C. Estimation of boundary surface heat fluxes in a square enclosure with an embedded design element. Journal of Thermophysics and Heat Transfer, doi: 10.2514/1.49910 (2010).

Debnath, B. K., & Das, R. Prediction of performance coefficients of a three bucket Savonius rotor using artificial neural network. Journal of Renewable and Sustainable Energy, 2 (4) (2010).

Das, R, Mishra, S.C., Pavan Kumar, T.B.& Uppaluri, R. An inverse analysis for parameter estimation applied to a non-Fourier conduction - radiation problem, Heat Transfer Engineering, 32(6) (2010).

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Banerjee, S., Robi, P.S., & Srinivasan, A. Calorimetric Study of

Precipitation Kinetics of AlCuMg and AlCuMg0.06 wt.% Sn Alloys. Metals and Materials International. doi. 10.1007/s12540-010-0802-4) (accepted)

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Singh, S.K & and R., Tiwari., Identification of a Multi-Crack in a Shaft System using Transverse Frequency Response Functions. Mechanism and Machine Theory, (accepted).

Dept of Food Processing Technology

Mishra, P, Verma M., Mishra, V., Mishra, S. & Rai, G K. Studies on Development Of Ready To Eat Amla (Embllica Officinalis) Chutney and its Preservation by Using Class One Preservatives.

American Journal of Food Technology (published online) (2010) Mahanta, C.L. & Bhattacharya, K.R. Relationship of starch changes to puffing expansion of parboiled rice. Journal of Food Science and Technology, 47(2), 82-187 (2010).

Kotoki D & Deka S. C. Baking loss of bread with special emphasis on increasing the water holding capacity J. Food Sci. Technol (Springer) 47 (1) (2010).

Dept of Mass Communication & Journalism

C.S.H.N., Murthy. Through the Idiot Box: Is 'Tele-shopping' a mediated fraud on the television audience? Vidura , 2 (4), 28-32.(2010).

Bora, A. Reaching the unreached via Mass media". University News 48 (31), 4. (2010).

Bora, A. Make the right choice. Vidura (July-September, 2010 issue)

Distance Education programmes

A two-day workshop on Development of Self-Learning Materials for Distance Learners was held on June 17 and 18, 2011. The workshop was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor professor M K Chaudhuri while Professor B K Swain of NIRD, Hyderabad was the Chief Guest. Professor C R K Murthy, Professor of Distance Education, STRIDE, IGNOU and Dr Kandarpa Das, Director, IDOL, Guwahati University acted as resource persons. According to Professor Debabrat Das, Director, Distance Education Tezpur University is planning to start Distance education programme in the following: M A in Mass Communication, PG Diploma in Governance and Development, Retail Management, Investment Management, Human Resource Management, Functional Hindi and M Tech in Energy. These programmes will boost quality higher education in the northeast region besides providing opportunity to students who normally would not be able to avail of conventional modes of education.

Student Achievements

Ms. Madhulekha Gogoi, Research scholar, Selected for DST-INSPIRE fellowship for the year 2010.

Ms. Priyanka Basyach, Research scholar, Selected for DST-INSPIRE fellowship for the year 2010.

Mr. Tridiv Nayan Basistha, a student of Department of Mass Communication & Journalism secured 1st position in the 'All Assam Inter College Debate Competition' held at Duliajan College on 14 September, 2010.

The following Students represented the University in the Inter University East-Zone Youth Festival 2010 held at University of Kalyani, West Bengal during 23-27 September, 2010 accompanied by Mr. Bala Lakhendra, Assistant Professor, Department of Mass

Communication & Journalism. Prizes won by the students shown separately.

Poonam Mishra, a student of the Dept of Food Processing Technology, was awarded the first prize in Oral Presentation in the International Conference on Food Technology organized by IICPT Thanjavur in collaboration with MoFPT at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu during October 30-31.

Muhasina Kafiah Huda, Research Scholar, Department of Chemical Sciences was given "Best Paper Award" in the International Conference on Recent Frontier in Applied Spectroscopy held at Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu on September 22-24 for her paper "Luminescence properties of polymethanes containing 1,3,4 oxadiazole chromophore".



Students of Tezpur University who won the Competition at the zonal level Youth Festival organised by Kalyani University West Bengal

Placements

After several sessions of pre-placement grooming held in the last Autumn Semester, the campus placement activities for the batches passing out this year began in January 2010. Despite the adversary conditions of global recession and associated job cuts by organizations across the country, the Training and Placement Cell of the University has been able to marshal a number of organizations from the private, public and government sectors to recruit its students. While prestigious organizations including the Defense Research & Development Organization, Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited, HCL, Wipro, SBI Life, Bajaj Alliance, Bank of Maharashtra, HDFC Standard Life, Asian Paints, PRADAN, Chembiotek Life Science, Jungle Travels India, Royal Group of Institutions, Assam Don Bosco University, HDFC Bank, Indian Army, etc. have already recruited stu-

dents from the University, a few others are still recruiting off-campus.

The process of accrediting the relatively new School of Engineering by many reputed organizations is on the verge of completion. While the Tata Consultancy Services has already visited the campus, others such as Infosys, Wipro, L&T Infotech, Tech Mahindra, Cognizant Technologies, L&T ECC, TVS, and Zensar Technologies are actively carrying out the process. In addition, the University has begun a tie up with Infosys under its Campus Connect Programme. At an Industry-Academia Interaction, Dr. S. M. Hazarika of the Department of Mechanical Engineering represented the University at the “Connect with Us” programme held by Tech Mahindra and Mahindra Satyam in Kolkata in October 2010.

The placement exercise for the batch passing out in 2011 has already taken off. While the Indian Army, Asian Paints and the Intelligence Bureau have visited the campus, Sony India, Accenture, Jindal Steel & Power and Cummins India have invited Tezpur University students to pool campus events to be held shortly. Apart from these, Defense Research & Development Organization, Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited, HCL, Reserve Bank of India, Colgate Palmolive, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel Processing and Distribution Limited, Interra IT, SEW Infrastructure and few other organisations have confirmed their participation in this year’s campus placement exercise.

In addition to organizing placement events, garnering and disseminating information about the available op-



portunities in the open job market, the Training & Placement Cell in association with the Equal Opportunity Cell have also organized two pre-placement training programmes and a number of practice sessions for preparing students for the events.

Centre for Disaster Management

During July – December, 2010 the Centre for Disaster Management organized four training courses on different aspects of Disaster Management for government officials, college and school teachers, officials of town planning and municipality boards, members of NGOs and CBOs at Gogamukh, Dhemaji; Borgaon, Sonitpur; Rangapara and Nagaon. Over a hundred participants from different departments and organizations attended these training courses

Equal Opportunity Cell

Tezpur University’s Equal Opportunity Cell facilitates affirmative action to ensure equal opportunity for all within the University. The Cell’s objectives are to create an atmosphere conducive to equal opportunity through awareness generation programmes. It seeks to conduct sensitization programmes, develop skills and increase the employability of students. In order to fulfill its mandate, the Cell conducts programmes all through the year. In the current semester, the Cell organized a number of programmes: a training programme on CV Writing & Personality Development (17, 18 and 23 August 2010) for the students of the students of School of Engineering, a CSIR-UGC NET Coaching programme (15-30 September) for students of the School of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) and Science and Technology, a Workshop on Contem-

porary Gender Issues (17 and 18 September) for students of the School of HSS, and a One-Day Workshop on Human Rights for students of School of HSS & NSS (13 November).

The Equal Opportunity Cell also conducted programmes for target groups outside the University. In collaboration with the Tezpur University’s Centre for Disaster Management, and with the assistance of University’s Chief Medical Officer, Dr. D.K. Goswami and Medical Officer, Dr. J. Sarma Goswami, the Cell organized a sensitization programme on Gender, Health Disaster & Mitigation (18 and 19 August) for the labourers of Borjuli Tea Estate, Rangapara, Sonitpur. In addition, the Cell organized a sensitization programme on tobacco abuse (27 and 28 August) for the benefit of the people of Napaam panyachat.

Tezpur University Entrance Examinations 2011

The Tezpur University Entrance Examinations (TUEE 2011) were held on 27, 28, and 29 May at twenty two centres spread over the North East and other parts of the country. This year three new centres were added: Mumbai, Chennai, and Lucknow. A total of 4663 candidates appeared (2685 girls and 2908 boys). TUEE 2011 was conducted by the committee consisting of Professor Ashok Kumar (Chairperson), Dr Bhupen Deka, (Vice-chairperson), Dr Parasmoni Dutta, Dr Anand Ramteke and Dr Ranjan Das.

New programmes for which entrance exams were held were M Tech in Polymer Science and Technology, PG Diploma in Translation (Hindi), Integrated MA (English), Integrated BA/ B Ed, Integrated B. Sc/B Ed, and Integrated M Tech in Food Engineering and Technology. Guwahati was the largest centre with 1996 candidates while the most sought after programme was the Master of Computer Application (MCA) programme for which a total of 1148 applications were received.

The new academic session will commence from August 1. Course registration and counseling for new students are scheduled to be held on July 29. Two new hostels are been readied to accommodate the new students.

TOEFL

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOFEL) has been successfully launched from its Tezpur University centre on May 14, 2011 with one candidate completing the four-and-half-hour internet-based test successfully. It may be mentioned that clearing TOFEL is one of the pre-requisites for students seeking to pursue higher education in any of the English speaking countries. The launch of TOFEL centre at Tezpur University assumes significance for it provides the test facility to the TOFEL aspirants from the north-eastern region at their doorstep who otherwise would have to travel to Kolkata for the purpose. The next set of dates for the test will be available on http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/TOEFL/tclists/IBT_i.html



Bihu celebrations on campus

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