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USTM Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, MEGHALAYA

Unveiling Excellence

Quarterly Newsletter, October - December 2014

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Editorial

Panchatantra : The story of Education

King Amarashakti was the ruler of Mahilaropya Kingdom. He had 3 sons, namely Bahushakti, Ugrashakti and Anantashakti. The king had a deep worry. All the three princes were fools.

One day the king called all his ministers and courtiers for consultation. One minister suggested appointing Acharya Vishnusharma as the official instructor for the princes. Vishnusharma was known to be a genius in all the shastras and the theory of politics and diplomacy.

Acting on the suggestion, the king requested Acharya Vishnusharma to accept the three princesses as his students and teach them the ways of the world. Vishnusharma, however, realised that it was more difficult than he had thought to teach his new students through conventional means.

Therefore he decided to pass on wisdom to them in the form of stories. This collection, that has attained fame over centuries, is called Panchatantra. Pancha means five and tantra means strategies or principles. After listening and working on these stories, all the three princes became completely educated and became able administrators.

Panchatantra, published in Sanskrit, in India, is perhaps the oldest of the children's stories written over 2, 500 years ago.

From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor

Let me wish one and all a very happy and prosperous New Year 2015 and greetings of the season.

It gives me immense pleasure to present before you the progress of activities of the University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya, for the last quarter of the eventful year 2014, through this news letter. We have just concluded an eventful semester and are in the process of preparing ourselves for the coming even semester.

This quarter has marked important events of the year. USTM has the distinction of getting the support of the Tezpur University, Tezpur and National Institute of Technology, Silchar, for mentoring USTM in different activities and hand hold USTM for gaining academic strength from the experienced and long standing academic bodies. An MOU was signed with both the organizations. *Cont. to page - 2*

USTM Signs MoU with TEZPUR UNIVERSITY

During MoU signing

A MoU has been signed between Tezpur University and USTM on December13, 2014. The MoU was signed by Dr. Amarjyoti Choudhury, Pro Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University and Dr. P. G. Rao, Vice Chancellor of University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya in presence of Prof. Mihir Kanti Choudhury, Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University; Mr Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM; Dr. L. Boral, Controller of Examination; Dr. Biren Das, Registrar; Prof. M. Bhuyan; Prof. K. K. Baruah; Prof. C. L. Mahanta, Deans of SoE, SoS and R&D respectively of Tezpur University along with Dr. Pro VC of USTM and other high officials of both USTM and Tezpur University.

The MoU has been signed with the mission to create technical and professional manpower and knowledge base in the region conducive for attracting industries from across the country for investment and employment generation so as to stop the exodus of North East students to outside the region for higher education and job opportunities. Both USTM and Tezpur University will exchange research information and experienced researchers between them and will promote research in science and technology. The Institutions will reciprocally facilitate Science based innovation and fact findings resulting into business development activities.

USTM Signs MoU with NIT SILCHAR

A MOU was signed between National Institute of Technology, Silchar (NITS) and the University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya (USTM), on November 29, 2014. The MOU was signed by Prof. N. V. Deshpande, Director for NIT Silchar and Shri. Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya in the presence of Directors and representatives of various NITs of the North Eastern region and high officials of CSIR and USTM.

The collaboration provides that NITS will guide USTM in academic promotion, research, infrastructure and placement and higher education to stop the exodus of North East students outside the region for higher education and job opportunities.

Signing of MoU between NIT, Silchar and USTM

NIT Silchar will also guide USTM and RIST in administration and quality faculty recruitment.

Prof. Deshpande who had recently visited the Schools, Institutes and the University established by M. Hoque under the aegis of ERD Foundation, had appreciated the efforts of this young man specially for the education of underprivileged rural students. He further assured all kinds of support from NIT Silchar to the institutes under the foundation.

Award of Excellence to Dr. SAIF SHEIKH, USA

To appreciate the outstanding and visionary contribution towards upliftment of education by way of counseling and financial assistance to the underprivileged students of India, Dr. Saif Sheikh, a Post Doctorate Scientist from Purdue University, Johns Hopkins University, Pittsburg Medical Center,was presented an Award of Excellence by University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya.

Director of Neo Pharm Inc. and Vice President of Jina Pharmaceuticals Inc.; Dr. Saif Sheikh, is still emotionally attached to his home country India. A Masters in Biochemistry from Aligarh Muslim University, Doctorate from IIT, Kanpur and MBA from University of Pittsburg, USA, Dr. Saif Sheikh is the present President of Federation of Aligarh Alumni Associations (FAAA) of USA. He has also made dynamic contribution towards coordination among the AMU Fraternity based in America and other parts of the world.

During his recent visit to India, Dr. Sheikh had visited the campus of USTM and Regional Institute of Science and Technology (RIST) at 9th Mile, Khanapara where he was warmly felicitated by the high officials of the University as well as the faculty members. He had delivered a talk on "Opportunities of Higher Education in USA" and interacted with the students of USTM and RIST. He had encouraged the students to prepare for examinations like GRE, TOEFL etc. to qualify themselves to go to USA. He had assured all kinds of necessary support to the students.

Dr. Saif Sheikh's visit is indeed a bright ray of hope for the students of this region to pursue higher education in top class Universities of the world.

Governor, Meghalaya Interacts with Private Universities

A meeting of the Honourable Governor, Meghalaya with the Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors of Private Universities of Meghalaya was held on November 05, 2014 at Raj Bhavan, Shillong. The members of the meeting included Dr. K. K. Paul, Honourable Governor of Meghalaya along with the representatives of various Private Universities of Meghalaya and the representatives of State Government. Mr. M. Hoque, Chancellor, USTM along with Dr. P.G. Rao, Vice Chancellor, USTM also attended the meeting. The meeting was called to review the status of the private universities of Meghalaya.

The Governor urged the Universities to realize that a University is the highest seat of learning and as such should hold a place of esteem in the eyes of the citizens and the students. The Governor stressed on the need for a proper academic atmosphere in the University campus. In this context he outlined the need for a compact campus with sufficiency of basic infrastructure including library, journals, research and publications, laboratories for science and technical courses, sports and cultural activities etc., which are vital to the making of a good university and lead to a positive branding of the institution. The Governor emphasized that the universities should be able to impart quality education through well reputed and well qualified faculty. He further elaborated on the need for introducing innovative courses in the tertiary sector, so as to suit the young boys and girls of the State. This will ensure that the students of this State do not have to go out to other areas of the country for higher studies. The courses should be such that after completion of the studies, the students should become readily employable. The conduct of examination and evaluation should be done by the Universities in a fair and foolproof manner which is very essential for the credibility of the institution. For higher research, he suggested that the Universities should find affiliation with the National Academic Depository.

The Honourble Governor, in his concluding remarks stated that apart from the highest academic standards, the Universities should also follow the highest ethical norms.

VC, JNU to visit USTM

Honourable Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi and eminent Biotechnologist Prof. Sudhir Kumar Sopory will visit USTM on January 31, 2015. He will address the scholars and faculty of life sciences on "Recent trends of research in different aspects of Biochemistry".

He will also explain the scope and opportunities in the field of research and innovation. Prof. Sopory, who has guided more than forty research scholars under his supervision and have around three hundred publications, had received laurels from across the country and abroad for his research works.

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From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor

The university has celebrated the National Unity day by organizing the pledge and the unity run and National Education day with various programmes.

The students Forum, Student and Faculty welfare schemes have been initiated during this semester.

The Academic Council and Board of management meetings for this session have also been held during this session.

The exams of the Odd semester have been completed and the process of results declaration is in progress. The preparation for the starting of Even semester from 19th Jan 2015 has began.

The Annual event of North East Teachers Congress -2014 and the Junior College Principals Meet is in full swing preparation to start from 3rd Jan and continue till 5th Jan 2015.

This period has also marked the visit of important guests from abroad and India.

I am happy to congratulate the editorial team and advisors of the news letter for their sincere efforts in bringing the news letter in time.

With best wishes

PG Rao

School of Law and Research to be launched

USTM is going to add another feather in its cap by introducing Legal education under "University School of Law and Research" from the session 2015-16. The School will start 3 years LLB and 5 years integrated BA LLB courses. Necessary procedures for affiliation from Bar Council of India (BCI) is under process.

Dr. Anil Kumar Sinha, PhD, LLM, M.Sc., former Director, Directorate of Forencic Science, Assam has already joined as the Dean of School of Law and Research. Dr. Sinha has a wide range of exposure in the field of Law education. He is also a research guide and Visiting Professor of Gauhati University.

DC Kamrup addressed newcomers

Dr. J Balaji, DC Kamrup with Mr. and Miss. USTM

"With proper attitude, approach and little aptitude any one can do miracles in life and achieve great success in their careers", said Dr. J Balaji, District Commissioner of Kamrup and CEO, Biotech Park, while addressing the Freshmen's Social at USTM on November 3, 2014. In his address the Chief Guest Dr. Balaji encouraged the students to be visionary, responsible towards themselves, society, state and the country. He also called upon the students to make best use of their time at the campus. He further said that the North East is not lacking in talents and with proper guidance and hard work the youths of this region can bring all round development to their respective states. He expressed his delight on seeing students from all over the North East gathering at USTM.

The Daylong program began with Lighting of the Lamp by Dr. P. G. Rao Vice Chancellor, USTM. In the course of events of the day each Fresher was ceremoniously welcomed into the USTM family by a team of senior students by presenting a rose. The Cultural Program gave an opportunity to the Freshers to showcase their talents and events like Mr and Miss USTM and Ethnic Fashion Show became very popular.

All the students with 100% attendance were given a special cash prize at the award distribution ceremony where Dr. P. G. Rao and Dr. J. Balaji did the honours.

Students' Forum formed

The full fledged USTM Students' Forum was formed on October 21, 2014 with due process of selection. Mr. Aditya Das, 3rd Semester, M.Sc. Zoology was selected as the Coordinator and Ms. Rajashri Saikia, 3rd Semester, M. Com as the Joint Coordinator. The first meeting of the newly constituted Students' Forum was organized on October 27, 2014. Dr. P. G. Rao, Honourable Vice-Chancellor, USTM; Dr. Alaka Sarma, Dean, Students' Welfare, USTM; Ms. Mehjabeen Rahman, Nodal Officer, Students' Forum, USTM; the Faculty Coordinators, the Office Bearers of the Students' Forum , Class Representatives and Joint Class Representatives of all the semesters from all the departments of all the schools were present in this meeting. In the meeting, Honourable VC congratulated all the members of the newly constituted Students' Forum and highlighted the roles and functions of the Students' Forum. The Oath of Office to all the Office Bearers was administrated by Dr. Alaka Sarma. Under the Students' Forum a Students Grievance Cell is also actively functioning. Apart from solving miscellaneous complains from students counseling is provided to the needy student under this cell. Student members of this forum have been identified based on their academic performance as well extracurricular activities.

National Education Day Celebrated

Dr. Gayatree Goswami delivering a talk

To commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Prof. Quomrul Hoque School of Education, USTM celebrated National Education Day with a day long programme including a seminar entitled "Modern Innovations in Education" on November 11, 2014 at the University premises. Dr Gayatree Goswami and Dr Dulumoni Goswami, Associate Professors, Deptt. of Education, Guahati University graced the occasion as Guests of Honour.

In her address Dr. Gayatree Goswami stressed on strengthening the quality of education in India as education is a critical pillar of human development. She spoke on the instrumental role that teachers can play by imbibing the right knowledge, values and skills necessary for the students to cope with the world of tomorrow and by utilizing education as the ethical filter of the society. Dr. Goswami stated that USTM can play the role of a model University by helping to eradicate the evils such as child labour and minimal access to education by providing scholarships to poor students. She further stressed on the need to restructure the academic syllabi and curriculum of the institutions providing the degree of education to suffice the needs of the present society.

Dr. Dulumoni Goswami delivered the keynote address during the seminar and said that education is the engine of growth for the nation in the path of attaining self sufficiency. She said that the present age can be tagged as the age of explosion of knowledge, information and expectations because of which there is a global change in the scenario of education.

NDTV's Nidhi Kulpati at USTM

Nidhi Kulpati interacting with students

A very well known face of NDTV India Smt. Nidhi Kulpati, Associate Editor and Anchor was offered the Award of Excellence by USTM on December 19, 2015. An excellent anchor of two current shows of NDTV - Mera Bulletin and India 9 Baje, Smt. Kulpati was warmly felicitated at the campus by high officials of the University.

Later she interacted with the students of USTM. The interactive session was very interesting where the students actively participated by raising issues like representation and deprivation of the North East in the national scenario, role of media in eradicating corruption, priority between humanity and duty etc.

Smt. Kulpati was overwhelmed by the response of the students and warm hospitality by the management of the University. She expressed her best wishes for the well being of USTM.

Together Lunch organized by ERD FOUNDATION

The entire ERDF family assembled in an "All in One" platform on the sunny noon of December 2, 2014 atop the hilly terrain of Techno City to enjoy a Lunch together on the occasion of session ending and on the eve of Christmas and New Year. The session of 2014 was a hectic one which has been successfully completed. It was only possible due to the excellent team effort of each and every employee of the foundation. For a formal "thanks giving" gesture, the Chairman of the Foundation and Chancellor of University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya Mr. Mahbubul Hoque organized the delicious Lunch for all the members of ERDF. In a small ceremony before the lunch, five senior faculty members from its group of institutions were felicitated with an attractive gift for their dedicated service and excellent performance. They were Dr. Gautam Sharma, Mr. Probin Phanjom, Ms. Sony Kumari, Ms. Daisy Kalita and Mr. Joynul Abedin.

The higher officials of ERDF, adminstrative staff, almost 300 faculty members, 150 support staff along with 1000 students enjoyed the lunch at the same time which had not happened in the history of ERDF till date. Shri Hoque announced that it will be an annual event and from next year on it will be organized with more vigour.

Official Launch of "Social Cultural and Economic Rights of Assam in North East Indian States"

Assam Youth for Change in association with USTM launched the Women's Campaign in relation to Social Cultural and Economic Rights of Assam in North East Indian States on November 09, 2014. The Program was inaugurated by Ms. Deborah C. Marak, Honourable Minister, Social Welfare, Govt. of Meghalaya. A Panel Discussion on the topic was also organized which was attended by Ms. Rumi Nath, MLA, Assam; Ms. Meera Borthakur, Political Activist; Ms. Geetanjali Bhattacharjee, Rights Activist; Ms. Shreemoyee Raina Sharma, Child Life Specialist and a host of other dignitaries. The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Alaka Sarma Dean, Students' Welfare, USTM. A Case Study on "The Actual Facts of Women Discrimination- Poverty, Education, Health & Empowerment" was presented on the occasion by Dr. Parbin Sultana, Faculty, USTM.

Swach Bharat Mission

The NSS Cell along with the Department of Sociology and the Department of Social Work organized a program on the theme - Swach Bharat Mission on October 18, 2014 in 9th Mile, Baridua, an adopted village of NSS Cell, USTM. A Street Play to create awareness regarding Hygiene and Cleanliness was also performed on the occasion.

World Science Week for Peace and Development

A day long program was organized by the NSS Cell in association with School of Biological Sciences in the University premises on November 11, 2014. Around eleven Schools of Assam and Meghalaya participated in Inter-School Extempore Speech and Quiz Competitions organized on the occasion.

National Rededication Day Observed

On the occasion of 30th death anniversary of India's first woman Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on October 31, 2014, USTM observed "National Rededication Day" in Techno City to pay homage to the great lady who had worked dedicatedly to safeguard the national integration of the country.

Students Forum visited the Flood Affected People of Boko

A group of Students from the School of Business Sciences, USTM guided by Dr. Alaka Sarma, Dean, Students' Welfare and Mr. Angsuman Dutta, Astt. Prof., Dept. of Business Administration visited three flood affected villages namely Katkhaty, Dakhilipara and Dirima on October 22, 2014. Apart from distributing the relief material, to the flood affected people of the villages, the students also undertook a Survey on the "Socio-Economic Status and Economic Impact of Flood on the Lives of the People". This report was compiled and submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup.

Study material was especially distributed among the students of the above named flood affected villages.

Observations by joint UGC-AICTE Expert Team about USTM

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

Scholar-Guide Meet

USTM is organizing a "Research Scholars' and Guides' Meet" for the smooth functioning of the research works ongoing in the departments of various schools on January 3, 2015. The intention behind this meet is to give emphasis on the research and development initiatives of USTM and bring all the research scholars, guides and faculties in the same platform to share each other's knowledge and to see the progress of the scholars. The meet will create conducive environment of research and the scholars and the guides can carry on the research work effectively in time and with relevance to society.

Grant-in-Aid by Ministry of Food Processing Industries

Good News for the School of Biological Sciences ! A grant-in-aid of Rupees Seventy Five Lakhs has been sanctioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India as financial assistance under HRD Scheme for creation of Infrastructure facilities for starting B.Sc. Food Science and Technology. This has been conveyed vide Order No. F.NO.5-22/2011-HRD dated 15/10/2014.

Achievements

Dr. K. H. Pou, School of Business Sciences; **Dr. Deepak Kr. Pradhan,** Department of Education; **Dr. Anup Kr. Bordoloi,** Department of Computer Science and Electronics and **Dr. Surajit Nath**, School of Engineering & Technology of USTM were awarded Ph.D degrees from their respective Universities.

Eminent Visitors of 2014 at USTM

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam
Former President of India

Shri J. B. Patnaik
Former Governor, Assam

Prof. M.K.Chaudhury
VC, Tezpur University

Prof. Talat Ahmad
VC, Jamia Millia Islamia

Dr. Mridul Hazarika
VC, Gauhati University

Dr. Dhruba J. Saikia
VC, Cotton College State University

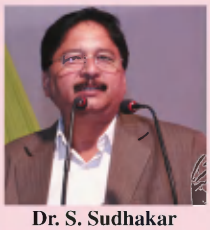
Dr. Gautam Biswas
Director, IIT Guwahati

Ms. L. R. Sangma
Chairperson, MPSC

Mr. L. Roy
Chairman, MPURB

Dr. N. V. Deshpande
Director, NIT Silchar

Dr. K. M. Bujarbarua
VC, Assam Agri. University



Dr. S. Sudhakar
Director, NESAC

Prof. Mushahid Husain
VC, MJP Rohilkhand University

Dr. Ashok Dutta
Member, NEC, Shillong

VC graced TALENT FEST – 2014

Director of NIT, Silchar and VC, USTM interacting with the students

The Vice Chancellor of USTM Dr. P.G. Rao attended an unique extravaganza called the "Talent Fest-2014" which was organized at Central Public School, Patharkandi in the Karimganj district. He was the Guest of Honour in the inaugural session of the 4 days event along with Dr. N. V. Deshpande, Director of NIT, Silchar. The event was organized on the occasion of National Education Day which was commemorated to mark the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of India which was concluded with the celebration of Childrens' Day. More than ten thousand rural students joined the Fest from nearby one hundred schools of the valley. The main attraction of the Fest was the Science Model Exhibition where around one hundred twenty numbers of models on different interesting topics of Science were demonstrated by the students. The best model adjudged was "Conversion of CO2 to O2" demonstrated by the students of Central Public School, Badarpur. A rocket shuttle prepared by the students of the school was also launched during the inaugural ceremony. Dr. Rao was all praise for the organizers of the event which gave the much needed exposure for the school students of greater Barak Valley.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Observed

USTM celebrated National Unity Day for the very first time to commemorate the 139th birth anniversary of Late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on November 1, 2014.

On the occasion a pledge taking ceremony was organized in the earlier half of the day. In the second half Sardar Patel's life and his contributions for the country were broadcast on Campus News and a Unity Run was organized where students and faculty members participated led by the Vice Chancellor, USTM Dr. P. G. Rao. The run was flagged off by Pro. VC, USTM Dr. R. K. Sharma from Annexure 1. The programme ended at Gyan Circle with the National anthem.

M.Sc. Industrial Chemistry to be started

USTM has plan to start M.Sc. Industrial Chemistry from the next academic session as the said course is in huge demand in recent time. The University has already tied up with organizations like CSIR-NEIST and Tezpur University for different research related activities, introducing this course is another outcome of this association.

Head, Dept. of Law, GU at USTM

Prof. (Dr.) R. C. Borpatra Gohain, Head, Department of Law & Dean, Faculty of Law had recently visited the campus of USTM in connection with starting Law courses at the University. Prof. Borpatra Gohain was very much happy to see the beautiful campus of USTM and wished for its bright future.

Rally organized on occasion of World AIDS Day

The Dept of Social Work has organized a rally from Rajdhani Masjid to Super Market on the eve of World AIDS Day held on December 1, 2014. A street play to create awareness about AIDS and HIV was also showcased on the occasion.

Demonstration of Molecular Biology Instrumentation

A Demonstration of Molecular Biology Instrumentation by School of Biological Sciences, USTM was organized for the students of Dept of Botany, Rangia College. Ms. Sony Kumari, Assistant Professor, Dept of Applied Biology demonstrated "DNA isolation from plant" during the program.

Award to Vice Chancellor

The International Institute of Education & Management, New Delhi has presented "Golden Educationist of India Award" to Dr PG Rao, Vice Chancellor of USTM, for his outstanding achievements in the field of Education, on October 25, 2014.

Students for Social Action Awareness and Advocacy

An exhibition on different aspects of pollution was showcased by the 1st Semester students of MA Economics followed by live discussions on Role of Student Community in combating Pollution. The exhibition was held on November 8, 2014.

Warm clothes for Violence Affected Adivasi People

ERDF in association with USTM offered warn clothes for the violence affected Adivasi people. The clothes were distributed under the guidance of Dean, Students' Walfare, USTM Dr. Alaka Desai Sharma.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS AND FIELD WORK

The students of the Department of Earth Science on a field visit to Hindustan Paper Mill, Jagiroad with the faculty members.

The students of Public Administration on a Education tour with the faculty members to IIPA, New Delhi.

The students of Botany on educational tour to Indian Botanical Garden, Kolkata with the faculty members.

The students of Zoology on educational tour to Kolkata with the faculty members.

Visit to Sunderbans, Mandarmani and Kolkata by the students and faculty members of Earth Science Deptt.

Students of PQH School of Education on educational tour to NEHU, Shillong

Group photo of Faculty Members

USTM in the Eyes of Eminent Personalities

"The students of USTM are full of potential and are capable to crack examinations like GRE and TOEFL to qualify themselves to go to USA." - **Dr. Saif Sheikh,** Director, Neo Pharm Inc. ; Vice President, Jina Pharmaceuticals Inc., USA.

"USTM is doing wonders in this part of the country by imparting quality education within the region which may stop exodus of North Eastern students in the long run." - **Smt. Nidhi Kulpati,** Associate Editor and Anchor, NDTV India.

"There are many Universities in the region, but we have chosen only USTM to tie-up seeing their excellent performance within a short span of time." - **Prof. Mihir Kanti Choudhury,** Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University.

"The association of NIT Silchar with an emerging University like USTM will certainly create new avenues for more research and developmental works in the region."- **Prof. N. V. Deshpande,** Director, NIT Silchar.

"I wish all success for USTM. I have no hesitation to say that one day this University will be one of the best Universities of the country."- **Prof. Mushahid Husain,** VC of MJP Rohilkhand University.

"The admirable initiative of the Chancellor of USTM is evident from the very fast pace of progress of this infant University. I have been privileged to see its growth practically right from its beginning at its picturesque location and to witness its rise to higher and higher watermarks of achievements over the past years."- **Shri P. P. Srivastav,** Former Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Member, NEC.

NEW SEMESTER CLASSES

The University has successfully completed its odd semester and the next even semester classes will begin from January 19, 2015.

Upcoming Events

NORTH EAST TEACHERS' CONGRESS-2014

North East Teacher Congress is a platform where teachers and principals from different colleges and Universities of North Eastern India can participate and interact. The North East Teachers' Congress 2014, is being organized on 3rd, 4th and 5th January, 2015. Participation of at least 500 teachers from different colleges is expected in this Congress. Several eminent academicians and academic administrators from all over India will participate in various events of the Congress.

JUNIOR COLLEGE PRINCIPALS MEET-2015

Keeping in view the challenges faced by junior colleges in terms of infrastructure and career counseling for students, RIST and USTM jointly organizes the Junior College Principals Meet (JCPM) to facilitate the principals of Junior Colleges and H.S. Schools of NER to explore, enhance and empower themselves to guide their students. JCPM-2015 will be held on January 5, 2015.

NORTH EAST GRADUATE CONGRESS-2015

After the grand success of NEGC-2014, the organizing committee is all charged up to arrange this great annual event for the year 2015 in the month of February. This event is an unique effort to assemble the young graduates of the North Eastern region in one common platform to exchange their views and ideas with an aim to enhance their all-round development and to bring out capabilities through various life skill sessions where senior officials, renowned academicians and stakeholders from industries participate as speakers including the Governor of Assam and Vice Chancellors of top class Universities of the region.

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