

## From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor



The University of Science and Technology Meghalaya is a research and innovation driven university which is relentlessly working for quality higher education to foster economic and social development of the region in an inclusive manner. University is a platform for enrichment of the students in academic, social and spiritual values. USTM is consistently pursuing this goal.

The University has been engaged in organizing workshops, faculty development programmes, talks by eminent personalities for catering the needs of faculty and students of various disciplines. In order to boost research culture and promote quality research and innovation, the university has felicitated and rewarded cash awards to faculty members from different departments of USTM whose research papers have been published in various International Journals and UGC Care listed Journals. I congratulate the editorial team of the newsletter for coming up with this issue.

**Prof. G. D. Sharma**  
Vice Chancellor

## All India Political Science Conference

The 59th All India Political Science Conference & International Seminar on "Global Rise of Incredible India" began on 26th March at the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya (USTM) with participation of more than 1000 distinguished guests from across the country including 13 acting and former Vice Chancellors of different universities, Professors and scholars of Political Science. Held in the North East India for the first time, this two-day-long mega academic event is jointly organized by the Indian Political Science Association (IPSA) and USTM on 26th and 27th of March.

The inaugural session of the Conference began with welcome address by Prof. Gauri Dutta Sharma, VC, USTM. Then Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, VC, Mahatma Gandhi Central University and General



Secretary and Treasurer IPSA expressed his gratitude towards USTM family and Chancellor Mahbubul Hoque for hosting the conference and presented the IPSA report. Prof. Jayant K. Mohapatra, Former VC, Berhampur University and Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanata, Academic Advisor, Government of Assam delivered their speeches as Guest of Honour.

Addressing the scholarly gathering, Prof. Santishree Pandit, President of IPSA and VC, JNU, New Delhi said that educational institutions require private participation like that of USTM. "In India the concept of unity is the concept of diversity, the celebration of diversity is our cultural strength not our weakness. The rise of incredible India lies in ideas, in narratives of civilizations, the uniqueness of India as a civilization is assimilation", she added. The inaugural function of this prestigious conference was also addressed by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM; Prof. R. Thandavan, former President IPSA and former VC, University of Madras. After the announcement of various IPSA National Awards, Dr. M. Nazeer Hussain, the Local Organizing Secretary and HOD of Political Science, USTM delivered the vote of thanks. The Conclave also comprises a Book Exhibition, Prof. M S Chaturvedi Memorial Lecture, Plenary on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, Symposium on Amrit Mahotsava of Indian Independence as well as a Cultural Programme by USTM students showcasing the ethnic diversity of the north-eastern region.





The various parallel technical sessions in the seminar include: 'Democratic Governance in India' chaired by Prof. Nisar-ul-Haque, Department of Political Science, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; 'Global Rise of India' chaired by Prof. Jitendra Narayan, Dean, L.N. Mithila University; 'Politics of Indian Diaspora' chaired by Prof. Rabindra K. Satpathy, former Director, ICSSR Regional Centre, NEHU; 'Current Debates in Indian Politics' chaired by Prof. Bishnu Charan Choudhary, former Head, Department of Political Science, Berhampur University; 'Post-Covid World Politics' chaired by Prof. Manas Chakraborty, Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, North Bengal University; 'Regional Aspiration in National Politics' chaired by Prof. Saroj J. Verma, former Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Jayaprakash University; 'Contemporary Political Economy' chaired by Prof. Raj Kumar Kothari, Head, Department of Political Science, Diamond Harbour Women's University, West Bengal; 'Amrit Mahotsav of Indian Independence' chaired by Prof. Geetanjali Das, Dean, Fakir Mohan University, Odisha; 'Challenges of Global terrorism' chaired by Prof. P. Madurai Veeran, former Head, Anna Centre for Public Affairs, University of Madras; 'Indian Idea of Political Thinking' chaired by Prof. Rekha Saxena, University of Delhi; 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' chaired by Prof. R.S. Yadav, Kurukshetra University; 'Political Dynamics of North East India' chaired by Prof. Munmun Majumdar, Department of Political Science, NEHU.

Some of the distinguished participants of the Conference include, Prof. Sushma Yadav, former VC, Bhagat Phool Singh Women's University; Prof. K. Jayaprasad, former Pro VC, Central University of Kerala, Prof. G. Gopal Reddy, Pro VC, Mahatma Gandhi Central University; Prof. ADN Vajpayee, VC, Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur; Professor J.K. Mishra, Behrampur University; Prof. Manoj Dixit, Vice President IPSA and former VC, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya; Dr. Bhawna Sharma, Himachal Pradesh University; Prof. Sanjay Bharadwaj, Centre for South Asian Studies, JNU, New Delhi; Prof. Ram Singh Arah, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur; Prof. Rajneesh Kumar Shukla, VC, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha; Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Head, Department of Political Science, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Anantapur; Prof. Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi, VC, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University; Prof. Mohan S. Kashikar, RTM Nagpur University; Sri J. Nanda Kumar, National Convenor, Prajna Pravah, New Delhi; Prof. G. Gopal Reddy, Pro VC, Mahatma Gandhi Central University; Prof. Koushal Kishor Mishra, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Banaras Hindu University; Prof. D. Ravinder, VC, Osmania University, Hyderabad; Prof. Kiran Hazarika, Member, University Grants Commission, Dibrugarh University; Prof. Jayant K. Sarmah, Assam University Silchar.



## Two-day National Seminar on Rural Economy by USTM & NABARD



A two-day national seminar on “Sustainable Agri Business Opportunities & Management Practices towards Developing the Rural Economy” began from 4th March at the NKC Auditorium of the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya. The seminar was organized by the Department of Business Administration, USTM in collaboration with NABARD.

The inaugural session of the seminar was addressed by Prof. R. M. Pant, Vice Chancellor, Assam University as guest of honor and key-note speaker, Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, USTM, Prof. Rinalini Pathak Kakoty, Head of the Department of Business Administration, Gauhati University, Prof. Amit Kumar Singh, Department of Rural Management, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow and Ms N Guite, General Manager, NABARD, Shillong. The inaugural session ended with vote of thanks delivered by Dr Rashmi Baruah, Head, Department of Business Administration, USTM.

There were five sessions in the seminar which were chaired by Prof. Amit Kumar Singh from Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Dr. Tridib R Sarma from Tezpur University, Prof. Phanindra Goyari, School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, Subhas Bhattacharjee, Head-NE Region, Oil Palm and Prof. P. Paramashivaiah, Dept. of Studies & Research in Commerce, Tumkur University.

The participants in the seminar include: Academicians, Research Scholar, Industry Practitioners and students. More than 200 participants have registered for the seminar. The sub-themes of the seminar are: Agri-business and food processing innovative, Marketing, Finance, Human Resource Management, Supply Chain Management, Science and Technology in Business and Agriculture, Micro Enterprise, Sustainable Agro Business Practices, etc. Selected papers will be considered for publication in reputed International and National Journals and Book Chapters with ISBN.

## Sophisticated Instruments driving Research to a new Milestone: Dr. Arnab Goon



The Advanced Research Centre (ARC), University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya (USTM) hosted a two-day hands-on training programme on “Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometer and Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer” on 4th and 5th March, 2022. The training was done by Dr. Arnab Goon, Application Scientist, Thermo Fisher Scientific India Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai.

Professor G.D. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, USTM, addressed the participants and stressed on the need for such training and workshops towards quality research for the progress and development for the future. The inaugural session was addressed by Dr. A H Barbhuiya, Academic Registrar, USTM, with a welcome speech.



Dr. Arnab Goon, Application Scientist, Thermo Fisher Scientific India Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai, gave a thorough insight to Gas Chromatography and Mass Spectrometer in a presentation and also demonstrated all the parts of the GC-MS system during the hand-on session. He had also given an extensive training on data input, methodology, report analysis and interpretation of GC-MS and AAS instruments.

The highlights of the programme includes, Fundamentals of Chromatography and Mass Spectroscopy, GCMS/ AAS Theory & Analysis, GC-MS/ AAS Practical Hands-on Training, GCMS modes of separation, GCMS/ AAS Calibration, GCMS/ AAS Troubleshooting. The programme came to a close with a vote of thanks by Dr. Monalisa D. Bora, Joint Director, Research Division, USTM. The training had brought light to various applications of sophisticated instruments in fields of not only Biology and Chemistry, but Science as a whole.



## **“Move to set up a Women’s University is Appreciable: Education Minister Dr Ranoj Pegu”**

The Assam Education Minister Dr Ranoj Pegu today said that community involvement is necessary to promote education in a particular area and the proposal by ERD Foundation Guwahati to set up a women’s university at Barak Valley is appreciable. Dr Pegu was at Badarpur on 7th March to inaugurate the Academic Block-C of Central Public School Badarpur and lay the foundation of Academic Block-B of KNB Women’s College. After the inauguration, Dr Pegu along with Prof. (Dr.) Nani Gopal Mahanta, Advisor, Education Department, Government of Assam addressed a session on “School Education in the Light of New Education Policy-2020”. The programme was organized by ERD Foundation Guwahati and KNB Women’s College Badarpur and was supported by USTM, RIST, Vision50 Academy, ATCP and CPSP. It has been participated by educationists, experts and distinguished personalities from the State.



Addressing a large gathering, Dr Ranoj Pagu emphasized on women’s education and said that promotion and spread of education in a particular area needs the participation of community members. Appreciating the consistent effort made by ERD Foundation in promoting quality education in different parts of the region though its educational institutions in Assam and Meghalaya, the Education Minister said that ERDF’s move to establish a women’s university is highly appreciable. The implementation of the new education policy will usher in reforms in the education sector of the State, he added.

Stressing upon the importance of women’s education, Dr. Nani Gopal Mahanta said that the Government is taking several initiatives to enhance women’s education. The aim of the New Education Policy, he said, is to provide flexibility to the learners to choose learning and their aim as per their talent. He further added that the policy “emphasizes the implementation of vocational and multidisciplinary education and the application of theoretical knowledge in practical life.” Talking about the present scenario of education, Dr Mahanta stressed the involvement of the parents, teachers and students for the overall development of the students.

Earlier, welcoming the participants, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM and Chairman of ERD Foundation Guwahati said, “Institution building for women’s higher education is the need of the hour.” The NEP outlines the steps that the Government has to take, one of which is gender balance in admission to Higher Educational Institutions. This will allow for inclusivity at a higher educational level with lesser discrimination, he added.

## **ICICI Bank launches Electronic Branch at USTM Campus**

An Electronic Branch of the ICICI Bank has been launched on 9th March at the campus of the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya (USTM) to facilitate various banking requirements of the students and staff of the university. The branch was inaugurated by Prof G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM and Mr Saumar Sonowal, Regional Head, ICICI Bank Ltd. in the presence of Mr Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM, Mr Deepak Singh, Regional Head, Sales, ICICI Bank, Dr B.K. Das, Director Administration, USTM, Dr R. K. Sharma, Advisor, USTM and others.



Expressing his best wishes to USTM, Mr Sonowal agreed that the Bank is willing to adopt one of the departments of USTM in supporting various co-curricular and outreach activities. “This is a small beginning, we will try to facilitate the students and the academic fraternity with our best possible ways”, he added. Thanking USTM, Deepak Singh from ICICI Bank said that the Branch at USTM will have ICICI employees and a back office staff will be there to handle day to day requirements of the customers.

Speaking on the occasion, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM said that, “We want to have a valued relationship with ICICI Bank. The branch at our campus will be helpful for students.” The Bank’s willingness to come forward to adopt a department of USTM for its outreach activities is really appreciable, he added.



## International Women's Day celebrated by various Departments

The International Women's Day-2022 has been celebrated on 8th March by different departments of USTM at Jorbil village, USTM campus as well as at the Sijubari area of Guwahati city.

The Social Work Department of USTM celebrated International Women's Day by organizing awareness talk on women empowerment, wage discrimination at work place and other legal systems at Sijubari LP School in Guwahati. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Ms Joyshree Khersa, SP, F & E Guwahati city. This year's theme is "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow". The event took place in a slum area amongst the women of minority community to sensitize them on legal rights with special reference to domestic violence. In order to conduct the programme smoothly, the department distributed leaflets 2 weeks before the program amongst the community people. The student social workers mobilized the community people a week before the program. In her speech, the chief guest said that women can receive assistance and support from police department whenever required with proper proceedings.



A Women Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp was arranged for the people of upper Jorbill Village, Meghalaya, by the Department of Applied Biology, USTM. The women were made aware regarding entrepreneurship along with demonstration of different techniques which would help them to process their raw materials into final products and also made them aware of the benefits they will be getting from that. Their names and contact numbers were collected to contact them and train them in a way in order to make them economically strong and independent.

In another programme, USTM's Sociology Department celebrated International Women's Day by felicitating female working staff of the university. Prof. G. D. Sharma, Hon'ble VC, USTM along with Dr R K Sharma, Prof B. I. Laskar, Dr Thagi Ram Gogoi and faculty members of the department were present on the occasion.

The Department of Botany celebrated the day by organizing Yoga and women health awareness program at Umduba in collaboration with yoga centre USTM. They have discussed about how to improve lifestyle through yoga, especially women's health. Instructions on some basic yoga stretching which are common and anybody can do along with deep breathing for controlling anger, emotions and anxiety were demonstrated.

## Bibliometrics Reward & Recognition Programme



17 faculty members of USTM were felicitated in the felicitation ceremony for researchers of the month at NKC Auditorium. The faculty members belonging to various departments published research papers in UGC care listed journals and chapters in books. They were honoured with certificates and cash awards. The ceremony took place in the presence of Hon'ble Chancellor M Hoque.



Maeeshat Media Pvt. Ltd, India's first media outlet dedicated to covering economic activities of minority communities, has given away its 11th edition of business awards at the Golmez Edupreneur Conference held in association with the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) on 10th March 2022. Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM and P. A. Inamdar, Founder President, Azam Campus, Pune was conferred with Edu Doctor Award-2022 while Dr Abdul Qadeer, Founder Chairman, Shaheen Group, Karnataka was conferred with the Edupreneur of the Year Award. The keynote address of the conference was delivered by Dr Frank F Islam, Chairman and CEO of FI investment group, USA.

## Maeeshat Edupreneur Awards Conferred at USTM



The conference has been attended by economic experts, business leaders, entrepreneurs, social workers, and professionals from across India.

Addressing the gathering of entrepreneurs, P. A. Inamdar urged, "Let us not talk about anything negative. We have to talk how much we have achieved and how far we have to achieve for development." Emphasizing on imparting spoken English in all vernacular medium schools, he said that technology can create a much better environment and contribute to educational progress. He suggested all to think about how to empower neighbourhood small institutions.

Delivering the keynote address in the inaugural session, Dr Frank F Islam emphasized on the need for edupreneurship in India. "Much has been done for the development of education among the minorities in India, and unfortunately much remains to be done", he said.

Welcoming the guests, Mahbubul Hoque said that through institution building one can change the environment of a particular place and bring progress to the people of the area. He thanked all the participants for coming over to the North East and for their desire to contribute for the development of the people through promotion of education. "We as Indians have to think for development of every citizen, not simply of the minorities", he added. Speaking on the occasion, Prof G. D. Sharma, VC, USTM mentioned about National Education Policy-2020 and said that USTM is preparing 82 teachers for technology oriented courses so that the university becomes a global university through technology. "We have to establish peace in the North East region through the means of education", he added.

A magazine of Maeeshat Media was released on the occasion by M. Nurul Islam, Founder General Secretary, Al Ameen Mission, Kolkata and other dignitaries. Some of the distinguished participants in the conference include: Waqar Naqvi, Former CEO, Taurus Asset Management Company, Mumbai; Danish Reyaz, Managing Editor, Maeeshat Media; Munir uz Zaman Deshmukh, Pearls Academy, Aurangabad; Rashid Nayyar; M Mohammed Tahir Madani, M Burhanuddin Qasmi, Director, MMERC, Mumbai; Moulana Mohammad Ilyas Nadvi, GS, AHAN Islamic Academy; Moulana Mutiur Rahman Madni, Founder, Imam Bukhari University, Kishanganj; M Azizurrahman, Founder, TCIS, Malda, Dr Nazibur Rahman, Principal, Kaliachak College, Malda; M Wajihuddin, Assistant Editor, Times of India, Mumbai; Zaya Ahmed from Delhi; Izhar Khan and Affan Ahmed Kamil from Mumbai.





## GC-CRPF Band Display at USTM celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav



The Group Centre, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Guwahati displayed their Band by playing patriotic songs on the occasion of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav: Desh ke Hifazat – Desh ki Suraksha" on 11th March at the Central Auditorium of the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM). Shri Rakesh Sethi, Deputy Inspector General, GC CRPF Guwahati; Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, USTM; Dr Balendra K Das, Director Administration and Dr R. K. Sharma, Advisor to USTM addressed the gathering at USTM auditorium. The programme was jointly organized by CRPF and USTM.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rakesh Sethi, DIG, GC CRPF gave a highlight of the history of CRPF. He said that CRPF is the peace keeper of the nation covering the length and breadth of India. "Our motto is service and loyalty", he added. Prof GD Sharma, VC, USTM said that USTM is happy to be a part of the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mohotsav.

A 15-member Band of CRPF enthralled the audience by playing various patriotic songs. The other participants who were present on the occasion and witnessed the event include, Shri Ram Aotar Singh, Commandant, Shri Amit Kumar and Sudhakar Kumar, Deputy Commandants, Shri Amit Kishor, Asstt. Comandant, family members of the Force, USTM officers and faculty members.

It must be mentioned that on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence various programs have been kick started by the Ministry of Home affairs under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.



## Talk on 'Lessons from the Greats: Einstein and Hawking' at Einking 2022

The Department of Physics USTM has organized a talk on "Lessons from the Greats: Einstein and Hawking" to celebrate EIN-KING 2022 – an event observing the birth anniversary of Albert Einstein and death anniversary of Stephen Hawking on 14th March. The talk was delivered by Dr. Deepshikha Shukla, Dean, College of Science, Math and Nursing, Associate Professor of Physics, Rockford University, USA. The event was held in blended mode at the APJ Abdul Kalam Block, USTM.

The programme began with welcome address by Dr. Sanchita Roy, HoD of the Department of Physics. She shared her views by emphasizing on the importance of these great scientists and their contribution to the society. This was followed by a speech from Prof. G.D. Sharma, honourable Vice-chancellor of USTM. He said that researchers are still trying to understand about the thought process of Einstein and Hawking. Dr. R.K. Sharma, principal advisor also talked about the contribution of Einstein and Hawking in our day to day life. Dr. MayuriDevee, Asst. Prof. of the department of Physics introduced the invited speaker Dr. DeepshikhaShukla to the audience.



The speaker Dr. Deepshikha Shukla presented her talk on the topic 'Lessons from the Greats: Einstein and Hawking'. The talk was unconventional but splendid. She talked about the early career of Einstein and Hawking and motivated the students to think and do something new. She appreciated the individual being an average, as many great scientists were the same in their early life. The talk was attended by the students and faculty members of the university in blended mode.

The event of EIK-KING 2022 was coordinated and moderated by Ms. Devashree Borgohain and the concluding remarks were presented by Dr. SudinGanguli. The event will be observed every year on 14th March, USTM.



## International Mathematics Day-2022 observed

International Mathematics Day (Pi-Day) has been observed by the Department of Mathematics, USTM on 14th March by organizing a talk on "International Mathematics Day, Pi and Ramanujan's Mathematics". The talk was delivered by Prof. Nayandeep Deka Baruah, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Tezpur University.

The programme started with introduction of the guest speakers by Dr. Ranjan Kalita followed by welcome address by Dr. Gitumani Sarma. Prof. G. D. Sharma, Honorable VC, USTM felicitated the guest and delivered few words about the program.

Delivering the talk, Prof. Nayandeep Deka Baruah explained about Ramanujan and his contributions towards Mathematics especially on Pi and Partition of numbers. A competition (Memory Test for pi value) was also organized among the students and the winner of the competition is Sabina Byhngangia, who recited 155 digits of pi value.

Prof. Nayandeep Deka Baruah said, "Ramanujan's contribution towards the field of Mathematics was of incalculable value. From ancient time to till date pi is most significant number in the field of Mathematics." Earlier, the welcome address was delivered by Dr. Gitumani Sarma while the vote of thanks was offered by Dr. Anupam Dutta.



## World Consumer Rights Day Celebrated



Like every year, the World Consumer Rights Day has been celebrated on 15th March by the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya. In order to mark the occasion, the Department of Business Administration, USTM, organized an awareness program to sensitize the rural population about consumer rights at Umphere Village, RiBhoi, Meghalaya. As part of social initiative, the University has adopted villages to empower and uplift the society. Therefore, the students and faculty members of the Department of Business Administration performed a street play, to make consumers aware of their rights. The students also showcased play-cards on the occasion appealing consumers to be more conscious of their own rights. Altogether the event was successful to convey the theme of creating awareness of consumer rights among the mass.

## Awareness Programme on Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program

On 29th March, an Awareness Programme on Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP) was conducted by KVIC, Shillong & Department of Rural Development, USTM to mobilise youths towards entrepreneurship and to guide them for a flagship Govt scheme like PMEGP which gives subsidy of 35% with 90% funding for start up. Personnel from MSME & KVIC & KVIB, Shillong presented and interacted with students of USTM.





## Two-day International Seminar on Rural Technology, Innovation & IPR ends successfully



With the objective to offer a platform for the academicians, administrators and researchers to share the opinions and discuss on the issues of rural innovation, technology and Intellectual Property Right (IPR) and to suggest the outcomes of the discussions to the policymakers in the global platform, the Department of Rural Development, USTM in collaboration with School of Agro and Rural Technology, IIT Guwahati organized a two-day International Seminar on "Rural Technology, Innovation & IPR: The Way Ahead" which was held successfully on 14th and 15th March. The seminar is supported by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of MSME, Government of India while the knowledge partners of the seminar are Northeast Training Research and Advocacy Foundation, Global Forum for Sustainable Rural Development and Council for Social & Digital development.

The Keynote address in the inaugural session of the seminar was delivered by Prof. Sir Bashiru Aremu, UNESCO Laureate, Vice-Chancellor, Crown University Intl. Chartered Inc. and world acclaimed distinguished Prof. Emeritus, Argentina in a virtual mode. He thanked USTM for inviting him and said that the world can be made a better place through information and communication technology. During his lecture, Prof. Ameru also extended his invitation to USTM's department of Rural Development to join hands with his university for collaborative work. Earlier, welcoming the guests and all the participants Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM said that intellectual property right for research is very relevant on both national and international lobby. Dr. S. Singh from School of Argo & Rural Technology IIT, Guwahati was of the opinion that if rural areas of the country are not developed, India's survival as a nation will be at stake. "We are the food basket of the world, we have to make technology tool for supporting our farmers", he added. Prof DN Dutta, Retd. Dean, College of Agriculture, AAU stated that medical and aromatic plants play a very important role in Indian economy. Dr Amit Choudhury, Dean, School of Business Science, USTM explained IPR by giving common examples and said that it is important whenever any good creation is concerned. NE is a grand repository of traditional wisdom that really needs to be documented, he added. The inaugural session concluded with vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Papiya Dutta, Head, Dept. of Rural Development, USTM.

The various sessions in the international seminar include: 'Rural Innovation and Technology' chaired by Prof. Sanjukta Patra, School of Argo and Rural Technology, IITG; 'Rural Innovation to Build sustainable Agri and allied Technology' chaired by Prof. Ramesh Arora; 'Rural Innovation to promote Medicinal and Aromatic Crop' chaired by Prof DN Dutta; 'Documentation Rural Innovation through IPR' chaired by Prof. Pritam Dev, IPR Chair Professor, Tezpur University; 'Rural Innovation, Adoption and Diffusion Chairperson' chaired by Dr. Rupak Goswami, Associate Professor, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, WB; 'Rural Innovation systems, policies and governance' chaired by Dr. Hilaria Soundari, The Gandhi Gram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu; 'Rural Innovation and Technology to expedite entrepreneurship' chaired by Prof. Suresh Bhagavatula, Centre for Entrepreneurship, IIM Bangalore, Karnataka; 'Rural Innovation to achieve sustainable Development Goals' chaired by Dr. Jayanta Choudhury, Tripura University.



## Teachers must adopt application-oriented approach for interest of students: Dr Pant



With the vision of empowering the population with education, a Teachers' Conclave was held in Patharkandi, Karimganj, on 17th March 2022 with the theme "School Education in the Light of NEP-2020" which has been participated by a large number of teachers and stakeholders and addressed by renowned academicians and administrators. The Conclave was organised by Central Public School Patharkandi in association with the University of Science & Technology

Meghalaya with the support of ERD Foundation Guwahati and Vision50 Academy. The conclave was addressed by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM and Chairman ERDF; Dr R. M. Pant, Vice Chancellor, Assam University Silchar; K. K. Choudhury, Director and Regional Officer, CBSE Guwahati; Mridul Yadav, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Karimganj; Dr Surender S. Ghonkrota, IAS (retd.), Chairman, State Food Commission, Himachal Pradesh apart from others.

Welcoming the participants of the Teachers' Conclave, Mahbubul Hoque said, "Teachers are the architects of society, builders of the nation. Our mission is to empower society through education. When there is an emerging issue we always discuss and take advice from experts. We must have quality education and we have commitment for that".

Speaking as the Chief Guest, Dr R. M. Pant said that the New Education Policy is a big shift from the past. "If we are empowering people with education, we are empowering people in real terms. If we do not change with time, we will become obsolete. We have to customize our education policy to keep pace with the fast change of time. NEP is basically trying to empower people". Education is not just about information, it is about transformation of character, he added.

Delivering the keynote address, educationist K K Choudhury stated that the National Education Policy is the need of the time. "When the education policy of 1986 came it was made fit for those times. At a time when technology is transforming human life, we have to teach our children to be critical thinkers." The new education policy says that children must be taught in a way that brings joy to their mind. Higher education is also linked with school education. The responsibility lies on the teachers, the difference makers for the future generation, he added.

Addressing the gathering, Mridul Yadav said that the role of a teacher is the centre point, focus in the education system in India. Various debates regarding school education and how to improve the parameters of education have taken place as the government aims to achieve 100 per cent gross enrolment by 2030. The biggest focus is, learning has to be engaging, he added.

## MoU Signed



MoU Signing between #USTM & #SeedChest, New Delhi

## Library Workshop



A day long national level workshop on Preservation and Conservation of Library Materials was organized by Department of Library & Information Sc. USTM at NKC Auditorium on 24th March.



## World Water Day observed

On the occasion of 'World Water Day-2022', department of Earth Science, USTM organized an awareness programme in the Saiden Secondary and Saiden Upper Primary School on 22nd March.

Going with the theme of this year 'Ground Water, making the invisible visible', a number of games related to water conservation and water recharge were held among the school children. Faculty members of the department also delivered talks on awareness about proper use of water in everyday life. After the games and talks, prizes were distributed among the winning students. The prizes were sponsored by ICICI Bank, Punjabari Branch.

The event was successfully concluded by a Plantation Drive in the school campus by the Faculty members and students of the department as well as the Saiden School authority and their students. Four Teachers and one hundred and fifty students from Saiden schools participated in the event and made it a success.

Water Day-2022 was also observed by the department of Social work of USTM in association with Indian Federation of United Nations Association at NKC Auditorium.



## USTM is a model to be replicated: Education Minister Dr Ranoj Pegu



With participation of a galaxy of Vice Chancellors, educationists, academicians and Political Science professors from across India, the 59th All India Political Science Conference & International Seminar on "Global Rise of Incredible India" has come to an end on 27th March at the University of Science & Technology Meghalaya (USTM).

Dr Ranoj Pegu, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Assam graced the Valedictory session of the conference today as the Chief Guest. Addressing the huge gathering, Dr Pegu said, "In India we don't want to be super power, we want to be viswaguru in terms of knowledge, philosophy and norms-building. The National Education Policy-2020 is talking about a knowledge based vibrant society, and I hope IPSA too will contribute towards this". USTM is an institutional model to learn from, a model to be replicated, he added.

Delivering his speech as Guest of Honour, Prof. D. Ravinder, Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad (Telangana) said that one nation doesn't stand for one education policy. There should be dissemination of knowledge in school education and the Central government should come up with a common syllabus for up to class 12.

Earlier, welcoming everyone present, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM extended his gratitude to the delegates and said that any mega event is a learning chapter for USTM students. "We want to make ustm a global destination", he added. This two-day-long mega academic event has been held for the first time in the North East India which is jointly organized by the Indian Political Science Association (IPSA) and USTM.

Prof. Santishree Pandit, President of IPSA and Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi offered the Presidential Remarks of the Conference. Special address in the valedictory session was made by Prof. Gauri Dutta Sharma, Vice Chancellor, USTM. Prof. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Central University and General Secretary and Treasurer IPSA delivered the vote of thanks.

Giving feedback, the participants were highly appreciative of the hospitality of USTM and the individual attention by volunteers to each of the 800 participants. The two-day-long mega academic event of IPSA has been held in the North East India for the first time.



## Four-day-long Residential Training Programme under JJM conducted



The Key Resource Centre (KRC) at the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya for the implementation of Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission organized a residential training programme for the members of Village Water and Sanitation Committees of South West Khasi hills from 26th to 30th March at the Nativity Hall Meghalaya, Mawkyrwat, South West Khasi Hills, Meghalaya.

The programme was inaugurated by PHED Minister of Meghalaya Shri Renikton Lyngdoh Tongkhar on 26th of March. He made the inaugural address to the trainees and highlighted the issues related to source sustainability, water conservation and proper utilization of JJM assets by the beneficiaries. Ms C Kharkongor, Deputy Commissioner of South West Khasi Hills also attended the inaugural programme along with other PHED officials.

Mr R. Nongdhar, Executive Engineer, PHE, South West Khasi Hills addressed the valedictory session of the training programme today and distributed the training completion Certificates to all the 60 participants. Engineer P. P. Sharma, PHE Department, Assam and Mr Rituparna Barkataky, MIS Expert, PHE Assam were also present on the occasion. Vote of thanks in the valedictory was offered by Mr Onesssimos Shangdiar., Assistant Professor, department of Social Work, USTM.

The training was imparted by Dr. Nibedita Paul, Project Director, KRC, Shri Rituparna Barkataki MIS Expert, Shri Partha Pratim Sarma, Technical Expert and Onesssimos Shangdiar, Training Co-Ordinator. 60 personnel from various Village Water and Sanitation Committees of South West Khasi hills attended the sessions.

USTM is one of the implementing agencies of the Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission having the key resource centre (KRC) is at the University campus. It could be mentioned that the KRC of USTM is implementing the project in parts of Meghalaya and Assam state. National Jal Jeevan Mission under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

## Seminar on Biodiversity



Two-day-long seminar on "Conservation of Biodiversity, Microbial Diversity with potential for application in Agriculture and Sericulture in North East India" begins from 25th March at NKC Auditorium USTM. The seminar has been organized by the Department of Botany

## Talk on "Virtual Reality"

Topics covered	Resource Person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why Virtual Reality (VR)</li> <li>Types and Technologies of VR</li> <li>Windows on World (WoW) Also called Desktop VR</li> <li>Telepresence</li> <li>Mixed Reality (Augmented Reality)</li> <li>Distributed VR</li> <li>Technologies of VR-Hardware</li> <li>Head Mounted Display (HMD)</li> <li>Binocular Omni-Oriented Monitor (BOOM)</li> <li>Cave Automatic Virtual Environment (CAVE)</li> <li>Data Glove</li> <li>Application of VR</li> <li>Challenges in VR</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tahir Tashid Hakeem, IT Trainer</b> King Saud University, Saudi Arabia</p>  <p>جامعة الملك سعود King Saud University</p>
	<p><b>Date: 24-03-2022</b> <b>Time: 1:00PM (IST)</b> <b>Participation: Free of cost.</b> <b>Eligibility: All interested students can join and attend</b></p>
<p>Join Zoom Link :</p> <p><a href="https://room.usj/2000987713?pwd=6GNaFRWk1aWVldmF7ZU11NS05Q0U0709">https://room.usj/2000987713?pwd=6GNaFRWk1aWVldmF7ZU11NS05Q0U0709</a> (or) Zoom ID: 990 0998 7713 Passcode: 1234</p> <p><b>Chief Patron</b> Shri Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor, USTM and Chairman, ERDF</p> <p><b>Patron</b> Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, USTM</p> <p><b>Coordinator</b> Dr. Velumani P.S. - Professor- CS&amp;E</p> <p><b>Co-coordinator</b> Dr. Kanak Chandra Bora- Associate Professor – CS&amp;E Phone : 8721907694</p>	 

An International level talk was organized by department of Computer Science & Electronics, University of Science & Technology, Meghalaya, on the topic "Virtual Reality" on 24th March. Mr Tahir Tashid Hakeem, IT Trainer from King Saud University, Saudi Arabia delivered the talk. Around 40 students have participated in the talk.



## USTM Social Work Excellence Award-2022 conferred on Padma Awardees Theilin Phanbuh & Lakhimi Baruah

With the theme “Co-building a new Eco-social World: Leaving no one Behind”, the Social Work department of the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya celebrated World Social Work Day on 31st March at the NKC Auditorium of the university. Like every year, this year too USTM Social Work Excellence Awards were conferred on distinguished personalities who have made immense contributions to the society through their untiring work.

Social Work Excellence Award-2022 has been conferred on two Padma awardees—Padma Shri Lakhimi Baruah from Assam and Padma Shri Theilin Phanbuh from Meghalaya. Lakhimi Baruah is the founder and Managing Director, Kanaklata Mahila Urban Cooperative Bank, Jorhat. Theilin Phanbuh is a renowned social worker and former Chairperson, Meghalaya State Commission for Women. The awards were handed over by Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor and Prof G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM.

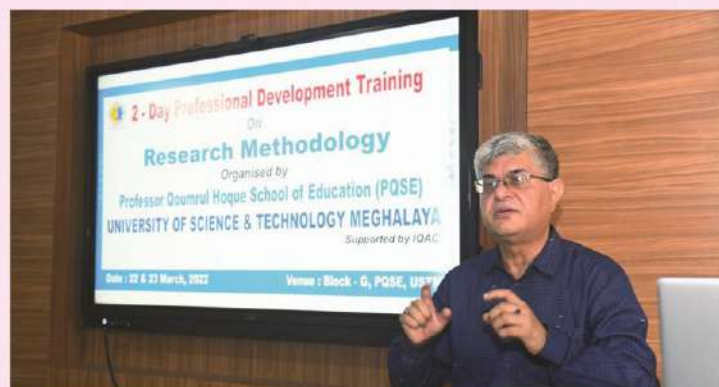
Prof Dhruba Pratim Sharma, Department of Political science, Gauhati University delivered the guest lecture on this year's theme of 'Co-building a new eco-social world: Leaving no one behind'. Stressing on improvement of the eco-system, he said that the imbalances of development are creating problems. “We are making boundless destruction of the bounties of nature. We must develop ourselves without destroying the ecosystem. We are inheritors not only of natural heritage but also of what our forefathers have left behind”, he said.



Receiving the award, Padma Shri Lakhimi Baruah thanked all and said that Kanaklata Mahila Urban Cooperative Bank—the bank which she initiated 30 years back is the first all women run bank in the North East and its customer base is now 45,000, all of them women, mostly from the economically weaker section of the society. All the employees and board of directors of the bank are women. The bank has branches in three districts of Assam. All done with the objective of women empowerment, now the bank has become a model of study and research for students of economics and social sciences from many higher educational institutions from the country and abroad.

In her speech, Padma Shri Theilin Phanbuh expressed her thankfulness towards USTM. She has been working for awareness of women in rural areas and with different organizations for the last 45 years with the sole objective of benefit for the society.

Earlier, welcoming the awardees and guests, Mahbubul Hoque, Chancellor of USTM said that social work day celebration inspires to inculcate values and norms in our lives. The vote of thanks was offered by Monalisa Rabha, Assistant Prof of the Department of Social Work, USTM.



Two-Day Professional Development Training on Research Methodology organised by PQSHE, USTM began at Block G from 11:00 am on 22nd March



Water Day-2022 observed by Department of Social work USTM in association with Indian Federation of United Nations Association at NKC Auditorium on 22 March



## Visit by IQAC team from Pandu College, Guwahati



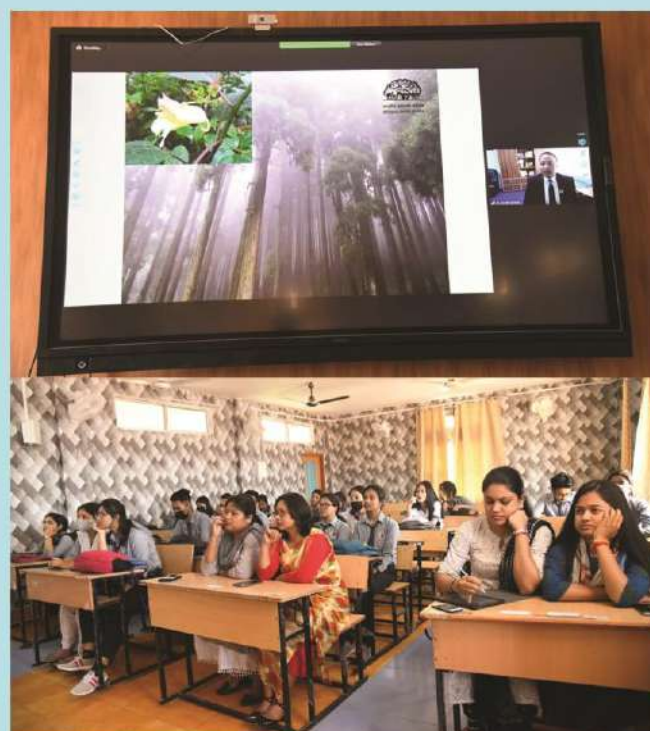
A 10-member IQAC team from Pandu College, Guwahati including the Principal of the college Dr Jogesh Kakati visited USTM on 15th March for interaction and discussion with the IQAC team of USTM. The guests were felicitated by Hon'ble VC of USTM Prof GD Sharma and other high officials at the Conference Hall in Block-A of the university where the discussion took place.

## Two-day workshop on "Research Methodology for Social sciences"



Two-day workshop on "Research Methodology for Social sciences" (March 14-15, 2022) has ended successfully today. The programme has been organised by the Department of Economics of USTM at their Smart Class Room.

## International day of Forest



On the occasion of "International Day of Forest 2022," the department of Botany, USTM, organised a talk on the topic "Forest and sustainable production and consumption," in the smart class room in an online mode on 21st March 2022. The event was graced by Dr. Rajib Gogoi, Scientist E and Head, BSI-Sikkim Himalayan Centre, Gangtok.



## Student Felicitated

Hon'ble Chancellor felicitated and inspired our successful student who availed Free Education from USTM

Dipangkar Saharia from Department of Economics who has cleared UGC NET / JRF in the recently declared results in February 2022 visited the Chancellor's office today for his blessings.



## Course on Plant Tissue Culture



On 29th March, a Short Term Course on "Plant Tissue Culture and Micropropagation: Methods and Application" was inaugurated at Block E (Smart Room of Applied Biology), organised by Department of Applied Biology USTM.

## 10-day Adventure Camp by NSS Cell



NSS team from the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (Accredited 'A' Grade by NAAC) participated in Adventure Course organised by National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) at Dirang Arunachal Pradesh from 30th March to 8th April 2022.

## Celebration of National Safety Week

On this occasion, Department of Physics and Department of Computer Science & Electronics has jointly organized an interdepartmental Quiz contest on 11th March with the support of Quiz forum USTM. Total 8 number of groups from different departments have participated. The Quiz was conducted by Quiz master Dr. Ritun Chakraborty.





## Researchers of the Month felicitated



On 9th March, felicitation ceremony for Researchers of the month was held at NKC Auditorium where faculty members from various departments who published research papers in UGC care listed journals and those who published chapters in books were honoured with certificates and cash awards. The ceremony took place in the presence of Hon'ble Chancellor M Hoque and Hon'ble VC Prof G D Sharma apart from others.

## World Poetry Day



On 21st March, World Poetry Day was celebrated at NKC Auditorium of USTM. The programme was organized by the Department of English and Poetry Consortium and sponsored by IQAC USTM. Renowned poet and writer Anupama Basumatary was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

## MoU with Cyberlaw University



On 17th March, USTM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Cyberlaw University New Delhi. Signed on virtual mode, the MoU signing on the part of USTM was done by Prof GD Sharma, VC, USTM and other officials at the Conference Hall of Block A. On behalf of Cyberlaw University, Dr Pavan Duggal Founder and Chancellor and Ms Kusum Duggal Vice Chancellor signed. Cyberlaw University is an online University that is specifically dedicated to the study of Cyberlaw and related legal issues.



## VIP Guest house: P. A. Inamdar Residency



The VIP Guest house (under construction) of USTM was named as P. A. Inamdar Residency on 10th March in the presence of edupreneur and philanthropist P. A. Inamdar, Founder President, Azam Campus, Pune and a host of entrepreneurs from across India.

## Yoga Awareness



International Women's Day-2022 celebrated by Department of Botany organising Yoga Awareness Program at Umduba Community hall in the neighbourhood village of USTM on 8th March. The Yoga instructors of University Yoga Centre conducted the programme.

## Women Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp organised by Department of Applied Biology, USTM



On 8th March, a Women Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp was arranged for the people of upper Jorbill Village, Meghalaya, by the Department of Applied Biology, USTM. The welcome speech was delivered by Dr. Sony kumari, Associate professor, USTM followed by demonstration and technical awareness by Pinky Deka and Pallavi Gogoi, Assistant Professor, USTM. During the program, the women were made aware regarding entrepreneurship along with demonstration of different techniques which would help them to process their raw materials into final products and also made them aware of the benefits they will be getting from that. Their names and contact numbers were collected so to contact them and train them in a way so to make them economically strong and independent. The program was concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ishani Chakraborty, Assistant professor, USTM.

## Workshop on Time Management



Workshop on 'Time Management for Civil Service Aspirants' was organized by Counselling and wellness Division of USTM today at Block-L in the university campus on 15th March



## Educational Excursion

Students from Goalpara visited USTM for educational excursion

On 6th March, As many as 80 higher secondary students from Sark Excellent Academy, Jr. College, Goalpara visited USTM yesterday and had a campus tour with laboratory experience, zoological museum, botanical garden and various other facilities at the University. The students were accompanied by Amin Ahmed, ABM Abdul Kayum Mandal, Mizanur Rahman, Shahabul Hoque, Sofi Md Ashraf, Abdul Baki Sarkar, Jahidul Jaman, Mizanur Rahman and

Azmina Khanom from Goalpara. The entire team expressed that they have been highly excited and satisfied with the learning experience at USTM.



## Science Awareness Camp



Department of Chemistry USTM organised an outreach programme on Science Awareness Camp titled "AWARENESS AGAINST SOCIAL SUPERSTITIONS among the School Students" in a neighbouring school to inculcate Scientific Awareness and temper among the school students. Some the Faculty members and students visited the School and organised a day-long programme on 3rd March, 2022.

## Hands-on Training



Hands-on Training Programme on "Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer & Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometer" was held on 4th March. The two-day programme was organised by Advanced Research Centre, USTM with support from IQAC.

## Tribute to Late P.A. Sangma



Floral Tribute paid to Late P.A. Sangma - the visionary leader, former Lok Sabha Speaker, former Meghalaya CM and a key person behind establishment of USTM on his 6th Death Anniversary on 4th March.

## Meet on NEP



On 3rd March, the first meeting for the implementation of Multiple Entry & Exit, under National Education Policy (NEP-2020) took place at University of Science & Technology Meghalaya.



# Student Achievement

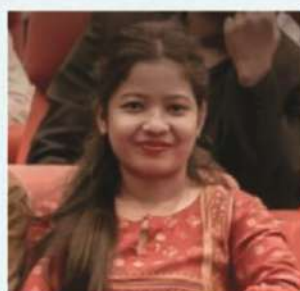
## GATE Qualified Students : February, 2022

*Pride of USTM*

*Pride of ERDF*



**MANJITA MODAK**  
Dept. of Zoology



**APARAJITA RABHA**  
Dept. of Zoology



**MRIDUSMITA NATH**  
Dept. of Chemistry



**INDARI SHISHA NONGKYNRIH**  
Dept. of Physics



**JEHIRUL ISLAM**  
Dept. of Zoology



**ANITA CHETRY**  
Dept. of English



**Biswadeep Brahma**  
Dept. of Botany

*more results are awaited...*

*Heartiest Congratulations to each one of them  
and best wishes for their future endeavours*

**As per the university payback policy, students qualifying GATE will get back all the admission fees and semester fees of the entire course as a reward.**

## USTM signed MoU with Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya Bilaspur

On Saturday, 5th of March 2022, USTM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya Bilaspur for collaborative activities and research. Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor of USTM was at Atal Bihari Vajpayee University Bilaspur and signed the MoU on behalf of USTM while Dr. Arun Diwakar Nath Bajpai, Vice Chancellor of ABVV signed on behalf of ABVV in the presence of Dr Sanjay Alang, former Vice Chancellor of ABVV. All the three Vice Chancellors also participated in a poetry festival as well as in a plantation program at Bilaspur.



## Student Achievement

### UGC NET/JRF Qualified Students : December 2020 & June 2021

#### Pride of USTM

#### Pride of ERDF



**Monikornika Kakoty**  
Sociology



**Supongtemjen LKR**  
Library & Info. Science



**Dipangkar Saharia**  
Economics



**Bindia Debbarma**  
Earth Science (Geography)



**Afsana Arlin**  
Social Work



**Dipasha Patiri**  
Earth Science  
(Environmental Science)



**Seiborlang Mawlong**  
Economics



**Nangki Tekseng**  
Economics



**Yeshi Lamo**  
Economics



**Ipsita Gogoi**  
Political Science



**Yooluti Suchiang**  
Education (PQSE)



**Samandaka Passah**  
Education (PQSE)



**Shem Teron**  
Education (PQSE)



**Annu Migi**  
English



**Ajungla Kundang**  
Rural Development



**Tony Koyu**  
Library & Info. Science



**Rokoneisano Medoze**  
Rural Development



**N. Chuhym Konyak**  
Commerce



**Lovika V Yepthomi**  
Political Science



**Ashihrii Kavani**  
Business Administration



**Niksungla Changkiri**  
Social Work



**Joram Pera**  
English



**Khojon Longkho**  
Political Science

It has been a proud moment for the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya as 23 of its students have qualified in the UGC NET/JRF exams, results of which were declared on 19th February 2022.

### Few Upcoming Events

- Celebration of World Autism Day
- Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights: Know your Rights
- Felicitation of Student achievers under Pay-Back Policy
- National Workshop on Modern Approaches to Research Methodology
- Mobile Legal House at CJM Court by USLR
- National Civil Services Day
- Workshop on Prevention of Wildlife Crime
- 3-day Workshop on Research Methodology
- Workshop on Enhancing Quality and Envisioning Better Grade: Role of IQAC in the light of NEP-2020

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                  **Dr. Md. Nazeer Hussain**  
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