



The Handique Herald

A Bi-Annual Bulletin

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January 2022 - June 2022

Editorial



The 19th edition of the Handique Herald celebrates a new lease of academic life with a promising and challenging new year 2021. The beginning of a year for any academic institution brims with new hopes and fervour more so when education came to be regarded as one of the biggest casualties of COVID-19 pandemic. The campus teeming with eager faces urged us to get back to classroom teaching with enthusiasm. Educators got back to their roles of teaching as well as letting students explore plethora of opportunities which they lacked during online classes. It was a challenge for all of us here in the college to urge the students to adjust to the 'new normal' and enjoy campus life instead of interacting with teachers and classmates through a screen. This issue of the Herald highlights how the faculty members of each department of the college engaged wholeheartedly in classroom discussions, counselling sessions, debates, workshops, etc. This issue also gives glimpses of the Annual College Week 2021-22 held from 25 May to 28 May which gave ample opportunities to the students to showcase their talents in various fields.

Krishna Das

Delegates from Handique Girls' College meet the Honourable Chief Minister of Assam

A delegation from the college comprising of the president of Governing Body, the Principal along with the IQAC Coordinator and senior faculty members met the Honourable Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on 8 January 2022, to express gratitude on the Government's initiative to upgrade the institution to a University. The delegation also discussed other matters related to the progress of the institution.



Editorial Board

Dr. Utpal Dutta (Principal)

Dr. Shakeel Zamal (Convenor)

Dr. Ajanta Khaund Bezbaruah

Dr. Krishna Das

Dr. Bandana Nabis Das (IQAC Coordinator)

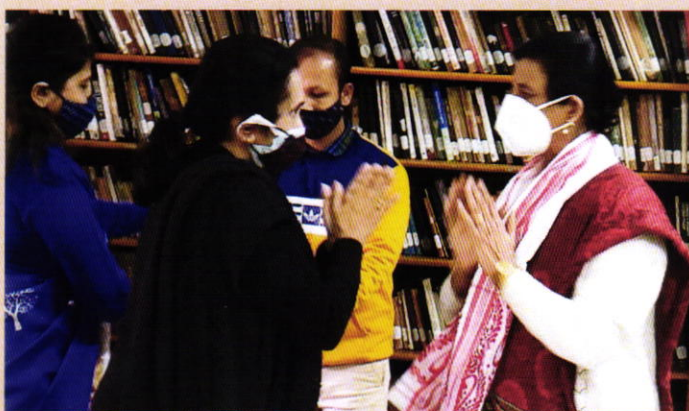
Visit to Honourable Finance Minister of Assam

A delegation from the college met the Finance Minister of the Government of Assam, Smt. Ajanta Neog who is also an alumna of the college to seek her co-operation in the overall development of the college on 23 March 2022.



Felicitation of newly appointed President of the Governing Body

The newly appointed President of the Governing Body of Handique Girls' College Dr. Subrata Sarmah Bhattacharya was felicitated on 8 February, 2022 by the college administration, IQAC Coordinator and senior faculty members of the college.



Training Programme

A training program for Officer-in-Charge and Supervising Officers of HS Final Examination 2022 was organised by Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (AHSEC) in association with the IQAC, Handique Girls' College on 7 March, 2022.



Shraddhanjali Ceremony

A Shraddhanjali

ceremony was organised at Handique Girls' College on 25 February, 2022 as a mark of respect to eminent Gandhian and prominent social worker Padmashree

Shakuntala Chaudhary also an alumna of the first batch of students of Handique Girls' College.



Talent Hunt

Prasar Bharti All India Radio, Guwahati organized a 'Talent hunt competition for RJs' in collaboration with IQAC, Handique Girls' College on 4 January, 2022, to celebrate 75th Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav



Ms. Anushka Das (on the right) of Handique Girls' College was adjudged the winner of the competition

International Women's Day, 2022



On the occasion of International Women's Day on 8 March, Ms. Jupitera Das, well known artist and entrepreneur based at Pennsylvania, USA, delivered a talk on the theme "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow".

Self-Defence Workshop

A Self-Defence Workshop was organised by Assam Police Veeranganas for the students of the college on the occasion of International Women's Day. Sri Anurag Agarwal, IPS, IGP, for Programme and Training graced the occasion.



Interactive Programme

An Interactive Programme with Prof. Arun S. Kharat of JNU, New Delhi, with the faculty members of the department of Botany, Chemistry, Physics and Zoology of Handique Girls' College to discuss the formulation of projects and explore possibilities for collaborative research on 3 June, 2022.



Anti-Drug Awareness Programme

Narcotic Bureau (NCB), Guwahati Zonal Unit, Department of Internal Security, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India in collaboration with the IQAC and Health and Hygiene Cell of Handique Girls' College had organised an awareness programme on 21 June, 2022 at the College premises. The programme was organised in connection with "Anti Drug Pakhwara" from 12 - 26 June, 2022.



Students of Handique Girls' College participating in the rally organised by NCB on 26 June, 2022

Stakeholders' Interactive Session on Simplified Manual for Affiliated Colleges organised by the NAAC

Dr. Bandana Nabis Das, Co-ordinator, IQAC and Dr. Madhurima Hazarika, Member, IQAC attended a Stakeholders' Interactive session on Simplified Manual for Affiliated Colleges organised by the NAAC on 13 June, 2022. Resource persons for this session were Dr. S.C. Sharma, Director, NAAC and Dr. A.V. Prasad, Assistant Adviser, NAAC.

The college administration along with senior faculty members paid a visit to Smt. Ahalya Gogoi, Donor Member, Governing Body, Handique Girls' College on 1 January, 2022.



Department of Assamese

Departmental Activities

The students of the Department of Assamese participated in a cultural procession in connection with the 150th birth anniversary of Pandit Hemchandra Goswami on 8 January, 2022.



A one-day educational tour was organized by the department for the sixth semester students to Hajo, the holy place of Assam on 30 May, 2022.



Talks organised by the Department

The Department organized a program on the occasion of 'World Poetry Day' on 21 March, 2022 where Dr. Pori Hiloidari, Head of the Department of English and Mr. Jayanta Kr. Manta, Head of the Department of Botany delivered talks.

World Poetry Day

The Department arranged a talk on the topic "Format of Story Writing" for the students which was delivered by Dr. Arup Kr. Nath, Associate Professor, Guwahati College and a well-known story writer of Assam on 12 May, 2022.



Dr. Arup Kr. Nath



Dr. Bijoy Shankar Barman

Another talk on the topic "Format of Poetry Writing" was delivered by Dr. Bijoy Sankar Barman, a well-known poet of Assam on 21 May, 2022.

Teachers' Achievement

Mrs. Surabhi Bikash Borah has successfully participated in a Short-Term Course from 18 April to 25 April, 2022 on the topic "Emerging issues of Sociology and Social Sciences" organized by HRDC, Gauhati University.

Students' Achievements

Jayashri Neog, a student of B. A. second semester participated in a poem writing competition, organized by Sipajhar College students union, on 21 March on the occasion of **World Poetry Day** and won the third prize. She was invited as a youth speaker in "**Swadesh Swabhimani**" organized by **Asam Sahitya Sabha** at Handique Girls' College, Guwahati on 19 May, 2022 and at Royal Global University, Guwahati on 14 June, 2022. She also participated in a workshop on the topic "Reading and Conservation of Assamese Old Manuscripts" organized by KKH Library, Gauhati University & DK College Library, Mirza in collaboration with Barheramdo Sattrra on 22 May, 2022.

Binita Kalita, a student of M. A. fourth semester participated in the #AIRNxt Youth Contest organized by All India Radio, Guwahati on 4 January on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Department of Bengali

Talks organized by the Department

Dr. Shantanu Roy Chowdhury, Head of the Department of Bengali, Pandu College, delivered a talk on "Upendranath Bandyopadhyay 'Nirbasiter Atmakatha': Ekti Bishesh Abalokan" on 21 May, 2022.

Dr. Jyotirmoy Sengupta, Head of the Department of Bengali, Pragjyotish College, delivered a talk on "Rabindranath Thakurer 'Jogajog': Ekti Bishesh Alochona" on 19 May, 2022.



Dr. Shantanu Roy Chowdhury, Head of the Department of Bengali, Pandu College delivered a talk on "Pradyot Chakraborty 'Gunodhorer Asukh'" on 23 May.

Dr. Mompi Gupta a Faculty of the Department of Bengali, Aryavidyapeeth College, was invited on 22 June to deliver a talk on the topic "Anjali Lahiri 'Biloris'."



Departmental Activity

A tribute was paid to Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore on 9 May, 2022 on the occasion of his birth anniversary.



A Day Trip to Hahua

A day trip was organized on 8 January, 2022 to Hahua for the students of the department.

Department of Botany

Departmental Activities

A field trip to **Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kahikuchi**, a Horticultural Research Station was organized on 11 January with a total of 52 students (PG and BSc) along with faculty members. During the visit **Dr. Sarat Saikia**, Chief Scientist of the Research Station under Assam Agricultural University took the students around the



plantations, and talked about the different horticultural practices and how to carry forward research work in horticultural crops.

Another field trip to **National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR)**, ICAR, Regional Station, Shillong and Botanical Garden, Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Umiam Shillong on 22 June, 2022. Dr Julius Uchoi, Scientist, delivered an insightful lecture on their collected materials, regeneration, maintenance of viability of alternative plant collection for reclamation of devastated land, documentation and storage in their genebanks. A total of 13 students (BSc) participated in this trip. They also visited **Botanical Garden, Botanical Survey of India**, Umiam, Shillong, the Garden Superintendent Mr. BBT Tham introduced the students to all the different varieties of exotic, valuable, medicinal, vulnerable and endangered species preserved in their garden.



Visit to ICAR-NBPGR, Shillong



At the Botanical Garden, BSI, Umiam, Shillong

The PG students of the department participated in the 9th Professor H.K. Baruah Memorial Lecture organized by the Department of Botany, Gauhati University in collaboration with Botanical Forum (G.U.).

The faculty members of the department paid a visit to the Honourable Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University, Prof.

Pratap Jyoti Handique who worked in the Department of Botany, Handique Girls' College.



WE ARE PROUD OF

Sita Devi Sarma who received the Nirmala Medhi Memorial Gold Medal Award, 2020 for the Best Graduate of the college. She also received the Gauri Kar Memorial Lokendra Nath Medhi Memorial Award, 2020 for securing highest marks among students of BSc. Botany (Major). **Tina Kalita** who received the Lokendra Nath Medhi Memorial Award, 2021 for securing highest marks amongst students of BSc. Botany (Major). They were given these awards during the Academic Awards Distribution Ceremony and Cultural Evening of the Annual College Week, 2021-22 on 7 June 2022.

Students' Achievements

The following students received prizes/ recognition under different categories in the Annual College Week, 2021-22: **Upasana Boruah** (1st prize in Drama Competition), **Sharmistha Chakraborty** (1st prize in Basketball Competition), **Jinmani Das** (3rd prize in Traditional Costume Competition), **Reecha Das** (2nd prize in Kabaddi match).

Reecha Das, a fourth semester student has been elected as Assistant General Secretary, Disputatio (2022-23).

Teachers' Publications

Dr. Bandana Nabis Das published an article "Karyomorphological studies in two species of genus *Strychnos* L. significant in ethno-pharmacological aspects" in Indian Journal of Genetics and Plant Breeding, 82 (01): 121-124, 2022.

Ms. Sudem Wary coauthored a research paper, "Leaf endophytic fungi of *Cymbidium aloifolium* L. produces antimicrobials and indole -3-acetic acid" with Anindita Sarma, Rajreepa Talukdar and Kumanand Tayung which was published in South African Journal of Botany, 149: 381-388, 2022.

Teachers' Achievements

Dr. Bandana Nabis Das participated in a National Seminar on Emerging Trends in Plant Sciences (ETPS) held from 29-30 March 2022 organized by Department of Botany, North-Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya, India in collaboration with CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. Dr. Das participated in the USR International Chain Webinar, 2022. The 1st Taiwan-India/Global Bamboo-Tech Forum- International Standards of Bamboo in Construction, held on 22 March 2022, organized by South Asia Bamboo Foundation, National Chung Cheng University, USR Bamboo and Bamboo Charcoal Innovation in collaboration with Taiwan-India Joint Research Centre. She also participated in the International webinar on 'Bamboo Carbon Fixation and Carbon Credit', 2022 Taiwan-India/ Global Bamboo Tech Form - Series 2 held on 24 June 2022. Dr. Das attended a talk by Dr. S. K. Vasal, World Food Prize Laureate on 7 January, on the topic, "Tackling the challenges of 21st

century in plant breeding" organized by The Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding, New Delhi.

Participation in Workshop/FDP

Dr. Prabhali Doley participated in a "One week Online International Workshop on Statistical Data Analysis using SPSS" during May 21-27 jointly organized by Aryabhata Institute of Academic Research and Science Tech Institute, Lucknow.

Ms. Sudem Wary participated in a "One week online International Workshop on Statistical Data Analysis using SPSS" from 21 to 27 May, 2022 jointly organized by Aryabhata Institute of Academic Research and Science Tech Institute, Lucknow. She also participated in the Online Faculty Development Programme on "Mentoring Pedagogy and Classroom Delivery Enhancement Techniques" held from 21 to 02 June 2022 organized by Electronics and ICT Academy, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.

Department of Computer Science

Students' Activities

Thirty students from BCA attended a program on "Cyber Safety, Cyber Hygiene and Prevention of Cyber Crimes" on 9 June, 2022 at Rabindra Bhawan organised by CID, Assam to commemorate 75 years of progressive India, for creating a mass movement on cyber hygiene and to make "Cyber Safe Bharat" under the aegis of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" in co-ordination with Indian Cyber Crime Co-ordination Centre (Ministry of Home Affairs).

Six students from BCA fourth semester are working on a flood relief campaign initiated by **WAYFOUNDATION** with the motive to provide free sanitary pads as well as monetary donations from different localities, schools, colleges, etc. to the underprivileged girls/women of the flood affected areas. The names of the students are: **Shubhalina Radu Kakaty, Ranjeeta Gogoi, Dikhita Borah, Trisha Sinha, Beati Saikia, and Jigyasha Boruah.**

Student Placement

Suchita Basumatary, a student from BCA (2019-22) got placement in **Intelliroot**, a Multinational Company through online recruitment process.

Departmental Activities



The new edition of the Departmental wall magazine, **BITS TALK** was inaugurated by Dr. Bandana Nabis Das, Convener IQAC on 30 June 2022.

Talk by Alumni

A talk on career and placement for BCA/PGDCA students with the Alumni of the Department was held on 30 June 2022. The names of the alumni who participated are: Trishna Smita Dutta (2014-17), Sabiha Ismat (2017-20), Dolly Borkotoky (2017-20), Tanbira Nasrin (2017-20).

Department of Economics

Departmental Activities

Ten students from B.A first semester honours attended a one-day Personality Development Camp organized by Rotary Club on 27 February.

An interactive talk on life skills was also organized for the honours students of the department on 30 May. The topics covered were communication skills, interpersonal skills, grooming, etc. A total of 66 students attended the same.

"Study on Awareness, Hygiene and Habits related to menstruation"

A report on "Study on Awareness, Hygiene and Habits related to menstruation" was released on 28 May on the occasion of World Menstruation Day by Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma Pathak, Senior Faculty of the college. This report was based on survey work done by the B.A/ BSc third semester students of 2019-2022 batch.



"OIKONOMIA"

The wall magazine of the Department "OIKONOMIA" was inaugurated on 31 May, 2022 by Principal, Dr. Utpal Dutta. It was prepared by the second semester Honours students and the theme was "Recent Developments in Assam - An Overview."

Field Visit

An industrial field visit to the Amingaon and Sansari area of Guwahati was arranged for the sixth semester honours students of the department on 6 June, 2022. A total of 35 students and 5 teachers visited the different industries which comprised of

pipe manufacturing, nails and other products as well as processing and packaging of soya nuggets. They studied various economic aspects of the industries.



Teachers' Achievements

Dr. Jayashree Choudhury, has participated in the one-week national level virtual Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Program (FDP) on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) organized by Department of Economics & Botany, Guwahati College in collaboration with CDOE, Tezpur University & IQAC, Guwahati College held from 20 to 24 June.

Ms. Gitu Bhattacharyya, Guest Lecturer, has participated in the one-week national level virtual Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Program (FDP) on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) organized by Department of Economics & Botany, Guwahati College in collaboration with CDOE, Tezpur University & IQAC, Guwahati College held from 20 to 24 June.

Department of Education

Departmental Activities

The sixth semester honours students of the Department were taken on a field trip to Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education and Treasured Wheels on 19 February 2022.

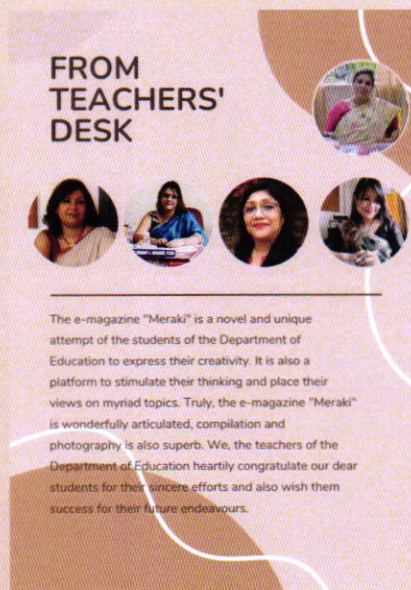


Seminars were organized for second semester and fourth semester honours students on various topics.



E- magazine "MERAKI"

E- magazine "MERAKI" of the Department of Education (2021-22) was published on 30 June, 2022.



Teachers' Publications

Dr. Fatima Tohsin Sahidullah has published a chapter, "Environmental Degradation and Role of Society" in the book *Emerging Issues and Recent Trends in Indian Education* edited by Dr. Phunu Das Sarma and Dr. Sehnaz Sultana. Research and Publication cell, Anandaram Borooah Academy Degree College, Pathsala in February, 2022.

Ms. Swapna Lahon has published a chapter, "Examination Anxiety: Meaning, Symptoms, Causes and Management" in the book *Emerging Issues and Recent Trends in Indian Education* edited by Dr. Phunu Das Sarma and Dr. Sehnaz Sultana. Research and Publication cell, Anandaram Borooah Academy Degree College, Pathsala, in February, 2022.

Department of English

Prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award for Translation in Assamese

Dr. Pori Hiloidari was awarded with the Sahitya Akademi Award for Translation in Assamese for the year 2021 for her translation of Mamang Dai's novel *The Legends of Pensam* into Assamese as ***Datiparor Manuh*** (2015). The book has been published by Rashmi Prakas, Guwahati. The department members felicitated Dr. Hiloidari on 25 June, 2022, a day after the results were announced.



Departmental Activities

The Department organized a **field trip** with the sixth semester students on 18 June to Meghalaya. The students visited places mentioned in Khasi oral legends and literatures which they study in their elective paper on North-East-literature.

The Department also conducted a **Parent-Teacher Meet** on the 25 June to discuss the progress of the students.

Students' Activities

Honours students of second and fourth semesters of the department presented seminars and wall exhibitions on the Shakespearean plays- *Twelfth Night* and *She Stoops to Conquer* from 19 to 24 June. A play-reading session of Mahesh Dattani's play *Tara* was also organized by the department on 22 June in which students of second semester participated.



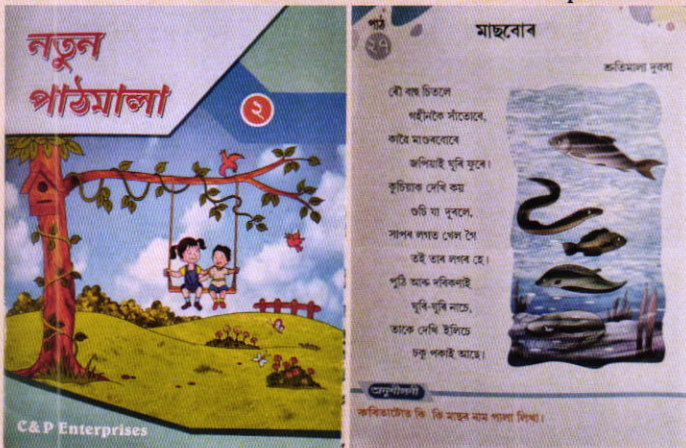
Students' Achievements

Sangeeta Das an alumnus of the department received the Golokeswar Barua Memorial Award and the Nirmala Neog Memorial Award for securing the highest marks in English Major in B. A. (Final) Examination, 2020 from the college under Gauhati University. Prateeti Das another alumnus of the department received the Golokeswar Barua Memorial Award and the Nirmala Neog Memorial Award for securing the highest marks in English Major in B. A. (Final) Examination, 2021 from the college under Gauhati University. They were given these awards during the Academic Awards Distribution Ceremony and Cultural Evening of the Annual College Week, on 7 June, 2022.

Teachers' Achievements

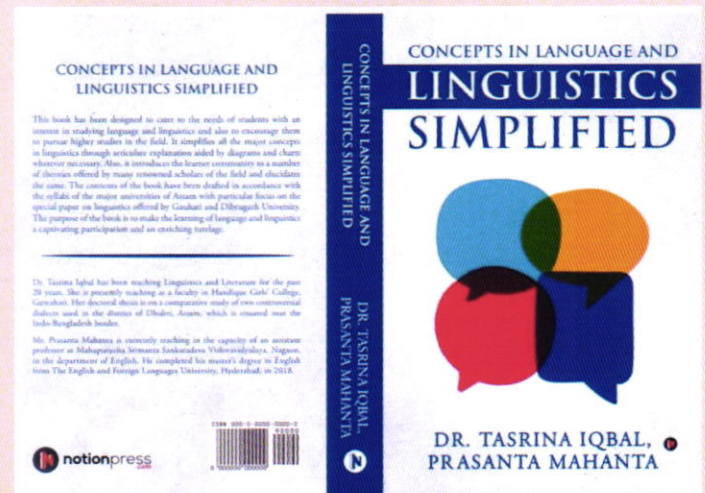
Dr. Pori Hiloidari has published an article "Nabya Itihaxbad: Tatwa aru Prayug" in Assamese journal *Gariyoshi* in February. She has published an article "Natun Golpokaror Golpo" in *Xatxori* in April and another article "Nilmoni Phukan's Xampurna Kabita" in *Anyayug* in May. An article "Orhan Pamukor Uponyash" has been published in *Prakash* in June and another "Uttar Ouponibexik aru Uttar Uttar Ouponibexik" has been published in the April issue of *NENOW*. She delivered a speech on "Literature and Women's Empowerment" in the Festival of Letters, organized by Sahitya Akademi in Delhi from 11 to 15 March. She delivered a talk on "Importance of Gender Awareness" in a webinar organized by the Internal Complaint Cell of Arya Vidyapith College on 7 May, 2022. She also participated in a radio talk on "Axomiya Uponyaxot Nari Kendrik Chetona" broadcast from AIR, Nagaon station in April.

Dr. Srutimala Duara's three Assamese poems for children have been included in 2 text books published



by C & P Enterprises for classes 2 & 3 from January 2022. These books are prescribed in more than a hundred schools all over Assam.

Dr. Tasrina Iqbal has published a book, 'Concepts in Language and Linguistics Simplified' in March 2022 by Notion Press, India. The book caters to the needs of the post graduate students of Gauhati University and Srimanta Sankardev University and undergraduate students of Gauhati University. She has also co-authored a paper "The Changing face of Hindi Horror Cinema: From the Ramsays to the Bhattas" in 'Creatcrit', an interdisciplinary multilingual peer-reviewed research journal in January 2022.



Dr. Krisha Das has published an article, "The Legends of Pensam: Interrogating Ethnicity and Assimilation" in *Journal of Arts* (Vol 10.3 March 2022), a UGC CARE-listed journal published by IIS (deemed to be University), Jaipur.

Dr. Purabi Goswami, has published a chapter "Rajabala Das: A Woman with Rare Insights" in the book *India Unravelling the Representation of Women in Literature and Society* edited by P V Laxmiprasad and published by Authors Press, Delhi. She has also published a chapter "Cultural Practices in Translation: Translating the *The Bronze Sword of Theng Bhakhri Tehsildar*" in the book *Indira Goswami Margins and Beyond* edited by Namrata Pathak and Dibyajyoti Sarma and published by Routledge, New York.

Dr. Bhuvan Chandra Talukdar has presented a paper "Thwarting the Raj" in an ICHR Sponsored National Seminar on "Exploring the Role of Subhas Chandra Bose in the Second World War and Freedom Movement of India with Special Reference to North East India" held on 29 & 30 March, 2022 at N.N. Saikia College, Titabar.

In Conversation with Dr. Pori Hiloidari

An Associate Professor in the Department of English of Handique Girls' College, Dr. Pori Hiloidari is a known figure in the field of Assamese critical writings. A bilingual writer, Dr. Hiloidari has published numerous articles on various aspects of literary criticism both in English and Assamese in edited books and magazines including Assamese magazines like *Gariyashi* and *Prakash*. She has edited books like *Assamese Women: The Pathbreakers* in 2011, *Govinda Prasad Sarma: The Person, Personality and Writings* in 2013, *Female Author-ity: Women's Short Story Writing in Assamese (1980-2015)* in 2021. In conversation with her, we had the opportunity to talk about her ideas on the genre of translation and her other literary pursuits.

To start off we would like to congratulate you once again on your achievement. Thank you for bringing pride and honour to Handique Girls' College and to all of us here. We have always known you as a bilingual writer and a critic. We would like to know how your journey as a translator began.

PH Being a bilingual writer, I have to engage myself very often in the act of negotiating between English and Assamese and that must have encouraged me to take the task of translation seriously. Initially I thought that translation was not my cup of tea. But later when I was offered by a publisher the work of translating Mamang Dai's novel, its unconventional style of narration immediately caught my attention and as I decided to translate, it really turned out to be an immensely rewarding experience. My area of interest is literary criticism but even there you cannot escape the problematic of translation, particularly when some critical idioms and concepts do not have any equivalent terms in your own language. There is also the question of acceptability of newly coined terms by the larger community of readers and critics. Keeping these things in perspective, the need to nurture translation of works from the regional to the global language and the other way around demands our generous investment of time, effort and will.

Mamang Dai's "The Legends of Pensam" was published in 2006. In 2017 she received Sahitya Akademi for the novel *The Black Hill*. Why did you select "The Legends of Pensam" for translation into Assamese?

PH: *The Legends of Pensam* is a fictional representation



Receiving the Sahitya Akademi Translation Award from Akademi's President Chandrashekhara Kambara

of the crisis of identity experienced by the tribes and communities of Arunachal Pradesh, living at the crossroads of modernity and tradition. It is to be noted that Mamang Dai writes about the unique native world of the tribes and their worldview in a language which is not her mother tongue. The folk content of the novel is emotionally distant from the elite character of the English language. It is interesting to note that even Mamang Dai must have

faced the problem of inadequacy of appropriate words and expressions, as is indicated by the use of the word *pensam* in the title of the novel. The problematic of translation is not unique to the translators alone. As far as Assamese language is concerned, it is not possible to find mathematical equation between their cultural geography and our linguistic register and even then, the bridging of gap through translation becomes all the more exciting. The problematic of translation is not unique to the translators alone. That is why Salman Rushdie says that we are all translated beings. We translate culture, thoughts and ideas. We translate from the spoken to the written and vice versa. As our everyday life consists of telling and retelling stories, translation is a continuous process.

You have been involved with activities related to translation for a long time. Is translation a very instinctive process or are there specific ways of doing it?

PH: Translation is an instinctive process. Sometimes you may not feel any urge to translate a very easy work written in ordinary prose, but sometimes a difficult work might tempt you to take the challenge of translation and to share the pleasure with your readers. You see, each chapter in my translated work *The Legends of Pensam* begins with short verse prologues. I did not even try to translate those lines and as I was working on the novel's chapters, some very striking stanzas in Nabakanta Barua's poems flashed in my mind and instead of translating Mamang Dai's short verse prologues into Assamese, I incorporated those lines by Nabakanta Baruah; that is how, I believe, instinct works in the act of translation.

Do you feel more comfortable translating one genre of writing versus the others? Which genre poses more challenges to you as a translator?

PH: It is not that I have tried my hands in all genres of

literature. Actually, selection of a work for translation depends on the text, not on the genre. It is the level of difficulty in the language, layers of underlying meanings and the nuances in the work that determine the type of challenge that you face. Difficulty is not genre-specific. I have till now translated a biography and a novel into Assamese and a handful of poems into English. Sometimes translation of poetry is so thrilling, because maintaining the rhythm and poetic essence in another language gets possible only through deep intuitive engagement and hard work. Academic writings are apparently easy to translate but non-availability of discipline-specific vocabulary poses a major difficulty; similarly, colloquial language in fictional literature makes the task of translation a challenging task.

You have been teaching in Handique Girls' College from 1996 onwards. Do you think your teaching experience has in any way contributed towards the role of a translator?

PH: I do believe that teaching and translating literature are not mutually exclusive but complementary activities and this is more so in view of the widening of the term 'English literature' to include regional literatures in translation in the courses and programmes under the CBCS system of Higher Education. Teachers and students of literature are reaping the benefits of this paradigm shift in favour

of translation. It is an immensely satisfying experience when you see that young undergraduate students doing the Translation Studies paper are translating some of our regional works into English with lots of enthusiasm. It might sound paradoxical, but sometimes translation makes the original text easier to understand. I would like to give you an example: Eminent modern Assamese poet Ajit Baruah's poem "Xuoni Amar Gaukhon Oti" (a modern parody of another very famous Assamese poem) is difficult to understand in Assamese as we are not familiar with some words and expressions which have become obsolete by now. But the poem's translated version in English with editorial footnotes has made the task of reading and decoding an exciting experience.

We would like to know what other projects are you working on presently?

PH: My book of literary criticism on few path-breaking Assamese novels titled *Path Pratipath Nirman Binirman* is going to be published by Papyrus next month. I am presently working on a book of critical essays on contemporary Assamese short stories. Apart from that I keep writing book reviews and articles on literary criticism for newspapers and literary magazines.

Interviewed taken by Dr. Bandana Nabis Das and Dr. Krisha Das

Department of Home Science

Field visits

The students of the fifth and third semesters of the Department visited the Department of Sericulture, Local Handloom Production Centre as well as Outlet of Silk products in Sualkuchi, Assam on 6 January under the course "Introduction to Textiles" and "Indian Textile Heritage"

The students of the fifth semester of the Department visited the Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS), Kahikuchi, Assam on 11 January under the course "Life Sciences".

Another visit was organized by the Department for the

fifth semester students to Sunar Haat, Khanapara on 17 March for the course "Indian Textile Heritage".

The students of the sixth semester visited the Dietetic Department, Dispur Hospital, Guwahati, Assam on 6 June in order to meet the need of the syllabus of the course "Therapeutic Nutrition."





Students' Activities

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Department organized an **On-the-Spot Essay Writing Competition** among the sixth semester students of the department on 6 June, 2022.

An **Exhibition-cum-Sale** was organized by the fourth semester students of the department on 28 June in which different art and craft products as well as food items were put on for sale.

The sixth semester students of the Department attended "Awareness Programme on Food Safety and Security" organized by National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, Regional Centre, Guwahati from 12 to 13 April.

The fourth and sixth semester students attended a two days' workshop on **Innovative Ecosystem in Academic Institutions** on 11 and 12 March at B. Borooah College, Guwahati.

Teachers' Achievements

Ms. Hoitinkim Singson has successfully completed a Refresher Course on "Interdisciplinary Studies and Research" held from 14 to 27 February in an online mode organized and conducted by HRDC, Gauhati University.

Dr. Jitumoni Neog has successfully completed an online Faculty Induction Programme organized by the Teaching Learning Centre, Tezpur University from 01 February to 02 March.

Department of Mathematics

Jumi Bharali joined the Department of Mathematics as an Assistant Professor in December 2021. Ms. Bharali is currently pursuing her PhD in Department of Mathematics, Gauhati University. She published two research papers in journals in the year 2020 - "Magnetized anisotropic modified holographic Ricci dark energy viscous cosmological model" published in *The African Review of Physics*, a peer reviewed international journal and "Kantowski- Sachs cosmological model with Tsallis



Holographic Dark Energy in $f(R,T)$ theory of gravity" published in Bulletin of Calcutta Mathematical Society. She published five research papers in journals in the year 2021 - "Interacting Anisotropic Ghost Dark Energy Model in $f(R,T)$ Theory of Gravity" published in Gravitation and Cosmology; "Higher-Dimensional Anisotropic Modified Holographic Ricci Dark Energy Cosmological Model in Lyra Manifold" published in Astrophysics; "Modified Rényi Holographic Dark Energy (MRHDE) in $f(R,T)$ Theory of Gravity" published in Astrophysics. Recently she published her research paper, "Rényi holographic dark energy (RHDE) in Lyra Geometry" in Bulgarian Astronomical Journal (BAJ).

Department of Microbiology

Students' Achievements

Bratati Ray, a student of 2nd semester has completed a training program conducted by **Ethical Edufabrica Pvt Ltd** in association with Pulse, AIIMS Delhi on the topic "**Nanobiotechnology**" in the month of April, 2022. She is also undergoing an internship program in Central Ground Water Board in their chemical lab on ground water analysis from 27 April.

Department of Philosophy

Special Yoga Session

On 21 June, a **special yoga session** was held in the college campus in collaboration with Vivekananda Kendra Institute of Culture, Guwahati. The Principal of the college Dr. Utpal Dutta along with the Vice Principal Mr Rajib Kr Das, Mrs Meenakshi Sharma Pathak, senior faculty of the Department of Philosophy, Dr. Bandana





Nabis Das, Coordinator IQAC and Dr. Madhuchanda Chaliha Bhuyan inaugurated the program by lighting lamps. The NSS and NCC units of college, students and teachers actively participated in the event. Dr. Utpal Dutta encouraged the students by participating in yogasanas. Mrs. Swapna Goswami, the resource persons of the event explained the importance 'Suryanamaskara' and other members of VKIC, Guwahati have demonstrated dhyana, sankalpa, asanas and pranayamas before the participants. The program started with Vedic prayers and concluded with Shanti Path.

International Yoga Day celebration, 2022

As a part of the International Yoga Day celebration, 2022, a **three-day yoga session** was organised by the department from 18 June to 20 June in collaboration with Indian Yoga Culture and Yoga Therapy Centre, Guwahati. Dimpri Brahma and Sashiprabha Saikia, two alumni of the college served as the instructor of the Yoga sessions. Almost 30 students from various departments of the college successfully participated in the sessions.



Talk on Practical Ethics

The Department organised a talk on 'Practical Ethics with focus on Euthanasia' on 21 May. Dr. Urmimala Hazarika, Former Associate Professor and HOD, Department of Philosophy, Pandu College delivered the lecture.

Inauguration of Departmental Wall Magazine

The new edition of the Departmental wall magazine, 'One Earth' was inaugurated on 6 June, 2022 by the Principal of the college, Dr. Utpal Dutta.



Inter-Departmental Programme

Philosophical Study Circle of the Department of Philosophy in collaboration with the students of the Department of Psychology, organised a discussion on 'Interdepartmental Discourse on the Co-relation of Philosophy and Psychology with Context to the Modern Education System' on 7 March.

Students' Participation in 'Anti-Drug Pakhwara'

Second semester students of the Department - Kritika Das, Prity Barman, Neeha Dev Nath and Ayesha Islam participated in a Seminar organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau, Guwahati Zonal Unit, Department of Internal Security, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, in Collaboration with IQAC and Health/ Hygiene & Clean Campus Cell, Handique Girls' College, on 21 June on 'Anti-Drug Pakhwara'.

Students' Achievements

Bhumika Devi, a B.A. sixth semester student won the second prize in a singing competition (Parbati Prasad Baruah Geet) at College week. She also won the 3rd prize in Jyoti Sangeet and in the Classical Singing Competition respectively during the Annual College Week, 2021-22.

Darshana Bordoloi, a B. A. sixth Semester student won the second prize in Story Writing Competition (English) during the Annual College Week, 2021-22.

Abhilekh Sharma, a B. A. sixth Semester student won the First Prize in Skit (Drama Category). She also won the Special Appreciation Prize in One Act Play (Drama Category) at College Week, 2022.

Prerana Devi, a B. A. fourth semester student received the 'Devajani Devi Memorial Scholarship' for securing highest aggregate marks in Higher Secondary Final Examination, 2020 from Handique Girls' College under AHSEC during the Annual College Week 2021-22.

Teachers' Achievements

Mrs Meenakshi Sharma Pathak has reviewed a text book on Logic prescribed for M.A 2nd semester of Mahapurusha Srimanta Sankardeva Vishavidyalaya University in Nagaon, published in January 2022. In the month of June 2022, she has also reviewed few articles to be included in a research based book on Philosophy, proposed to be published by the Department of Philosophy, Dispur College, Guwahati.

Dr. Madhuchanda Chaliha Bhuyan delivered a talk on 'Philosophy of New Vaishnavism of Madhabdeva,' as an invited speaker on 26 June. The talk was organised by the Department of Philosophy, Moridhal College.

Dr. Merry Halam participated in a 'Short Term Course on Emerging Issues in Sociology & Social Sciences' held from 18 to 25 April 2022 in online-mode, organised and conducted by UGC-HRDC, Gauhati University.

Dr. Rekhamoni Devi participated in an online Faculty Induction Programme (FIP) organised by the Teaching Learning Centre, Tezpur University from February 1 to March 2 under PMMMNMTT Scheme of Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Day-Long Educational Tour

The department organised an educational tour for the B.A. sixth semester students to Shillong, Meghalaya on 12 June. A total of 39 students participated in this tour. Faculty members of the Department and a few ex-faculty members accompanied the students.

Department of Physics

Students' Activities

Two students of first semester Honours delivered talks in the Department on 5 March 2022. Tania Saikia spoke on "**Aphelion and Perihelion of Earth**" and Hirajita Das spoke on "**String Theory**".

Jyotismita Bhagawati of fourth semester honours was awarded the certificate of appreciation by **International Astronomical Search Collaboration** for her valuable contributions to searches made in Andromeda Galaxy from 29 March to 22 April.

Spondita Roy and Hirajita Das attended a laboratory Visit and Science exhibition programme on May 4 arranged by IASST on account of the celebration of the 51st DST Foundation Day where they were introduced



with the device used to produce Plasma and also acquainted with various uses of Nano-composite bio-hybrid materials, anti-oxidant rich beverage from black rice, various uses of banana fibre etc.

Priyanka Sharma of fourth semester honours was awarded the Certificate of Participation for participating in the E-Bike Design Challenge conducted by Entrepreneurship Cell, IIT Bombay on 5 and 6 February.

She also participated in the **Autodesk Design Now (3D Modelling) by Autodesk** held during Cognizance 2022 at the Annual Technical Fest of IIT Roorkee held from 24 to 28 March.

Obituary

Dr. Lakshmi Mahanta, retired faculty of the Department of Physics left for her heavenly abode on 1st February, 2022 following a brief illness. Dr. Mahanta was born to Late Manik Chandra Das and Late Gangapriya Das on 7 April, 1951, Lakshmi Das grew up in Panbazar, situated at the very heart of Guwahati



city. Her father was the proprietor of Assam Optical Company, the first optical shop in the city. She did her schooling from Panbazar Girls High School. She passed the Matriculation examination in the year 1966 and was awarded a gold medal for being the best performing student of her school. After completing the Pre-University course from Cotton College, Guwahati in 1968, she took admission into B.Sc. course with major in Physics in Cotton College. In 1973, she passed M.Sc. in Physics from Gauhati University. After a brief stint of teaching at her alma mater Panbazar Girls High School, she joined Handique Girls' College, Guwahati as a Lecturer in the Department of Physics. On 14th December, 1978, she got married to Prafulla Chandra



Mahanta, an engineer by profession. She started preliminary research work under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) K. D. Krori but had to stop midway due to personal commitments. In the year 1982, she was blessed with the joy of motherhood. She was a devoted mother and dedicated herself whole-heartedly to the upbringing of her daughter. She resumed her research work in the field of plasma physics under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sarbeswar Bujarbarua at the Centre of Plasma Physics. In 2001, she was awarded the Ph.D degree by Gauhati University for her thesis titled "Theoretical studies on dusty plasma". She retired from service in the year 2011 as the Head of the Department of Physics, Handique Girls' College. During her service life, she was whole-heartedly involved in all activities of the college, be it academic or cultural. She was a dedicated teacher and was widely admired by her students, colleagues and friends for her kind and loving nature and her impeccable dressing sense. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Department of Political Science

Inter-departmental Talks

Dr. Binoy Kumar Nath, Assistant Professor, Department of History delivered a talk on National Service Scheme (NSS) on 3 January.

Dr. Sabita Mahanta, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics delivered a talk on the significance of NCC in Nation Building on 7 January.

Talk by an Alumnus

Ms. Gargee Talukdar, a departmental alumni and a senior under officer of 60, Assam Girls' Battalion of NCC delivered a talk on the practical aspects of NCC on 5 and 6 January.

Parent-Teacher Meeting

A virtual Parent-Teacher Meeting was held on 22 February for the first semester honours students. Another virtual Parents Teacher Meeting was held on 30 June for the fourth semester honours students.

Educational Tours/Visits

A day-long exposure trip to Shillong and its outskirts was organised for 6th semester

honours students to study the 'Changing pattern of Matrilineal lineage in Meghalaya on 30th May 2022.

A team of faculty members (Dr. Biswajit Choudhury, Dr. Pallavi Deka, Ms. Niminita Saikia) visited the **Bangladesh Assistant High Commission**, Guwahati on 17 February to discuss the possibilities of academic studies on India and Bangladesh.

A team of students accompanied by Dr. Pallavi Deka attended a distinguished lecture at Administrative Staff College, Khanapara on the topic "**The Ukraine Russia war: Perspectives on National and Global Implications**" delivered by Prof. Harsh V. Pant of Kings College, London, on 22 March organised by Centre for South East Asian Studies and Department of Political Science of Gauhati University and Department of Higher Education, Assam.



Inauguration of Wall Magazine

The Principal of the College, Dr. Utpal Dutta inaugurated a wall magazine of the department on the theme "Political Development in Assam since Independence" on 2 June.



Students' Achievements

Chayashree Deka is adjudged as the best debater and Parishmita Dutta is adjudged the best dancer in the Annual College week 2021- 22.

Activities of Electoral Literacy Club

Sneha Purkayastha and Darshana Devi, students of the Department were nominated as campus ambassador for electoral literacy by Kamrup Metro Electoral District Administration.

ELC organised national level singing & slogan writing competitions for National Voters' Day celebration (held on 25 January 2022) under the guidance of Kamrup Metro Electoral District Administration on 5 January. ELC members also participated in a tree plantation programme on the occasion of Environmental Day on 5 June. Saplings were provided by the Kamrup Metro Electoral District Administration.



Teachers' Achievements

Dr. Pallavi Deka presented a paper "Grassroot Democratic Governance and Peace Building: Role of Traditional Cultural Institutions in Assam with special reference to Satras and Namghars" in 59th All India Political Science Congress Conference

held on 26 and 27 March 2022 at USTM, Meghalaya. She participated in an International workshop on "Jawaharlal Nehru: A True Nationalist, Secular Humanist and Social Democrat" organised by North East Hill University, Meghalaya on 2 July 2022. She delivered a lecture on "Constitutionalism and Changing Dimensions of Fundamental rights in India" on 25 February in Dispur College, Guwahati. Dr. Deka has been awarded a fellowship by Association of Asian Scholars on 1 July to conduct a study on Border Area Development and role of Decentralised institutions in North East India.

Dr. Biswajit Choudhury was invited as an external expert for four PhD candidates' progress report evaluation and topic approval meeting of Research Advisory Committee (RAC), Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai held on 4 January. He presented a paper "India's policy towards Diaspora with special reference to Modi Govt. since 2014" at 59th IPSA International Conference on 26-27 March held in USTM Meghalaya. He presented a paper (virtual) on "Good governance during Covid-19 situations: Experiences from Assam" at National Seminar organised by Atal Sushasan Peeth, Department of Public Administration, University of Lucknow dated 30-31 March 2022. He also attended one online workshop in pursuance of National Educational Policy (NEP-2020) on the topic "Multiple Entry & Exit" held on 30 June, organised by HRDC, JNU. He attended one FDP on 'National Education Policy 2020' from 28 March to 3 April organised by TLC, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi.

He also delivered a departmental talk on 'Electoral Politics in Assam since 1947' on 12 May, organised by the Department of History, Handique Girls' College. He was appointed as External Evaluator for 'Gunotsav-2022' by Government of Assam from 23 to 26 May at Dibrang Cluster, Mahamaya Block, Morigaon District.

Ms. Niminita Saikia performed her duties as a protocol officer during the 8th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India regional Conference held on 11 and 12 April 2022 in Guwahati.

Department of Psychology

Internship Program

The students of sixth semester honours program interned with GNRC Hospitals North Guwahati. It also included a 5 days Training Programme on Clinical Aspects of Psychological Disorders and Counselling from 19 to 23 May 2022.

Field Training with Swabhabik Foundation

The students of sixth semester Regular course participated in a field training with Swabhabik Foundation- a rehabilitation centre that primarily works with substance abuse disorders from 7 to 13 June.

Visit to CJM Court

The students of fourth semester honours program visited the CJM Court on 21 May to witness court proceedings and psychological functioning of magistrates, advocates, eye witnesses and also the accused.

Visit to SAKHI

The students of sixth semester Honours program visited SAKHI -One Stop Centre which is a rehabilitation centre for women in distress on 8 June.



Teachers' Achievements

Departmental faculties Dr. Suneeta Khanna Ganguly and Dr. Syeda Anjum Afreen were conferred the Doctorate degrees at the 29th Convocation of Gauhati University held on 6 May, 2022.

Department of Statistics

Field Trip

The Department arranged a one-day field survey to North Guwahati of Kamrup Metro, Assam on 11 May for the B.Sc. sixth semester students. The journey kicked off at 9.30 AM from the college premises and lasted for around an hour. The main purpose of the study was to collect primary data related to the socio-economic conditions of the people of this particular area. This field survey covered the Core paper of the project work of B.Sc. sixth semester students and the survey consisted of direct interrogation of the people of this area.



Department of Zoology

One-day National Workshop

MSc fourth semester students participated in a One-day National Workshop on "Modern Approaches in Research and Scientific Documentation" organized by the Department of Zoology, University of Science and Technology Meghalaya, on 8 April.

Visit To Cotton University

The second and fourth semester honours students attended a programme on "One-day laboratory exposure visit program for college students" organized by Cotton University on 4 April 2022.

Visit to Gauhati University, Department of Zoology

MSc fourth semester students with special paper "Animal Physiology and Biochemistry" performed qPCR practical at the Dept of Zoology, Gauhati University on 30 May.

Visit to Regional Silk Research Center

BSc. fourth semester honours students visited Regional Silk Research Center, Central Silk Board, Assam on 25 June. They were accompanied by faculty members of the Department.



Visit to IASST, Guwahati

BSc. fourth semester honours students visited Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST), Guwahati on 6 May.



Visit to various historical places

BSc sixth semester general students along with faculty members visited different historical places within Guwahati on 7 July.

Visit to Guwahati Biotech Park

MSc students visited GUWAHATI BIOTECH PARK on 30.06.2022 as per their PG curriculum for advanced laboratory visit.



Students' Achievements

The following students of the Department received various prizes in the Annual College Week 2021-22: **Nivedita Kalita** (best singer), **Shrutismita Sharma** (five prizes in various singing competitions), **Hijusmita Sarma** (2nd prize in semi classical singing).

Bratati Ray a second semester honours student has done one internship programme on Nanobiotechnology in the month of April, 2022.

The following sixth semester honours students of the Department won the 2nd prize in Drama in Annual College Week, 2021-22: **Shristi Sarbeswar Das**, **Barnali Das**, **Anoushka Chakraborty**, **Bidisha Kashyap**, **Priyanka Talukdar**, **Naina Deka**, **Jupitara Das**.

The following 2nd semester honours students of the department won the 2nd prize in Bodo Folk Dance (group) in the Annual College Week 2021-22: **Bandana Ramchiary**, **Snigdha Bhattacharjee**, **Tanmoyee Boro**, **Aastha Rai**, **Jonaki Laubangdisa**, **Juree Basumatary**.

Teachers' Publications

Dr. Dip Jyoti Haloi has published a book chapter, "Diversity, Distribution and control of Tick species Infesting Domestic Animals in India" in *Vigyan Prabah*, an edited book published by Bajali Branch of Assam Science Society in April, 2022.

Dr. Evarani Kalita has authored a book, *Developmental Biology* for 6th sem CBCS honors course, published by Kalyani Publishers. She has also published a research paper entitled "Impact of organophosphate pesticide rogor on biochemical parameters of freshwater catfish *Clarias magur* (Hamilton, 1822)" in *Uttar Pradesh Journal of Zoology*, 43(8): 31-38.

Dr. Innifa Hasan has published a chapter, "Conservation Status of Catfish Population in the Water Bodies of Assam and North East India" in *Vigyan Prabah*, an edited book published by Bajali Branch of Assam Science Society in April, 2022.



Dr. Pobi Gogoi has published a chapter, "Environmental Contaminants as Thyroid Disruptors: A Review" in an edited book *Recent Research Trends in Medical and Biological Sciences*, Volume 2, published by MKSES publication in May, 2022.

Participation in Workshop and FDP

Dr. Pobi Gogoi participated in a "One Week Online International Workshop on Statistical Data Analysis using SPSS" during 21 to 27 May, 2022, jointly organized

by Aryabhata Institute of Academic and Research, Lucknow & Science Tech Institute, Lucknow, UP, India. Dr. Gogoi also participated in an Online Faculty Development Programme on "Mentoring Pedagogy and Classroom Delivery Enhancement Techniques" organized by E&ICT Academy IIT Guwahati held from 27 June to 2 July in association with University of Engineering and Management, Kolkata and support from Skill Gym.

GLIMPSES OF ANNUAL COLLEGE WEEK 2021-22

