



## *From the Desk of the Vice-Chancellor*



As we step into the new year, it brings me immense pleasure to connect with you all through the pages of our esteemed E-journal, NEHU Panorama.

January and February have passed in a flurry of activities, marking the beginning of a promising academic journey for our students and faculty alike. In these months, we witnessed remarkable achievements and significant strides in various spheres of academia, research, and extracurricular endeavors.

Our university continues to uphold its commitment to excellence in education, research, and community engagement. The dedication and hard work of our faculty members, the enthusiasm and curiosity of our students, and the unwavering support of our staff members have been instrumental in driving the success of our institution.

In the realm of research, our scholars have been relentless in their pursuit of knowledge, making noteworthy contributions across diverse fields. Their innovative research endeavors have not only enriched our academic landscape but also have the potential to address pressing societal challenges and drive positive change.

Moreover, our commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive academic environment remains steadfast. Through various initiatives and programs, we strive to nurture talent, promote diversity, and empower individuals to realize their full potential.

As we navigate the evolving landscape of higher education, it is essential to stay adaptive and responsive to emerging trends and challenges. With this in mind, I encourage all members of the NEHU community to embrace innovation, collaboration, and lifelong learning, as we continue to chart the course towards academic excellence and societal relevance.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all who have contributed to the success and vibrancy of our university. Let us embark on this journey together, with optimism, determination, and a shared commitment to excellence.

(Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla)

***Dr. Subhas Sarkar, Union Minister Of State For Education, Pitches For Manodarpan On The Campus Of Nehu***



***Date: 11th Febraury, 2024:*** Honourable Union Minister of State for Education, Government of India, Dr. Subhas Sarkar visited the North-Eastern Hill University campus here on 11th February 2024. During the visit, the Minister interacted with the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla along with the Deans, Heads of the Departments, and other administrative officials. Prof. P.S. Shukla, the Vice-Chancellor of NEHU gave the opening remarks welcomed the minister oversaw the program, and guided the intellectual discourse. It was an inordinately enlightening interaction between the Heads, Deans, and faculties with the revered Minister, a medico-turned-politician from the Bankura District of West Bengal. Many questions were asked during this edifying and technical verbalization by the Minister.

The visit aimed to underscore the Modi government's commitment to promoting education, research, and innovation in the state. The discussions revolved around various topics including implementation of NEP 2020 and best practices undertaken by the University arising thereof, the expansion of educational opportunities, strengthening research areas, and improving the ranking of the University.

The Minister urged all stakeholders to develop academic excellence by implementing a holistic plan. He assured all support from the government for the academic development of the University. He specifically emphasized the Antiragging Cell of the University and apprised everyone about the MANODARPAN platform, an initiative of the Ministry of Education to provide psychosocial support to students for their Mental Health and Well-being. The platform features a nationwide toll-free helpline for students at schools, universities, and colleges, staffed by a team of expert counselors, psychologists, and mental health specialists. It also offers a website, a nationwide directory of counselors, an interactive online chat platform, advisories and suggestions via webinars, and other tools.



He held a special meeting with the faculties to explore creating a department specifically devoted to advancing the Indian Traditional Knowledge System. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sarkar said that for the upliftment of any individual, his or her roots must be strong, and to conserve these roots, one should know about the Indian Knowledge System. He added that in ancient India, the focus was placed on developing the inner aspects of a person's personality in addition to the external aspects of their chosen fields of study. To support interdiscipli-

nary research to solve contemporary social challenges, he urged NEHU faculties to collaborate with AICTE-IKS and IKS@IIT Kharagpur. These organizations facilitate the integration of IKS into the curriculum and the dissemination of IKS expertise. He also enquired about the Sophisticated and Analytical Instrument Facility (SAIF) of the University and its modus operandi.

In concluding remarks, the Vice-Chancellor expressed gratitude to the Minister for accepting his invitation to visit the University and informed that the University remains dedicated to advancing knowledge, nurturing talent, and contributing to the socioeconomic development of the state in a holistic way. Earlier Col. Omkar Singh (Retd), the Registrar of NEHU gave a presentation on the vision and mission of NEHU underpinning the various initiatives taken up by the University to meet its objective for the welfare of the tribal students in the region in selected focus areas like Agriculture, Biodiversity, IT, Ecotourism, Healthcare, and Livelihood. The event ended with a vote of thanks from Prof. D.K. Biswal, In-Charge, Planning, NEHU followed by a dinner program with the Hon'ble Minister of State in the University's Old Guest House.

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***Nehu Panorama Wishes Nehu Employees A Happy Retirement Life***

NEHU Panorama wishes the following employees of NEHU on their retirement and wishes them a healthy and prosperous life ahead.

1. Prof Creamlimon Nongbri, Department of Education.
2. Prof. Atul Saxena, Department of Physics.
3. Dr. Shiv Kumar Prasad, Scientific Officer, Department of S.A.I.F.
4. Mr. Monohar Thapa, Section Officer, Conference Section.
5. Mrs. Kerlinolian War, Personal Assistant, Deans School of Economics, Management and Information Science.
6. Mr. Arnest Lyngkhoi, Assistant, Estt-I (Appointment).
7. Mr. Manik Das, UDC, Finance Department.
8. Mr. Hamkom Pde, UDC, NEHU Central Library.
9. Mr. Ajoy Bhattacharjee, Laboratory Assistant, Department of Bio - Technology & Bio-Informatics.
10. Mr. Kenneth Blah, MTS (Peon), Finance Department
11. Mr. Treibor Thawmuit, MTS (Chowkidar), Security Cell.
12. Mr. Starli Wanniang, MTS (Chowkidar), Security Cell.
13. Mr. Rama Kanta Deb, MTS (Kitchen Attendant), Tura Campus
14. Prof. Purusottam Nayak, Department of Economics.
15. Mrs. Linda Lanong, MTS (Cleaner), Department of Bio-Chemistry

## *A Glimpse of Meghalaya: “The Wangla”*



The Wangala is also known as the Festival of Hundred Drums and is celebrated with different forms of dances on the tunes of folk songs played on drums and primitive flute made of buffalo horns.

The festival is celebrated in honour of the Sun God and marks the end of the long harvest season. The celebration also signifies the end of a long toil period in the field for the Garo tribe before the start of the winters. For the Garo Tribe in Meghalaya, the festival is a way to preserve and promote their cultural identity and they exhibit their tradition in their celebrations. Wangala is celebrated in the months from September to December, with different villages setting different dates for the occasion.

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