



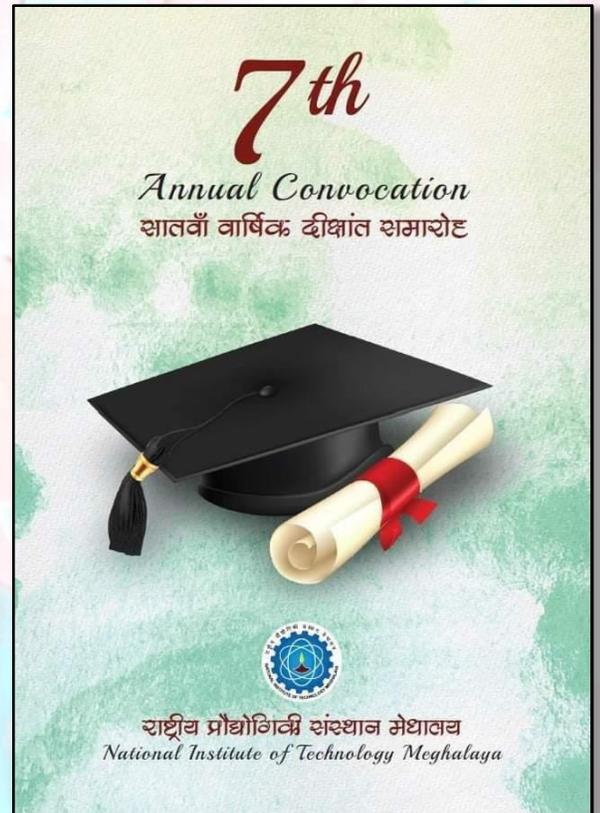
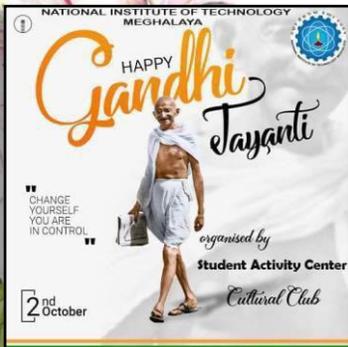
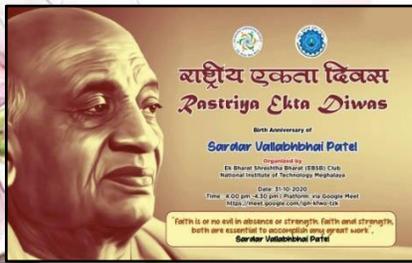
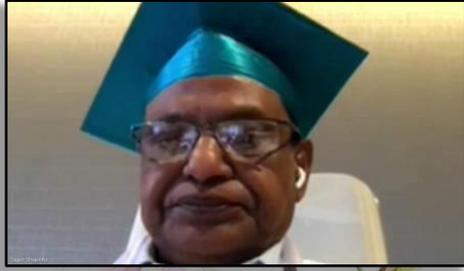
# NITM

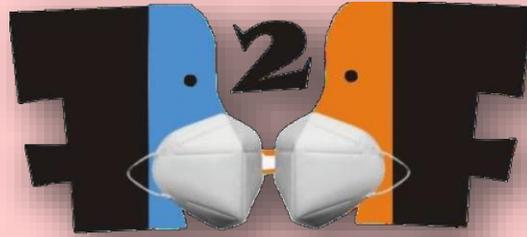
## Chronicle

Issue 8; January 2021

### Highlights:

- Vigilance Week
- Convocation 2020
- Gandhi Jayanti
- Rastriya Ekta Diwas





NITM Chronicle (Issue 8; Oct-Dec, 2020)

F2F with Prof. Harish Chandra Das, Dean (Faculty Welfare)

**Team: Sir, what are your roles as the Dean (Faculty Welfare) of NIT Meghalaya?**

Dean: The role of the Dean (Faculty Welfare) at NIT Meghalaya is to advise the Director in the matters of the deputation of faculty members to various Institutions under quality improvement program. The other responsibilities are the delegation of faculty members to multiple conferences seminars, short term courses, training program, visiting faculty; chairing the committee meetings for the evaluation of



research paper, submitted to the conference, seminars by faculty members; organizing training programs for faculty members; maintaining discipline and work ethics among the various depts. and between the faculty members; and the supervision of faculty discipline, integrity, and commitment.

**Team: Sir, how would you like to describe faculty members' working environment in our Institute?**

Dean: The healthy working environment is coupled with the degree of academic and research performance of faculty members in a stressful atmosphere in the higher education sectors. Several important work environment factors enhance faculty members' academic and research performance as it influences their motivation and happiness. These factors include interpersonal relationships, participative management, normalization and standardization, training and development, lucrative monetary benefits, objectivity and rationality, physical environments such as office space, furniture, supervision, employee welfare, and safety and security. As a matter of top priority, NIT Meghalaya's authority endeavors to put a healthy and favorable work environment for faculty members to make the

Institute function efficiently.

**Team: Sir, almost every year, we find new faculty members joining our Institute. What is the reason behind the frequent change in faculty members?**

Dean: The factors that promote faculty satisfaction and retention at academic institutions include compensation packages, career growth, supervisory support, promotional policies, working conditions, team cohesion, annual incentives, job security, training and development, and organizational culture & policy. NIT Meghalaya is aimed at exploring the policies and procedures which foster faculty retention. A total of seven faculty members have left the basic sciences and engineering programme of NIT Meghalaya in the last four years. Those faculties have served the Institute for more than five years, which is noteworthy. In comparison, faculty turnover and the attrition rate are minimal at NIT Meghalaya. The reasons for the high retention of faculty members at NIT Meghalaya are opportunities available for faculty members to participate in professional development to enhance their teaching, research skills, and knowledge within their discipline or career advancement.

**Team: Sir, what were the relaxations and/or assistance provided to the faculty members of our Institute to cope up with the online mode of education amidst a pandemic?**

Dean: Actually, Indian educational institutions are currently based on traditional learning methods of face to face lectures in the classroom. This sudden outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic shook the entire world. This situation challenged the education system worldwide and forced educators to shift to an online teaching mode overnight. Many academic institutions that were earlier reluctant to change their traditional approach, had no option but to turn entirely to online teaching-learning. Online learning faces many challenges ranging from learner's issues, educator's problems, and content issues. There is challenge for the institution to engage students and make them participate in the teaching-learning process, while, as for teachers, changing the teaching methodology and managing the time. It is challenging to develop content which not only covers the curriculum but engages the student. Thus, our Institute developed an effective and efficient educational system to impact education via online mode.

**Team: Sir, how were training programs or FDPs organized during the period Oct-Dec, 2020, if any? Since it is all conducted online now, what were the challenges/changes adapted by our faculty members?**

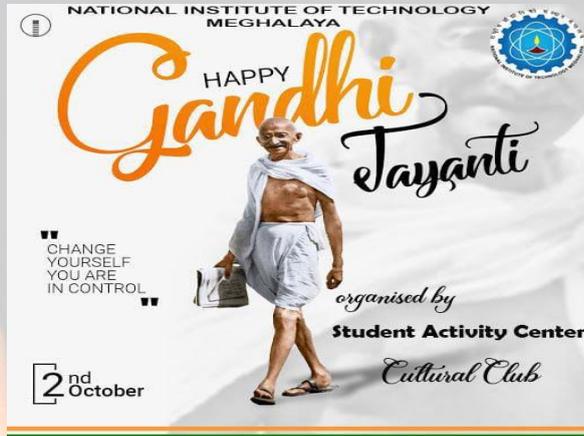
Dean: Several online training programs are organized during the period Oct-Dec, 2020, and the organizing faculty members faced many challenges due to the online conduct of training programs such as lack of technical expertise, technological support, engagement opportunity, proper content strategies, awareness about the audience, lesser two way communication, lesser exclusive benefits, consultancy for technological limitations, understanding sponsors' concerns, and creativity about event promotion. Professional event managers plan the events on a reliable platform carefully. These were the problems our faculty members have faced during the conduct of the online faculty development programs.

**Team: Sir, while some say that online mode of education may be a fiasco in the long term since engineering students need exposure to laboratories and other equipments, softwares etc, what is done to maintain the high academic standards of our Institute?**

Dean: The aim of experimental work in the engineering curriculum is to develop experimental design, problem-solving, and analysis skills; to develop data recording and analysis skills; familiarizing students with equipments, techniques and materials; to develop practical skills, communicational interpersonal skills technical judgemental professional practices; to integrate theory and practice, and to motivate students. Even though practical components' online delivery may be carefully designed to achieve most of the learning items through different approaches such as demonstration, exercises, structured enquiry, open-ended enquiry, and student made projects, however, familiarization of equipment and developing various skills may be challenging. The online delivery of laboratory and experiments can be effectively designed except for some aspects like hands-on, practical exercises to maintain the high academic standards of our Institute. During the pandemic situation, we have recorded the online laboratory classes and shared videos with the students for their understanding. Our faculty members and their technical supporting staffs have taken a lot of strain to acquaint the students with these experiments.

## INTRA NIT ANNUAL QUIZ COMPETITION on THE OCCASION of GANDHI JAYANTI

This quiz competition was held on October 2, 2020 and has served as a platform to celebrate the 151<sup>st</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, which ended up arousing a patriotic feeling in the



hearts of all students and faculties. On the occasion of **Gandhi Jayanti**, the great deeds of Bapu were remembered, and the audience was left with a sense of pride.

Literary Club, Cultural Committee was the organizer of this quiz competition. A total of 60 students have participated in this event. **Tanisha Kant** was the winner of this quiz competition, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up were **Prashasti Misra** and **Ritik Mani Yadav**, respectively.

### INVITED TALKS

**Dr. P. S. Mangang**, Head of Department, Department of Humanities and Social Science, delivered an invited talk on the topic, '**The Need for Translating Vernacular North-East Literature into English**' as a resource person at the Two Day National Webinar which was organized on '**Tribal Literature and Philosophy of North East India**' by Poorvangan, which was organized by Poorvangan, Shillong, and Indian Council of Social Science Research, North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong, during October 2 -October 3, 2020.

### VISIT of STUDENTS from ENGINEERING INSTITUTIONS to

#### ATAL TUNNEL

Atal Tunnel (also known as **Rohtang Tunnel**) is a highway tunnel built under the **Rohtang Pass** in the eastern Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas on the Leh-Manali Highway in **Himachal Pradesh, India**. The **9.02km** long, world's longest motorable tunnel situated at an altitude above 1000ft, has been constructed in an extremely difficult and hostile climate, deploying the latest and best practices in tunnel technology with state of art features which includes semi-transverse ventilation, **SCADA** controlled fire-fighting, illumination and monitoring systems.

On October 3, 2020 Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed that the knowledge of this technological marvel of the country, encompassing the best practices in engineering, design, planning, construction and project management, be disseminated to students of engineering colleges and institutions whom should be encouraged to visit this tunnel to see, appreciate and assimilate the capabilities in tunneling efforts which now exists within the country.

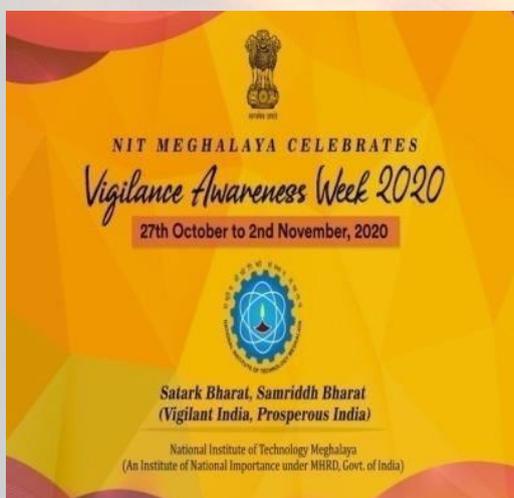
## 1<sup>st</sup> INTRA-INSTITUTE ANNUAL COMPETITION of NIT MEGHALAYA MUSIC CLUB

Singing competition can be a good way to help build self-confidence; the Music Club organized a contest on October 17, 2020. The competition had 27 participants and was held using an online mode of communication (Google Meet). All the participants participated and showcased their talents accompanied by music tracks, and the winners were announced a few minutes after the performances.



## VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK, 2020 CELEBRATION

National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya, celebrates 'Vigilance Awareness Week 2020' through online mode, and the programme was inaugurated on October 27, 2020 in the presence of esteemed dignitaries. **Shri. Vivek Dutt**, Superintendent of Police, Head of Branch, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), ACB, Shillong graced the occasion as chief guest. Also, Prof. B. B. Biswal, Director, NIT Meghalaya, and Shri. B. N. Choudhury graced us with their presence. The Registrar, NIT Meghalaya, had their august, presence. Faculty members, staff & students joined during the event.



The dignitaries delivered speeches highlighting the numerous ways to collectively participate in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and raise public awareness regarding the existence, gravity of the threat posed by corruption. **Shri Vivek Dutt** presented before the audience legal consequences and proceedings about corruption matters.

This vigilance awareness week is celebrated during October 27 - November 2, 2020 with the theme "Satark Bharat, Samridh Bharat (Vigilant India, Prosperous India)."

## ANNUAL INTRA INSTITUTE PAINTING COMPETITION

On the eve of the National Vigilance Awareness week poster painting competition was held on October 28, 2020 by the Photography and Fine arts Club of SAC. The theme of the competition was “Integrity and Honesty—a way of life” and it was conducted through online mode (Google meet).

**Jahnvi Kashyap, Sushmita Paul and Rohit Kumar Prasad** respectively secured the first, second and third position.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on MATHEMATICS

Department of mathematics of NIT Meghalaya, has participated in an international conference titled “4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mathematics: An Istanbul Meeting for World Mathematicians”. The conference was held online in Istanbul, Turkey during **October 27 - 30, 2020**. A research scholar of NIT Meghalaya, **Mr. Ajit Kumar Gupta** presented an article entitled “On Nonempty Intersection Properties in Metric Spaces” which was joint work done by him and **Dr. Saikat Mukherjee**, Associate Professor, NIT Meghalaya.

## **ANNUAL INTRA INSTITUTE DEBATE COMPETITION**

The literary club of NIT Meghalaya organized "Annual Intra Institute Debate Competition" on October 30, 2020 on the topic "**Community Vigilance Alone Can Stem Corruption**" to celebrate the Vigilance Awareness Week, 2020. The competition was judged by **Dr. Indrani Bora Bhuyan**, Registrar of ICFAI University. The Best Team Award was awarded to the team of **Preeti Polai, Debasmita Das and Shubham Singal**. Meenakshi Kharel secured the 1st prize for the Best Speaker Award and Tanisha Kant and Debasmita Das, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize respectively. The Best Interjector Award was awarded to **Shubham Singal**.

## **ANNUAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION**

The EBSB Club & Literary Club of Cultural Committee of Student Activity Center (SAC) in collaboration with Chief Vigilance Officer of NIT Meghalaya organized the "Annual Essay Writing Competition" on October 31, 2020 on the theme, "Satark Bharat Samridh Bharat" to celebrate the Vigilance Awareness Week, 2020. The competition was judged by **Dr. W. L. Reenbohn**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, NIT Meghalaya. **Debasmita Das** secured the 1st prize and **Shivam Pandit** and **Durga Gajula**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize respectively.

## **RASHTRIYA EKTA DIWAS**

The EBSB Club of Cultural Committee of Student Activity Center (SAC) of NIT Meghalaya celebrated the "Rashtriya Ekta Diwas" on October 31, 2020. The programme was addressed by faculty of EBSB Club, Dean of Students' Welfare and the Director of NIT Meghalaya, a Pledge Taking Ceremony was also held to mark the occasion which was followed by songs sung by two of the students of NIT Meghalaya, followed by vote of thanks by the President of SAC, NIT Meghalaya.

## RECENT ADVANCES in PHYSICS

- A senior research scholar of NIT Meghalaya Department of Physics, **Mr. Deepak Gupta** got his research paper titled “**Detailed analysis of a room temperature antiferroelectric liquid crystalline material forming polar mesophases**” published on November 20,2020 in the Journal of Molecular Liquids under the supervision of **Dr. Ayon Bhattacharjee**, Professor, NIT Meghalaya.
- In the Journal “**Solid State Communication**” a paper work entitled “**Effect of cation distribution and temperature variation on magnetic and dielectric properties of manganese substituted cobalt ferrites**” was jointly worked upon by Ms. Sikha Sarmah of Department of Physics, NIT Meghalaya, **Ms. Aakansha** of Department of Physics, IIT Guwahati, **P.K Maji** of Department of Polymer and Process Engineering, IIT Roorkee, **S. Ravi** of Department of Physics, IIT Guwahati and Dr. **Tribedi Bora**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, NIT Meghalaya.



## COLOURED FEATHERS

The following research scholars of NIT Meghalaya successfully completed their oral defense viva- voce examination during **October- December, 2020** :

Name of the student	Department	Name of the supervisor(s)	Title of the thesis	Date Of Viva- voce
<b>Mrs. Chaichi devi</b>	Civil Engineering	Dr. Meena Khwairakpam & Dr. Atanu Singha Roy	Bioconversion and value addition of terrestrial weeds through vermicomposting	November 26, 2020
<b>Mr. Swarnankur Ghosh</b>	Electrical Engineering	Dr. Supriyo Das	Modeling and analysis of UG cable considering multiple semiconductor screens	December 15, 2020
<b>Mr. Rangebok Lyngwa</b>	Humanities and Social Science	Dr. P.S.Mangang	The Dynamics of Oppression and Resistance in Select Plays of Vijay Tendulkar	December 28, 2020

## 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVOCATION

NIT Meghalaya marked its **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation** on **December 4, 2020** via online mode. Honorable Education Minister, Government of India, **Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** attended the occasion as the Chief Guest. **Shri Sajjan Bhajanka**, Chairman, Century Plyboards (India) Limited, and **Prof. B. B. Biswal**, Director, NIT Meghalaya, were present as eminent personages. The Deans, Head of Department of each department, faculty members and non-teaching staff also attended the convocation. Students joined the live convocation ceremony on social media. The institute conferred degrees to **10 Ph.D, 56 M.Tech, 38 M.Sc** and **123 B.Tech** students.





The students rewarded for their exceptional efforts are:

Medals Awarded	Name of the awardees
<b>President Gold Medal</b>	Devansh Maurya, B.Tech CSE
<b>Institute Gold Medal</b>	Devansh Maurya, B.Tech CSE
	Robin Wilson, M.Tech EE
	Bichu George, M.Sc. MA
<b>Institute Silver Medal (B.Tech)</b>	Devansh Maurya, CSE
	Abhushan Adhikari Joshi, ECE
	Aniruddha Arun Agrawal,
	Debasis Sahoo, EE
	Jakish Sheikh, CE
	Devashish Dubey, ME
<b>Institute Silver Medal (M.Tech)</b>	Bolla Madhu Sudhan, CE
	Subhasree Majumder, CSE
	V.V. Bhargava Narendra, ECE
	Robin Wilson, EE
	M Srinivasrao, ME
<b>Institute Silver Medal (M.Sc.)</b>	Himadri Sikha Saikia, CY
	Bichu George, MA
	Dhruv Agrawal, PH

## CODING CLUB of NIT-MEGHALAYA

### EXPERT TALKS

The Coding Club of NIT Meghalaya has been conducting live online interactive sessions where experts or distinguished alumni of the institute are invited to deliver a talk. The first talk was conducted on **December 5, 2020**. The speaker of the session was **Ketan Anand** (NIT Meghalaya, B.Tech, CSE 2015-2019). He is currently employed as a senior member of Technical staff at **Mentor Graphics**. He also has the experience of working in GAP Inc. The second guest lecture was conducted on **December 7, 2020**. The speaker of the session was Professor Dr. Vipin Pal. The next guest lecture was conducted on **December 12, 2020**. The speaker of the session was **Devansh Maurya** (NIT Meghalaya, B.Tech, CSE 2016-2020). He completed a research internship from Canada. He was awarded the President Gold Medal, Gold Medal and Silver Medal by NIT Meghalaya in the year 2020. He is now working as **Android Engineer** at **Doubtnut**. The last guest lecture for the month of December was conducted on **December 27, 2020**. The speaker of the session was Prem Kumar Tiwari (NIT Meghalaya, B.Tech, CSE). Currently he is working at Google as **Senior- Software Engineer**.

### DATA STRUCTURE and ALGORITHM LECTURE SERIES

The **Coding Club of NIT MEGHALAYA** has been conducting the Data Structure and Algorithm (DSA) Lecture Series since December 5, 2020. Distinguished alumni of the institute are invited to deliver their talk. Through the interactive lecture series, the Coding Club strives to build a strong and effective community of coders in NIT Meghalaya. Apart from lecture series, the club has also organized various activities related to coding such as coding contests, quizzes, Leet code problem solving, Hacker Rank practice problem series, etc. **Mr. Jaswant Arya** and **Mr. Utkarsh Kumar** are the president & secretary of institute's Coding Club respectively.

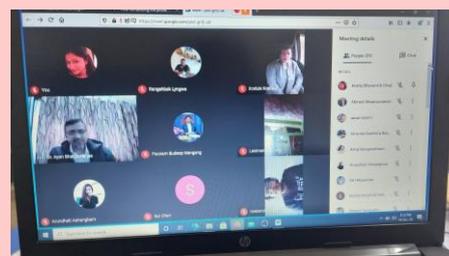


### COIN 2020

A five-day Online International Conference on '**Interdisciplinary Interpretation of Literature**' [COIN-2020], sponsored by TEQIP, was organized by the **Department of Humanities and Social Sciences**, National Institute of Technology Meghalaya (hereinafter NIT Meghalaya) during December 14 - 18, 2020. Twelve resource persons from Russia, Bangladesh, NITs, and other universities delivered plenary talks on various aspects of interdisciplinary interpretation of Literature. About



sixty delegates actively participated in the conference. **Dr. P. S. Mangang**, Head of Department, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, **Ms. Ankita Bhowmick**, Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, , **Mr. Rangebok Lyngwa**, Research Scholar, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, were the Chairperson, Event Coordinator and Sessions Coordinator respectively.



## AMCAT (ASPIRING MINDS COMPUTER ADAPTIVE TEST)

Aspiring Minds Computer Adaptive Test, sponsored by TEQIP-III was held online on December 19, 2020 for all B.Tech students, under the supervision of Dr. Rajat Subhra Das, Head of Placement Cell, NIT Meghalaya. This test was conducted to evaluate core skills of a student such as reasoning, quantitative aptitude, English and technical skills. Almost all the student appeared for the test. AMCAT was very helpful for the students in order to prepare for placements.

## YABHAKRITI - THE ROBOTICS CLUB of NITM

### EXPERT TALKS

Yabhakriti, the **robotics club** of NIT Meghalaya has been conducting live interactive online sessions where distinguished alumni of the institute are invited to deliver a talk in the field of robotics. The club conducted its first Alumni Talk on **December 20, 2020**. The topic of the talk was "Getting started with Robotics and its way ahead". **Mr. Somansh Raj** (NIT-MEGHALAYA, M.Tech, 2015-2017) who is currently working as Senior Electronics Engineer at Jet brain robotics (Ex- Amazon), was the guest. The session was live from 4:00 PM to 5:00PM. The second Alumini Talk was conducted on December 27, 2020. The topic was, "**Familiarisation with Robotics techniques in demand.**" The speaker of the session was **Mr. Anurag Shakya** (B.Tech2015-2019). He had participated in the 2018 ACM -ICPC Regionals. He is at present employed as **Software Engineer** at **GAP Inc**. This session was live from 11:00 AM to 12:00PM, where **Preeti Polai** and **Mayank Singh** were the convenors of the club.

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