



Sikkim University

chronicle

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Teaching
Recruitment, 2015

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Editor-in Charge's Note

Dear friends, as the September issue of the SU Chronicle reaches you, we trust that it finds you all at your best. The grey skyline, stretching far beyond the misty mountains, has not been able to dampen our spirits. Academic engagements and co-curricular activities have kept all of us busy, around much of the last few weeks. While, on the one hand, the university fraternity have pledged their dedication in the service of the nation during the 69th Independence Day celebrations, on the other, students, teachers, administrative officers and staff have joined hands, in an earnest effort, to clean every nook and corner of the university premise. While the Internal Quality Assurance Cell has been occupied with the task of formulating policies, which could best promote quality education, the National Service Scheme has been working towards evoking consciousness amongst young intellectuals, towards preserving much of the fast disappearing local culture. And then, amidst all of this has arrived, the most rewarding of all experiences... heartfelt warm greetings from students on Teachers' Day, moments of togetherness, joy...and a gentle reminder of our grave responsibility in nurturing young minds and millions of possibilities lying latent therein. We eagerly look forward to having many more new members joining our Sikkim University family soon and may we grow and let grow in every possible way.

Dhriti Roy

Ukhan Competition organised by National Service Scheme



Folk traditions across the world are fast disappearing. In order to address this issue from a close range and to create an awareness amongst the youth population of the region, the National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell of Sikkim University organized Ukhan Competition on the occasion of Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas on 20 August. The competition, as part of a unique initiative, was able to encourage students of the university to keep alive Nepali folk traditions, through literature and language. The programme was presided over by Professor T.B. Subba, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Sikkim University. Shri T.K. Kaul, Registrar and Dr. Dhaniraj Chettri, Dean of Students' Welfare also graced the occasion. Students from various academic departments of Sikkim University participated in this competition and presented short stories based on proverbs on the theme "Friends" in Nepali folk language. The performance was judged by Professor P.C. Pradhan from the Department of Nepali, Sikkim University and Ms. Geeta Nirola, Assistant Professor from the

Department of Nepali, Sikkim Government College, Tadong. Shri Rudra Poudyal, an eminent literary figure in the field of Nepali language, addressed the audience, reiterating the significance of Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas. Ms. Rita Sharma from the Department of Botany, Mr. Atish Tamang from the Department of Music and Mr. Yogesh Kumar Adhikari from the Department of Mathematics, Sikkim University were awarded the First, Second and Third prizes respectively. The competition ended on an optimistic note, with a hope that students from in and around this region, would be consciously working in every possible capacity to prevent folk traditions from dying out.

Sikkim University Celebrates 69th Independence Day

The 69th Independence Day was celebrated with warm enthusiasm by Sikkim University fraternity on 15 August. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University, Professor T. B. Subba, hoisted the Tricolour in the presence of university statutory officers, faculty members, students and staff. Addressing the gathering in Hindi, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor called upon every individual of the nation, irrespective of their status, position and identity, to show utmost commitment to the institution which he or she belongs to. Professor Subba's keynote address in Hindi, was a gesture towards emphasizing the growing significance of Hindi as Rashtra Bhasha, and also reflected his desire to be able to share his thoughts with each and every member of the university fraternity, hailing from different parts of the country. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor underlined the need for every Indian citizen to serve his or her institution with sincerity, honesty and dedication, if India was to emerge stronger in the years to come. Registrar, Sikkim University, Shri T. K. Kaul, in his speech, also stressed upon the importance of honesty as a pre-requisite in the nation-building process. Students from the Department of Music led the choir of the National Anthem, while faculty members and staff pledged their dedication in the service of the nation.

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Seminars, Workshops and Conferences

Dr. Manivannan, Associate Professor and Head, **Dr. Sujata Upadhyaya**, Assistant Professor, and Postgraduate students from the Department of Horticulture, Sikkim University presented the following papers at the Third International Symposium on Underutilized Plant Species-Exploration and Conservation for Future Generation organized by the International Society of Horticultural Science, Belgium at KVK, AC & RI, TNAU, Madurai, Tamil Nadu from 5 to 8 August, 2015.

1. Determination of Nutritional Profile of Himalayan Filbert (*Corylus ferox*)
Authored by Pabitra Subba, Sujata Upadhyay, S. Manivannan and Reymit Lepcha
2. Study on Value Addition and Products Diversification of Mallero (*Eleagnus latifolia*)
Authored by Reymit Lepcha, Sujata Upadhyay, S. Manivannan and Pabitra Subba
3. Determination of Nutritional Profile of Nakima (*Tupistra nutans*)
Authored by Reeya Gurung, Sujata Upadhyay, S. Manivannan and Trisna Gurung



The Department of Computer Applications, Sikkim University organized a Seminar on 28 August on Green Computing. Dr. Asoke Nath, Associate Professor from St. Xavier's College, Kolkata was invited as the eminent speaker for the occasion. He delivered a lecture titled, "Introduction to Green Computing". Dr. Nath, briefed the gathering on certain basic concepts of Green Computing. He defined it as "the study and practice of designing, manufacturing, using, and disposing of computers, servers, and associated subsystems, such as monitors, printers, storage devices, and networking and communications systems, efficiently and effectively with minimal or no impact on the environment". He introduced various approaches to Green Computing such as product longevity, algorithmic efficiency, resource allocation, virtualization, terminal servers, power management, material recycling, telecommuting, while highlighting some of the recent research findings in this domain.

The Legal Aid Clinic, Department of Law and the Sikkim State Legal Services Authority, jointly organized a sensitization programme on the "Rights of Elderly vis-à-vis Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007" on 5 September, 2015.

The Department of Music organized a day-long musical interactive session and lecture demonstration on 9 September with Mr. Tim Hoffman who shared much of his experiences about music from Japan and India. The musical evening proved to be a rewarding experience for all of those who were present.

Nepali Department celebrates Bhanu Smaran and 23rd Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas



The 23rd Bhasha Manyata Diwas and Bhanu Smriti Diwas was organized by the Department of Nepali on 22 August at Paryatan Bhawan, Metro Point, Gangtok. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. T. B. Subba chaired the programme, while eminent language and literary expert, Dr Gokul Sinha graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Amongst other distinguished guests present on the occasion were President, Sikkim Akademy, Shri Pempa Tamang, Registrar, Shri T. K. Kaul, Finance Officer, Shri P. K. Singh, and Dean, School of Languages and Literature, Professor Irshad Gulam Ahmed. Dr Gokul Sinha, in his lecture on "Nepali language and the Ramayana," emphasized the role of missionaries in the promotion of Nepali, appreciated the crucial part played by the Government of Sikkim for its recognition, and underlined the need for the Government of



Sikkim to arouse interest on lexicographic and linguistic publications. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Professor Subba, in his address, reiterated that despite having received recognition, achievements in the field of Nepali language and literature are still far from satisfactory. On this occasion, four distinguished invited poets Shri Raja Punyani, Shri Basudev Pulami, Shri Prabin Khaling, and Smt. Sudha M. Rai also recited their poems.



Workshop on "Knowing IQAC"

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Sikkim University organized a one day workshop on "Knowing IQAC" on 28 August. The workshop was chaired by Professor T. B. Subba, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor who is also concurrently the Chairperson of IQAC. The event was graced by the presence of Registrar, Shri T. K. Kaul, Finance Officer, Shri P. K. Singh, faculty members from across all departments of Sikkim University and from its affiliated colleges. Professor A. P. Pathak from School of Physics,



University of Hyderabad and Dr. S. N. Ojha from Integration Science Education and Research Centre, Visva Bharati Siksha Bhavan, Shantiniketan were invited as distinguished resource persons for the occasion. Dr. Subir Mukhopadhyay, Member Secretary of Sikkim University IQAC formally welcomed all participants to the workshop. As Chairperson of Sikkim University IQAC, Professor Subba introduced the significance of IQAC to all members of the university fraternity, with regard to maintaining quality of life, both in personal and



professional realms. Registrar, Shri T. K. Kaul, emphasized the need for teachers to assess their teaching methods from time to time and subsequently bring about necessary innovations as and when required. Eminent speaker for the day, Professor Pathak explained the role of IQAC in nurturing professional skills alongside maintaining quality in academic performance. He also elaborated on various mechanisms through which faculty members of universities and colleges could contribute to the enhancement of quality in their respective institutions. Dr. Ojha, the other distinguished resource person, in his lecture, briefed the audience about the aims and objectives of India, regarding upgradation of its higher education. He also focused on the core tasks of the IQAC and how the Cell could function effectively in order to ensure quality education. Each of these two lectures was followed by a discussion session which was highly interactive and provided ample scope for debates and deliberations.



Faculty Column

National Service Scheme and its Role in Personality Development of Indian Youth (Part I)

Dr. Sujata Upadhyaya
Assistant Professor
Department of Horticulture

National Service Scheme is one of the flagship schemes of the Government of India, governed under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for personality development of Indian youth. The overall aim of National Service Scheme is to give an extended dimension to the higher education system and orient the student youth to community service while they are studying in an educational institution, so as to develop their latent leadership skills. The educated youth of colleges /+2 level who are expected to take the reins of administration in future, are found to be unaware of the problems of the village/slum community and in certain cases are indifferent towards their needs and problems. Their interaction with the common villagers and slum dwellers will expose them to the realities of life and bring about a change in their social perception and help them in policy or decision making. One another scheme for personality development of rural youth under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

Regarding the historical background of NSS, the idea of involving students in the task of national service dates back to the times of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. The University Grants Commission headed by Dr. Radhakrishnan recommended introduction of national service in the academic institutions on a voluntary basis with a view to developing healthy contacts between the students and teachers on the one hand and establishing a constructive linkage between the campus and the community on the other hand.

Further contributions were made by several committees and conferences. Planning Commission

sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 5 crores for National Service Scheme (NSS) during the Fourth Five Year Plan. On September 24, 1969, the then Union Education Minister Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao, launched the NSS programme in 37 universities covering all States and simultaneously requested the Chief Ministers of States for their cooperation and help. NSS was formally launched on 24th September, 1969, the birth centenary year of the Father of the Nation. Therefore, 24 September is celebrated every year as NSS Day with appropriate programmes and activities. Starting with an enrolment of 40,000 students in 1969 in 37 Universities, the coverage of NSS students has increased to 299 Universities with 3.26 million volunteers.

There are several instances of excellent work and exemplary conduct of NSS units which have earned them respect and confidence of the people like special camping programmes organised under the themes of 'Youth Against Famine (1973)', "Universities Talk AIDS" (UTA) etc.

The National Policy on Education 1986, with modification undertaken in 1992 envisages that opportunities will be provided for the youth to involve themselves in national and social development through educational institutions and outside agencies. The motto or watchword of the National Service Scheme is: 'NOT ME BUT YOU'. The symbol of the National Service Scheme is based on the 'Rath' wheel of the Konark Sun Temple situated in Orissa. The NSS symbol is embossed on the NSS badge. During Silver Jubilee Year the NSS theme song "Uthein Samaj Ke Liye" was composed. The NSS activities have been divided in two major groups. These are regular NSS

activities and special camping programme

(a) Regular NSS Activity: The activities include orientation, campus work, institutional work, rural projects, urban projects, natural calamity and emergencies, observation of national days etc. The main four components of regular activities are blood donation, plantation, health awareness and sanitation awareness.

(b) Special Camping Programme: Under this, camps of 7 days duration are organized in adopted villages or urban slums during vacations with some specific projects by involving local communities. 50% NSS volunteers are expected to participate in these camps.

The themes which can be taken for regular activities or special camp are :-Environment Enrichment and Conservation, Health, Family Welfare and Nutrition Programme, Awareness for improvement of the status of women, Social Service Programmes, Production Oriented Programmes, Relief & Rehabilitation work during Natural Calamities and Education and Recreations and the activities organized may be plantation, creation of NSS parks, sanitation awareness, mass immunization, AIDS Awareness and preliminary health care, educating people and making them aware of women's rights both constitutional and legal work in hospitals, organizing blood donation, eye pledge programmes, working with people and explaining and teaching improved agricultural practices, weed control, soil-testing, soil health care and soil conservation.

(To be Continued)

Students' Column

Chinese Tea Culture

Tea in China is not only a drink but a culture in itself. Today, in China, tea houses still flourish, and most of them strive hard to retain the old popular culture which characterizes Chinese life. It is interesting to note that quite a large number of books are dedicated to the study of tea culture in China, ranging from the eighth century Classic of Tea, to hundreds of specialized volumes, dating from more contemporary times. There are three main varieties of tea in China and Taiwan, namely green tea, black tea and Wulong tea. Tea preparation in Chinese culture entails a complex process. There are different ways of washing tea leaves and cleaning tea pots. In fact, it is seen to be close to art and aesthetics. In the Chinese style of tea making, tea leaves cannot be soaked for too long in boiling water, otherwise the tea tastes bitter (hen ku).

Usually Chinese and Taiwanese do not add sugar and milk in the tea. Each variety of tea has its own distinct flavour and aroma. In Chinese tea culture, there is often a small porcelain container which is used for smelling the aroma of tea. It is called wen xiang bei. Out of different varieties of tea, some are fermented (fa xiao), while others are not. Gao shen cha are not fermented and are not considered good for digestion, if taken in great quantity. Xiang pian or scented tea is a popular variety in northern china. Gai wan cha or lidded teacup (cha bei) is used in Beijing and Da wan cha or tea bowl is used in Sichuan province of China. Sipping tea in China is no ordinary business, but with all its complexities, it is indeed a grand ceremony.

Satyanand Bharti
MA III Semester
Department of Chinese

Workshop on Hindi Rajbhasha



Sikkim University Hindi Cell organized a Rajbhasha Workshop on 2 September 2015 on the topic, "Rajbhasha Implementation: Challenges and their Solutions". Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Sikkim University, Professor T. B. Subba presided over the programme. Registrar, Shri T.K Kaul and Finance Officer, Shri P. K Singh were also present for the occasion. Shri Dinesh Shahu, Assistant Professor from the Department of Hindi was the chief resource person in the workshop. The programme was convened by Hindi Officer Shri Shailesh Shukla and co-convened by Hindi Translator Ms. Jutika Goswami.

Special Lecture on "Taiwan-China-India Trilateral Relations: Prospects and Challenges"

The Department of Chinese organized a Special Lecture by Dr. Mumin Chen, Chair at the Graduate Institute of International Politics and Director of the Center for Strategic Studies on South Asia and the Middle East, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan on "Taiwan-China-India Trilateral Relations: Prospects and Challenges". The central theme of presentation, interaction and discussion remained to be outlining the present political, economic and cultural interactions between the two rising powers in Asia, namely India and China, with a special focus on exploring Taiwan's future possible intervening role in areas of bilateral academic cooperation with India.

SU Hindi Cell is Celebrating Hindi Month

Sikkim University Hindi Cell is celebrating Hindi Month 2015 from 4 September to 3 October. The celebration has already begun with Hindi Essay writing competition on 4 September in which over forty candidates from Sikkim University and its affiliated colleges have participated.

Inauguration of the Chinese Language Laboratory

The Department of Chinese held the inauguration ceremony of their Chinese language laboratory on 3 August. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Professor T. B. Subba, graced the inaugural event as Chief Guest. Other distinguished guests on the occasion included Registrar, Sikkim University, Shri T. K. Kaul, Finance Officer, Shri P. K. Singh, Dean of the School of Languages and Literature, Professor Irshad Gulam Ahmed and Visiting Guest Faculty, Dr. Mumin Chen. Designed to provide the latest audio-video facilities pertaining to native Chinese language training, the interactive Orell Digital language software equips learners of Chinese language with high-end translation and interpretation skills, and offers teachers the most innovative kind of classroom teaching and Chinese language training.



Teachers' Day Celebration in the Different Departments



A Glimpse of "Knowing IQAC"



Glimpse of Nepali Bhasha Diwas 2015



Upcoming Events

27 September 2015:

One-day workshop on "Addressing Regional Disparity in Higher Education in India."

Organized By:
Department of Education, Sikkim University.