

Report on National Seminar Sponsored by ICSSR and organized by Dept of History & Education, JDSG College, Bokakhat.

Title of the Seminar:

Prospects and Challenges in the Development of Higher Education in North-East India: The New Education Policy Perspective.

Dates: 27th & 28th September, 2019

About the seminar:

A two-day National Seminar on Prospects and challenges in the development of higher education in North-East India was organized by JDSG College, Bokakhat in order to study regarding the issues and challenges in higher education in India in general and North-East India in particular. This Seminar has been sponsored by ICSSR, Shillong and organized by Dept of History & Education, JDSG College, Bokakhat in collaboration with Mangalam. After implementation of the New Education Policy it is desirable to hold discussions and debates regarding the key issues and challenges of the same. There were very fruitful discussions on the issues such as access, equity, inclusion, quality of research etc. Moreover, basic problems in present higher education scenario such as inadequate infrastructural facilities, a smaller number of faculty, outdated teaching methods, declining research standards, low level motivation among students, ethnic imbalances, gender bias, students drop out etc. persist in higher education. Therefore, an attempt was made in this seminar to arrive at a reasonable solution to the issues and challenges in higher education in North-East India. The Seminar started with the inaugural programme graced by Dr Babulal More, ex-vice Principal of JDSG College, Present Vice-principal Manashi Phukan along with Keynote Speaker Dr Neeta Kalita Barua, Professor Dept of Education & Chairperson, Centre for Behavioural sciences, Dibrugarh University.

Participants Profile:

A total of 92 delegates from different districts of Assam and other North-eastern states were participated which comprised teaching faculties of universities and colleges, research scholars and students. A total of 39 research papers have been presented in this two days National Seminar in four technical sessions.

Inaugural Ceremony (27.09.19) 10am-11.30 am.

The inaugural session of the seminar began on 27th September, 2019 at 10 am with a chorus performed by the students of the Department of History & Education under the guidance of Sri Atul Bezbaruah, Associate Professor, Dept of Commerce. Mrs Putali Khound retired professor of Dept of Political Science did the honours of the ceremonial lighting of the lamp. The welcome address was delivered by Vice principal, Mrs Manashi Phukan. Mrs Phukan welcomed all dignitaries, presenters and all present in the programme with a brief introduction of the college. The inaugural speech delivered by Dr Babulal More who emphasized the quality higher education for the present competitive society. Following this, Dr Neeta Kalita Barua, professor, Dept of Education & Chairperson Centre for Behavioural studies, Dibrugarh University delivered her Keynote Speech pointing out the main issues and policies of Draft


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National Educational Policy, 2019. Other dignitaries present in this session were Dr Binoybroto Rajkhowa, Associate Professor, Dept of Economics,CKB College, Teok. Mr Jitu Sarmah Rajkhowa, president Mangalam and Kamal Gogoi Academic incharge JDSG College, Bokakkhat. The students, teachers and participants from different parts of Assam were also present in the session. The session was anchored by Chiranjib Dahal, the joint-coordinator and Mrs Manjumoni Neog delivered vote of thanks and with that the inaugural session was concluded. Following the inaugural session there was a tea break after which first technical session started which was chaired by Prof Neeta Kalita Barua.



Chorus performed by the students in inaugural ceremony



Felicitating of guests(left) & gathering during inaugural ceremony(right)



Professor Neeta Kalita Barua delivering Keynote speech


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Retired professor Putali Khaund during ceremonial lighting of the lamp

The First Technical Session (27.09.2019) 12pm to 1.30pm

After a short introductory speech by course coordinator Santisaya Baruah the first technical session was started which was graced by professor Neeta Kalita Barua, Professor, Dept of Education, Dibrugarh University as resource person. In this session eight speakers presented their findings of recent Studies. Kankana Moran and Nitu Bhumij informed the gathering about the MOOCs and Higher Education; issues and challenges. The resource person advised to focus on connectionism and participatory learning. Dr Mantu Boro presented a very interesting paper on issues and challenges of physical education and sports in Assam where he highlighted movement, touch and communication for holistic development. Dr Bijoy Lakshmi Neog and Mrs Inumoni Gogoi presented a paper on inequality as hindrance in development of higher education of higher education of women. Dr Pranjal Pratim Dutta presented a paper on Understanding Higher Education in India in the perspective of National Education Policy. He made empirical analyses on the issues and challenges of NEP. Dr Amar Upadhyay & Sasisprova Musahary did their presentation on students' perceptions on teachers' teaching practices in higher educational institutions with special reference to the study on Dibrugarh University where they studied with well defined methodology. ICT and innovative practices in Higher Education by Laimwn Brahma & Dr Derhasad Brahma was another presentation in the session. Jogesh Changmai & Arotee Newar presented their research paper on use of ICT in classroom teaching in colleges under Dibrugarh University. Kasmita Bora delivered her paper on E-governance in Higher Education; initiates, prospects and challenges. These speeches and presentations were followed by questions, discussions and viewpoints of the participants and speakers. The first technical session was concluded by overall observation of all the papers by resource paper.


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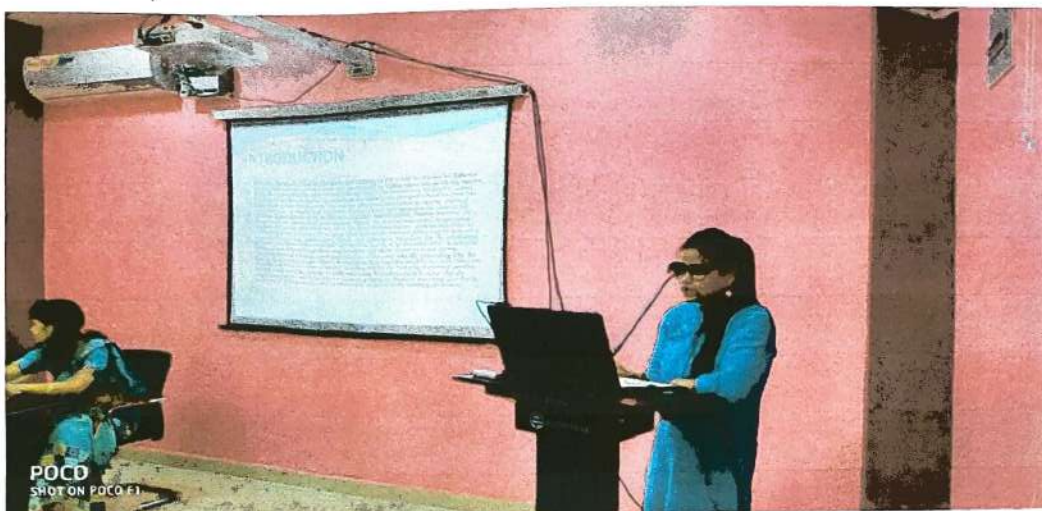


Glimpses of first technical session.

The 2nd Technical Session:(2pm -3.30pm)

In the post-lunch session participants presented their paper in two parallel academic sessions. In the academic session one chaired by (i.e. the 2nd technical session) by Dr Arun Borah in which Dr Rubi Borah was the resource person. Eleven research papers have been presented in this session. Prostuti Gogoi presented her paper on Draft National Policy 2019 with special reference to Higher Education. She emphasized on the various issues and aspects of draft policy on education. Nipshikha Bania & Bilina Devi Kataky presented a paper on professional ethics in Teacher Education level with special reference to code of professional Ethics developed by NCTE, 2010. Nandini Baruah presented her research paper where she Analyzed the scenario of women in Higher Education in NE States against the backdrop of violence & conflict. The study was mainly of the condition of Naga Women. Bijit Saikia & Sushitra Borah did their presentation on contemporary education system in North East India with different issues, practices and challenges. Paper should be more analytical as suggested by resource person. Ankit Lahon & Manabjyoti Saikia presented their paper on the attitude of parents towards English as a medium of instruction in Higher Education With special reference to Meleng Tinkunia TE, Jorhat. Motiram Das presented a paper on Higher Education and Management with special reference to North East India. It was completely a theoretical paper. Anwesha Thengal & Manjit Gohain did their presentation on colonialism & Education: tool of exploitation or a true boon on Assam's experience. There was a fruitful discussion on the paper whether we are following a western model of education till now or our educational policy followed the western philosophy. Shabnam Begum presented on the development of education in Assam during pre & post-independence period. Dr Pankaj Goswami & Mr Bhairabanan Borah presented a research paper on reimagining Higher Education in the New Millennium where they focused on the research framework and reference and also for the future of NEP.


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Participants while speaking in 2nd technical session

3rd Technical Session:((2pm -3.30pm)

Parallel Academic session or the third technical session was chaired by Dr Binoybrato Rajkhowa as resource person. There were ten papers in this session. Farbin Sultana Begum presented her paper on Higher education in North-East India. She discussed mainly on the status, problems and its role in dealing with the socio-economic problems. Bichitra Pegu & Dipti Rajbangshi made their presentation on the attitude towards girls' higher education among the tea tribes' community. Pankaj Sonari & Anindita Borgohain presented on the current status of women in Higher Education in Assam. This was an analytical study. The importance of the role of teacher in imparting value education was explained very lucidly by Smriti Rekha Das. Quality education depends on the development of teacher which was discussed by Kiron Teronpi in her research paper. Manash Pratim Sarmah did his presentation on the synergies between application of ICT and Innovative Practices in Higher Education. Teachers should be given ICT workshop and how to prepare a power point presentation etc. Jyotirupa Bora explained about the women in Higher education of North-East India with special reference to Assam. Daisy Gogoi presented on the theme professional ethics and accountability of teachers and its importance in teaching-learning process. Pranita Rajkhowa & Pratisha Das also presented on the professional ethics and accountability. The last presentation of this session was made by Bonosmita Hazarika on the role of higher education specially among the tea-tribe's women of Assam.

Second day of the seminar:(28.09.19)

4th Technical Session:(10.30am-12.30pm)

Second day of the seminar started with the short felicitation to resource person Dr Asomi Chaliha, Associate professor, Dept of Education, Dibrugarh University. A total of ten speakers presented their research papers in this session. Dr Pranjol Protim Kakoty in his research paper discussed on the educational development and the Labour Movement. He made his study in the Tea Plantation Sector of Assam. He tried to study the impact of the educational underdevelopment on the process of industrial bargaining


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in particular and labour movement in general. Mandira Bora in her paper Ethical Issues in Higher Education highlighted the professional ethics of college teachers. She also presented different dimensions of becoming and making ethical teachers. Gautam Sarmah did his presentation on Education system of ancient Assam where he discussed the curriculum of study and important education centres of ancient Assam. Chandan Patgiri in his research paper teacher development for quality education expressed the relevance of teacher development with the present educational system and the positive impact of teacher development in relation to quality education. He further highlighted the ways and techniques towards teacher's professional development. Archana Nath presented her paper on professional ethics and accountability of teachers and the development of teaching-learning process. Dr Ranju Morang Doley & Gargi Priyom Devi presented a comparative analysis on the women in higher education among the North-Eastern States of India. They highlighted the literacy rates of women in the North-Eastern states of India and also the challenges regarding Higher education of women in North-East India. Pranita Rajkhowa's research paper on professional ethics and accountability discussed mainly on the role of teacher in higher education in teaching learning. Rimarekha Buragohain highlighted the important aspects of NPE 1986 and it was an analytical study. Dr Mitali Nath presented her paper in Assamese entitled Spread of women education in 19th century Assam with special reference to *Arunodoi* and *Asam Bandhu* (*Unabinkha Khatikat Asamat stri sikhyar prasar*). Simanta Gogoi presented his paper on the need and importance of studying economics for today's world. He tried to show how students, consumers, producers, sellers are benefitted from studying economics.

Valedictory Session: (12.30-1.30pm)

Dr Asomi Chaliha, Associate professor Dept of education, Dibrugarh university was presented as chief guest in the valedictory session. Manasi Phukan, Vice-principal of JDSG College & Kamal Gogoi Academic in charge was also present in the occasion. All the faculty members and participants were present in this session. Dr Asomi Chaliha appreciated for organizing such seminar & also for the participants. In their feedback or lecture two of the participants also said that they were happy with the hospitality offer them from the host institution. Certificates were distributed by the guests. The programme was ended with vote of thanks by Ruli Khanikar, Associate professor, Dept of education & member of seminar organising committee.



Distribution of certificates


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Feedback from participants(left) & Guest speaking in valedictory session(right)



Teachers & students of Dept of History & Education with Guests during the seminar


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