



NEWS BULLETIN

Food For Thought : Cafeteria Culture in Girijananda Chowdhury University.



AZARA, March 27: In noted author Virginia Woolf's (1882-1941) famous extended essay, "A Room of One's Own", the first chapter, which is set in a university, carries a quote - "One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well." The universality of this quote verily accentuates the law of nature that an individual needs a nutritious input to generate a productive output. In consonance with the objective of providing improved nutrition to students, Girijananda Chowdhury University (GCU) has set up a hygienic food culture in the university premises. As a firm believer and practitioner of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the university is committed to the mission of eradicating hunger and malnutrition. At the same time, the university also extensively and stringently promotes the ideas of zero wastage of food and maintenance of standards of hygiene.



Cook Up A Storm



Bonding Over Food



The Cafeteria staff taking food orders during lunchtime.



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The Azara campus of Girijananda Chowdhury University has a large sprawling cafeteria, which consists of a mess for the students, faculty members, staff and visitors of the university to cater them with breakfast, lunch and dinner. The cafeteria is run under the proprietorship of Maa Manasha Hotel, Maligaon, Guwahati. The diverse and appetizing menu of the GCU Cafeteria, which comes with both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options, offers items like Roll, Noodles, Paratha, Momo, Fried Rice and Puri, along with the traditional Assamese Veg and Non-Veg Thalies. According to Pankaj Das, the manager of the cafeteria, the Thalies are the most preferred items from the menu in lunch and dinner, while Puri and Paratha have a large number of takers during breakfast. He also added that the cafeteria sees footfalls of around 450-500 students per day. The cafeteria caters to both the day-scholars as well as to the students who stay in the university hostels. The daily food for the Girls' and Boys' Hostels of GCU are provided from the cafeteria itself. The cafeteria strictly observes the necessary hygienic practices, and it focuses on presenting a balanced diet with the appropriate nutritional values.



The students have a lot on their plate literally and figuratively.



The crowded GCU Cafeteria Hall during lunchtime.



The Lunchtime Queue.

There is also a bakery housed within the cafeteria complex that provides a wide range of sweets and snacks like samosa, cutlet, pizza, cake, donut and pastry, among others. As per Pranjal Jyoti Das, the owner of the bakery, students and the faculty members mostly like to enjoy a hot cup of tea there, along with a light snack for refreshment.



Students ordering the snacks of their choice at the bakery inside the GCU Cafeteria complex.



Coffee and Conversations go hand in hand.

Moreover, adjacent to the cafeteria complex is a Nescafé outlet which sells different delectable varieties of coffee, tea, Maggi Noodles, sandwiches, hot dogs, burgers and chocolates. The stall offers a convivial place for insightful conversations and discussions over a cup of coffee.