



# NEWS BULLETIN

## GIRIJANANDA CHOWDHURY UNIVERSITY TRIUMPHS AT AICTE SMART INDIA HACKATHON 2024



AZARA, December 13: A proud moment for Girijananda Chowdhury University (GCU), Assam, unfolded as the University's team emerged victorious in the final round of the prestigious AICTE Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024, held on December 11th and 12th at the Prin. L. N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research, Mumbai. This year the Smart India Hackathon saw participation from 49,892 teams and 2,99,352 students across the country. Out of these, only four teams from Northeast qualified for the software edition of SIH-2024, and GCU is honoured to be among them.

Smart India Hackathon offers a dynamic platform for students across India to address real-world challenges through innovative technological solutions. Organized annually by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the hackathon attracts thousands of teams from various universities and colleges, who are tasked with solving problem statements presented by government ministries, industries, and academic institutions. These problems spanned a wide range of sectors, including healthcare, agriculture, education, urban development, and more, encouraging students to develop solutions with tangible impact. This year, a total of 254 problem statements were provided.



A proud moment for the GCU fraternity:  
Winners of Smart India Hackathon.



The team of GCU in the Smart India Hackathon.

Representing GCU, under the mentorship of faculty member Mr. Adarsh Pradhan (Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering, GCU) the team consisted of six highly dedicated students — Akash Bora (B.Tech, 1st Sem, CSE), Sankhyahrick Swami (B.Tech, 1st Sem, CSE), Rishav Kumar Singh (BCA, 1st Sem), Indrajeet Kr Singh (B.Tech, 1st Sem, CSE), Shaptarshi Debnath (B.Tech, 1st Sem, CSE), and Anshu Kumar (B.Tech, 1st Sem, CSE).

The GCU team's project, "Conversational Image Recognition Chatbot", developed for Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), was lauded for its innovative features, including targeted object detection, multilingual support, speech-to-text conversion, customizable user settings, and chat history continuity. Competing against 465 shortlisted teams under BEL's problem statement, only five, including GCU's team, were selected for the final round. The other four finalists comprised of teams from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior, Vivekanand Education Society's Institute of Technology, Mumbai, and, JCT College of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.



The participants of the event.

After meticulous evaluation, the jury recognized the GCU team's innovative approach and technical excellence, declaring them the WINNER and awarding a cash prize of ₹1,00,000. This remarkable achievement highlights GCU's commitment to innovation, technical excellence, and fostering young talent.

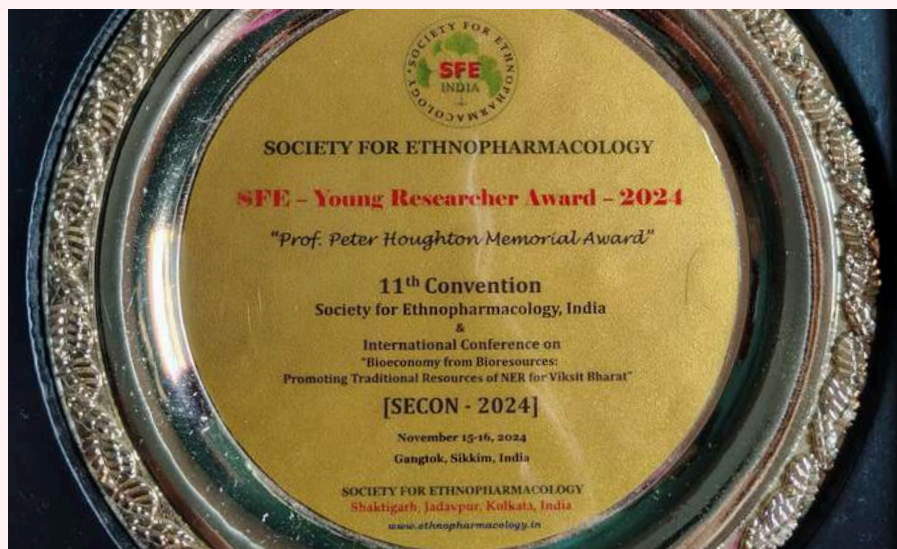




# NEWS BULLETIN

## HONOURING EXCELLENCE: MS. SANGHITA DAS OF GCU TEZPUR EARNS THE YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

AZARA, December 13: Ms. Sanghita Das, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, GCU Tezpur campus, has been honoured with the Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFE) Young Researcher Award-2024 titled "Prof. Peter Houghton Memorial Award". She received this prestigious recognition during the 11th Convention of the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India, and the International Conference on "Bioeconomy from Bioresources: Promoting Traditional Resources of NER for Viksit Bharat", organized by the BRIC-Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (BRIC-IBSD) on November 15-16, 2024, in Gangtok, Sikkim.



Ms. Sanghita Das receiving the prestigious Young Researcher Award-2024.

Ms. Sanghita Das at the 11th Convention of the Society for Ethnopharmacology.





GIRIJANANDA  
CHOWDHURY  
UNIVERSITY

13 DECEMBER 2024

Volume - XXII, Issue 2

# NEWS BULLETIN

## OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY @GCU



AZARA, December 13: The Centre for Legal Studies, Girijananda Chowdhury University organised the Observance of Human Rights Day on 10th December, 2024 in Pragya Academy, A Co-educational Senior Secondary School, Santipur, Mirza, Kamrup, Assam. The Session was begun with the felicitation of the Principal of Pragya Academy, Mrs. Anupama Das. The first part of the session was conducted by Dr. Niju Moni Das, HoD, Centre for Legal Studies, GCU, with the PPT presentation on Human Rights. The Session covered the major topics like the importance of the Human Rights Day, the concept of Human Rights, the origin of Human Rights, the significance of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the fundamental rights and Directive Principle of State Policies of the Constitution of India. The second part of the Session was conducted by Ms. Madhusmita Ronghangpi, Assistant Professor, Centre for Legal Studies, GCU, who covered the topics like the Human Rights of the Children and Women alongwith the significance of Judiciary and discussion on few judicial pronouncements. All the students and the faculty Members of the Pragya Academy participated in the Session. E-certificates is provided to all the Students of the Pragya Academy who participated in the session.



*Dr. Niju Moni Das, HoD, Centre for Legal Studies, GCU highlighting the importance of the Human Rights Day.*



*Ms. Madhusmita Ronghangpi, Assistant Professor, Centre for Legal Studies, GCU elucidating the significance of Judiciary pronouncements.*



# NEWS BULLETIN

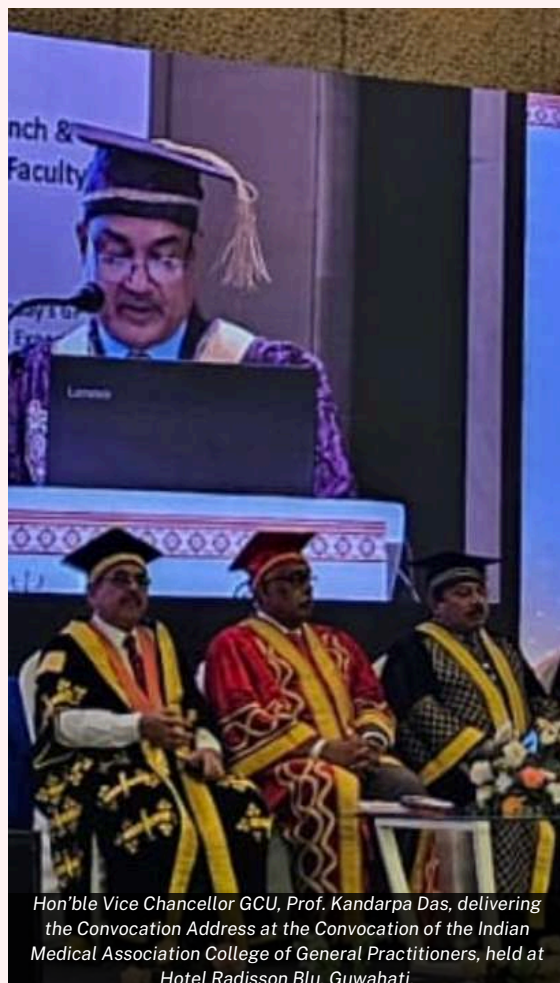
## VICE CHANCELLOR DELIVERS CONVOCATION ADDRESS AT IMA GPCON 2024



AZARA, December 13: Hon'ble Vice Chancellor GCU, Prof. Kandarpa Das, delivered the Convocation Address at the Convocation of the Indian Medical Association College of General Practitioners, held at Hotel Radisson Blu, Guwahati, on 7th December, 2024.

The IMA College of General Practitioners (IMACGP) is a prominent wing of the Indian Medical Association (IMA), one of the oldest and most well-known organizations representing doctors all across India. Apart from Prof. Kandarpa Das, who was invited as Guest of Honour, the Annual Conference of the College of General Practitioners (IMA GPCON) this year was attended by a host of dignitaries from various organizations, including Dr. R.V. Asokan, National President, Indian Medical Association, and Prof. Anup Kumar Barman, Director of Medical Education, Govt. of Assam.

A symposium on 'Medical Ethics and Clinical Practice' was also held at the event in collaboration with Srimanta Sankardeva University of Health Sciences, Assam. A number of distinguished medical faculty from all over India as well as international practitioners from Malaysia, US, Ireland and UK participated in the annual conference.



*Hon'ble Vice Chancellor GCU, Prof. Kandarpa Das, delivering the Convocation Address at the Convocation of the Indian Medical Association College of General Practitioners, held at Hotel Radisson Blu, Guwahati.*





# NEWS BULLETIN

## A TALK ON 12<sup>th</sup> EARTHCARE AWARDS



AZARA, December 13: On 2nd December, The Department of Physics & Department of Civil Engineering, Girijananda Chowdhury University, organised a talk, by the speaker, Ms Neela Majumdar, Director, Education and Outreach, South and South-East Asia, EARTHDAY.ORG regarding 12th Earth Care Awards. The speaker presented a lecture on various innovative contributions done by students across our country. She also narrated about the procedure of registration in various platforms for joining hands in safeguarding our planet for a sustainable future. The coordinator, Dr Lipi Goswami, HOD, Dept of Physics delivered the welcome address and Prof R. Ravi, Dean, School of Engineering & HOD, CE dept delivered the vote of thanks. The talk was attended by the students, faculty & staff and higher officials of GCU'.



Dr Lipi Goswami, HOD, Dept of Physics delivering the welcome address.



Himashree Basumatary anchoring the session.



Felicitating Ms. Neela Majumdar, Director, Education and Outreach, South and South-East Asia, EARTHDAY.ORG



Ms. Neela Majumdar enlightening the audience on various innovative contributions done by students across our country.



Prof R. Ravi, Dean, School of Engineering & HOD, CE dept delivering the vote of thanks.





# NEWS BULLETIN

## GCU TEZPUR CAMPUS CELEBRATES THE 63RD NATIONAL PHARMACY WEEK WITH CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT



AZARA, December 13: The School of Pharmaceutical Sciences (SOPS) at Girijananda Chowdhury University (GCU), Tezpur Campus, celebrated the 63rd National Pharmacy Week (NPW) from 22nd to 27th November 2024 with the theme, "Think Health, Think Pharmacy". The week-long festivities brought together students, faculty, and healthcare professionals in a vibrant and engaging celebration that highlighted the crucial role of pharmacy in healthcare while promoting creativity, community service, and environmental stewardship.

The celebration commenced with a flag hoisting ceremony, ceremonial lamp lighting, and an inaugural speech by Prof. Abdul Baquee Ahmed, Principal of SOPS, GCU Tezpur. The event witnessed the presence of esteemed doctors and staff from Tezpur Medical College & Hospital, along with enthusiastic students from the GCU Tezpur campus.

The celebration's main events were the Plantation Drive, which planted flowers to improve the campus landscape, the Blood Donation Camp, which was organized in partnership with the Blood Centre of Tezpur Medical College & Hospital along-side with NSS Unit-3, and the Campus Cleaning Drive, which aims to promote a clean and green campus. Additionally, various competitions like Quiz, Art, Handicraft Making, and Poster Making were held, and students enthusiastically participated in it.



Prof. Abdul Baquee Ahmed, Principal of SOPS-Tezpur, proudly hoisted the NPW 2024 flag, marking the commencement of a week-long celebration.



Prof. Abdul Baquee Ahmed, along with students, participated in a meaningful Plantation Drive during the NPW 2024 celebrations.



NSS Unit-3 members, in collaboration with the Blood Centre of Tezpur Medical College & Hospital, successfully organized a Blood Donation Camp at GCU Tezpur campus during the NPW 2024.



Students actively participated in the Campus Cleaning Drive during NPW 2024, contributing to a cleaner and greener environment.

The 63rd National Pharmacy Week not only emphasized the pivotal role of pharmacy in healthcare but also inspired students to actively engage with the community and environment. The events provided a platform for students to demonstrate their creativity, innovation, and teamwork while reinforcing the values of social responsibility and environmental consciousness. The week concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, where the winners of the various competitions were recognized and applauded for their outstanding contributions.



Students showcased their creativity and scientific understanding during the Model Making Competition as part of NPW 2024, impressing judges with their ingenuity and hard work.



Students eagerly presented and being evaluated for their creative ideas during the Poster Making Competition as part of National Pharmacy Week 2024.



Students showcased their artistic talents during the Art Competition as part of the NPW 2024 celebrations.



The Prize Distribution Ceremony marked the culmination of NPW 2024 at GCU Tezpur, honouring the winners of various events.





# NEWS BULLETIN

## GCU HOSTS TWO-DAY AICTE-SPONSORED INNOVATION DESIGN AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (IDE) BOOT CAMP



AZARA, December 13: A special AICTE-MIC-sponsored boot camp aimed to spur innovation, design and entrepreneurship across schools in Assam was conducted at Girijananda Chowdhury University on 29th and 30th November 2024. The boot camp was organized by Government of India under the ground-breaking School Innovation Council (SIC) initiative, which announced a funding of up to Rs. 1.5 lakh to young entrepreneurs for incubation of their projects. In addition, under SIC, any school teacher will be able to complete a certification course for the Ambassador Training Program, after which he or she is designated as a School Innovation Ambassador by the SIC.

The Department of School Education and Literacy, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) & Ministry of Education Innovation Cell (MIC), in collaboration with CBSE and NCERT, organized this two-day "Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE) Boot Camp" for Schools Principals/Teachers (Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools). The aim of this major Government of India initiative was to nurture the innovation, design, and entrepreneurial skills of teachers from schools across Assam and the rest of India. Girijananda Chowdhury University was selected as the only educational institution in the entire Northeast to host this prestigious event.

This special boot camp was organized in collaboration with the Wadhvani Foundation, renowned for its support of entrepreneurship education. A total of over 3700 participants from various schools have registered for this nationwide program, which is being conducted across 17 states. In GCU itself, more than 150 teachers and principals registered for this major AICTE-MIC initiative (from across states).

The third edition of the nationwide boot camp was earlier inaugurated by Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman, AICTE on 22nd November 2024. Prof. Indrani Bhaduri from NCERT and Dr. Biswajit Saha from CBSE attended the event. The State Level IDE Boot Camp was inaugurated on 29th November 2024 at Girijananda Chowdhury University by Chief Guest Dr. Nirada Devi Director, SCERT, Assam, Dr. Hirak Ranjan Das, Nodal Centre Head and Shri Vidhikar Vishal, Nodal Centre Coordinator, from the Ministry of Education, Innovation Cell along with Mr. Sreevatsan, Master Trainer from Wadhvani Foundation, and top dignitaries from GCU and SSA Society.



The lamp-lighting ceremony at the inauguration event.



(From left to right) Prof. Jayanta Deka, Chancellor, GCU, Shri Jasoda Ranjan Das, President, SSA Society, Chief Guest Dr. Nirada Devi Director, SCERT, Assam, Dr. Hirak Ranjan Das, Nodal Centre Head, Shri Vidhikar Vishal, Nodal Centre Coordinator, Mr. Sreevatsan, Master Trainer from Wadhvani Foundation at the inauguration session.



The distinguished guests and dignitaries from GCU rising for the National Anthem.





# NEWS BULLETIN

Shri Jasoda Ranjan Das, President, SSA Society began the event by giving a warm welcome address. Prof. Jayanta Deka, Chancellor GCU, expressed his pride about the fact that GCU was chosen as the only institution in the Northeast for the launch of the boot camp. Dr. Nirada Devi, Director SCERT Assam, spoke about India's goal to become a \$5 trillion economy in the coming years. Dr. Devi appreciated the boot camp for motivating teachers and students to practise innovative thinking for the empowerment of the society. Dr. Hirak Ranjan Das, (AICTE-MIC) Nodal Centre Head, observed that the boot camp was part of the Union Government's vision to support marketable innovations through IPR facilities and technology transfer. Shri Vidhikar Vishal, (AICTE-MIC) Nodal Centre Coordinator, introduced the participants to the newly formed School Innovation Council. Elaborating on the School Innovation Council initiative, Dr. Elangovan Kariappan, Assistant Innovation Director, MIC, noted that MIC currently supports innovation at the school level through a number of ways, such as offering up to Rs. 1.5 lakh for incubation of promising projects.

On the first day, the interactive sessions were led by Mr. Sreevatsan from Wadhvani Foundation, who focused on building speed networking skills and techniques for formulating original ideas. The participants presented a number of hypothetical business ideas, including a GPS-fitted backpack and a laundry bag-cum-washing machine. Subsequently, Ms. Anusuya Mahanta from IIM Calcutta Innovation Park spoke on triggering innovation in schools and noted that as mentors, teachers should try to create a safe space where students feel comfortable to share ideas and experiments, even if they fail.

The participants were also taken on an observational tour of AICTE-IDEA lab, DST-FIST lab and the Central Instrument Lab in Girijananda Chowdhury University, where they were introduced to the latest cutting-edge machines such as laser cutter and 3D printers.

The concluding day of the Boot Camp saw various interactive sessions conducted by Mr. Sreevatsan on customer discovery, solution idea generation and the basics of financial literacy. Mr. Plabon Bora of Assam Startup gave an overview of grants and funding opportunities for student startup. Finally, Prof. Shantanu Deka from IIE Guwahati showcased innovative benchmarking practices in entrepreneurship education for the audience of school principals and teachers. The two-day event ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Dipankar Saha, Registrar, Girijananda Chowdhury University.



Mr. Sreevatsan presenting his sessions before the audience.



A guided tour of AICTE-IDEA lab at GCU.



An online session on the benefits of SIC being conducted by Dr. Elangovan Kariappan, Assistant Innovation Director, MIC.



Ms. Anusuya Mahanta from IIM Calcutta Innovation Park being felicitated.



Mr. Vidhikar Vishal, (AICTE-MIC) Nodal Coordinator, being felicitated.



An enthusiastic participant poses questions to Mr. Sreevatsan from Wadhvani Foundation during an interactive session.



Enthusiastic participants at the boot camp.



School teachers and principals forming groups to discuss innovation strategies with each other.