

Nagaland University hosts Two-Day 2nd Regional DST Meeting for NER of India

A galaxy of scientists and educationists from Universities & R & D Organizations from the North Eastern Region of India as well as from many National Laboratories/Institutes, assembled at the Nagaland University School of Engineering and Technology Dimapur on January 19, 2008 with a view to attend 2nd Regional DST conclave for North Eastern Region of India.

The Chief objective of the meeting was to examine proposals received from eligible Science Institutions, including colleges-located in the region - on strengthening Science Education and Research in these institutions and to recommend their funding to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

The team was led by Prof. T.P. Singh (TPS), former Professor & HOD Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, New Delhi who is also the Distinguished Biotechnologist (DBT, GOI) and recipient of G.N. Ramachandran Gold Medal (CSIR Medal for Excellence in S & T). He delivered a welcome address and outlined the objectives of the meeting. At the instance of the Chairman (TPS), the scientists introduced themselves. Among them were Dr. A. Mukhopadhyay, Scientist 'F', DST, New Delhi, Dr. Amit Roy, Director Inter University Accelerator Centre, New Delhi (Formerly Nuclear Science Centre, New Delhi), Prof. G.D. Sharma, Prof. Vice Chancellor, Assam University Silchar, Prof. A.N. Rai, the Vice Chancellor of Mizoram University, Prof. K. Kannan, the Vice Chancellor of Nagaland University, Prof. D.P. Sharma Dept. of Agricultural Engineering, Nagaland University, to name a few. Later Dr. V. Sharan, N.U. SASRD too joined the gathering.

The experts critically examined the proposals received from science colleges located in the NE States as to their suitability for getting Financial grants from DST, GOI for strengthening their science laboratories. Two criteria were identified for this purpose: (a). Accreditation by NAAC, UGC, New Delhi (b). Respectable faculty profile with consistent research publications from Science Deptts. of the Institute. After intense discussions it was resolved to recommend to the DST, GOI the following institutions from Nagaland for financial grants (Rs. 50 lakhs for each college). i). Patkai Christian College (Autonomous) Chumukedima ii). Kohima Science College, Jotsoma iii). Fazal Ali College Mokochung with Saochang Govt. College Tuensang & Kilenkaba Memorial College under scanner.*

Dr. Amit Roy, Director IAUC, New Delhi, subsequently gave a Power Point Presentation on conducting Simulation Experiments in Physics for students of U.G & P.G. Courses by using hardware as well as by online modules. He offered to conduct Instructional Workshop on this subject for the benefit of faculty and students of science-based institutions. Details on this subject can be had from the Websites : [www. iuac.res.in](http://www.iuac.res.in).

The 2nd day (20-01-2008) of the meeting was devoted to drafting a set of recommendations of his Two Day DST Regional Meet which by all accounts was a key instructional event and fruitful for the science Education in the state of Nagaland.

*Earlier at the initiative of the Prof. K. Kannan, the NU, V.C., a meeting of Principals/Senior Faculty representatives of Science Colleges of Nagaland was held on 17-01-08 at Conference Hall of SETAM, Dimapur – with V.C. in Chair to assist the colleges to prepare the list of latest equipments – both for teaching and research-to be submitted before this DST sponsored Meeting. Prof. D.P. Sharma, Deptt. of Agril. Engg. SASRD assisted the assembled Principals/representatives in this task.