

## **Ranbaxy - DBT Scientists interact with Nagaland University Academic Community.**

A team of scientists from Ranbaxy, the pharmaceutical company, euphemistically called the Indian MNC, visited the Nagaland University School of Engineering and Technology, Dimapur and interacted with the B. Tech. Students, Faculty members and the State Government Officials. The R & D Experts from the Company which operates in 128 Countries of the world and has manufacturing facilities in 46 countries, were Dr. Pradip Bhatnagar, Sr. Vice-President, NDD Programme, Dr. C.K. Katiyar, Director, Herbal Research program and Dr. Md. Aslam, Director, Dept. of Biotechnology, Govt. of India.

The seminar-cum-interaction was conceived by Prof. Kannan, the Nagaland University Vice-Chancellor, who himself is a pioneering and grassroot Biotechnologist of India and it was held at NU School of Engineering and Technology and School of Management auditorium on November 16, 2007. The Programme began with a powerpoint presentation of select medicinal and herbal plants of Nagaland by Prof. N.S. Jamir, Dept. of Botany, NU . Lumami. The visiting experts showed a keen interest in characteristics of these species of plants as potential raw materials for possible drugs manufacture. The NU Vice Chancellor Prof. K. Kannan who established the Biotech R & D in the drug industry while he was in Ranbaxy, beginning in 1993, then invited Dr. Pradip Bhatnagar, Sr. Vice-President of New Drug Design Programme of Ranbaxy, to give an account of his work on drugs. Dr. Bhatnagar presented a comprehensive picture of the methodology being adhered to by the practitioners of drug design and manufacture in the pharmaceutical industry in India and Abroad. He underlined the importance of Flora and Fauna of the State of Nagaland in this respect vis-à-vis their current usage as sources of traditional medicines.