

CSIR-North East Institute of Science & Technology, Jorhat

Connecting Science & Technology for a Brighter Tomorrow

Dr Samit Chattopadhyay assumed charge as the Director, CSIR-NEIST

Dr Samit Chattopadhyay, Director of CSIR sister laboratory, CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (CSIR-IICB), Kolkata has taken over the additional charge of the Director of CSIR-North East Institute of Science & Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat on 30 June 2018 from Dr D Ramaiah, Former Director, CSIR-NEIST. Dr Samit Chattopadhyay obtained Ph D degree in Biochemistry in 1989 from Jadavpur University, Kolkata and thereafter has done Post Doctoral Research at University of Connecticut; Farmington, USA and Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Boston, USA. Dr Chattopadhyay has 30 years of research experience in wide fields of research such as Epigenetics, Cancer Biology Immunology, Virology, Gene Regulation, etc. He started his career as a Scientist at National Centre for Cell Science, Pune in 1998 before assuming the post of Director, CSIR-IICB in August 2015. Besides his extensive research experience, Dr Chattopadhyay is a recipient of several prestigious fellowships, some of which are Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (2015), Sir J C Bose National Fellow (2013), Fellow of Academy of Science (2011), Fellow of National Academy of Science (2006), Fellow of West Bengal Academy of Sciences 2016) and Fellow of Maharashtra Academy of Science (2000). He is also the Reviewer of several specialized journals like Virology, Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology, Cell Biology International, Elsevier, International Journal of Cancer, FEBS Journal, Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences, etc. Dr Chattopadhyay has guided more than 30 Ph D students of which 20 have been awarded Ph D degree. Dr Chattopadhyay has published more than 90 papers in peer reviewed international journals and contributed more than 15 book chapters. It is pertinent to mention here that



Dr Samit Chattopadhyay
Director, CSIR-NEIST

Dr Samit Chattopadhyay has joined the Institute as the tenth Director of the Institute after the superannuation of its ninth Director, Dr D Ramaiah on 30 June 2018 after leading the Institute for nearly 5 years. Dr Chattopadhyay will hold additional charge of the post of Director, CSIR-NEIST till appointment of regular Director, CSIR-NEIST or till further orders.

Dr Chowna Mein, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh visited CSIR-NEIST



Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST receiving Dr Chowna Mein, Hon'ble Dy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh at CSIR-NEIST.

Dr Chowna Mein, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh visited CSIR-NEIST on 16 August 2018 accompanied by Dr Egam Basar, Director, State Horticulture Research and Development Institute, Itanagar and Dr G N Sinha, Consultant and Advisor, Land Resource and Sustainable Development, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. He was received at the portico of the Administrative building by Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST. During his brief visit, Dr Mein visited the experimental farm and interacted with the scientists about the activities and showed great interest in the products displayed and explained in the farm. Dr Mein also visited the herbal drug processing unit, sophisticated analytical instrumentation facilities, skill development centre, rural technology de-

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Interactive meeting of the scientists with Dr Chowna Mein.



Visit to experimental farm and analytical facility.

-monstration centre, and few other labs wherein he was appraised about the MSME technologies developed by the institute. An interactive meet of all scientists with Dr Mein was held later on the occasion. Dr P Sengupta presented an overview of CSIR-NEIST and highlighted the strength of CSIR-NEIST, present activities in Arunachal Pradesh and proposed activities to be carried out in future. He mentioned that CSIR-NEIST has submitted nine project concept notes proposed for the state of Arunachal Pradesh in various sectors. In his address, Dr Mein emphasized on the importance of R&D for implementation of any developmental schemes for the society. He welcomed such projects and ideas for enabling sustainable development of the people, appropriate scientific intervention for solving problems of a common man, use of natural resources for developing drugs, etc. A memorandum of understanding between CSIR-NEIST and State Horticulture Research and Devel-

opment Institute, Itanagar was proposed for future collaboration.

CSIR-NEIST celebrated 72nd Independence Day



Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST unfurling the National flag.

CSIR-NEIST celebrated the 72nd Independence Day along with rest of the country on 15 August 2018 with much zeal and enthusiasm. A flag hoisting programme was held in front of the administrative building which was attended by CSIR-NEIST staff along with family members and students & teachers of CSIR-NEIST KV. Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST inspected the Guard of Honour and unfurled the National flag after which

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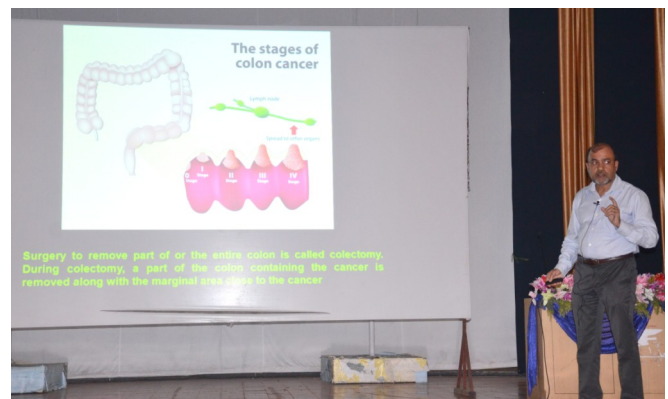


Dr P Sengupta taking salute at March Past of CSIR-NEIST security personnel and students of KV-NEIST.

the National Anthem song was played. CSIR-NEIST's security personnel and students from KV-NEIST took part in the parade, followed by the address by Dr P Sengupta. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Sengupta mentioned the Institute's achievements of 2018 so far in terms of technologies developed/transferred, patents filed/secured and publications in various journals. He spoke about various on-going major projects of the Institute like STINER, Carbon emission through eco-restoration/plantation for OIL-Duliajan and others with APSCST, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, etc. He also briefed about the various projects in pipeline such as Fast Track Translation, Mission Mode and projects in other thematic sectors and called upon the scientists to take responsibility in achieving the deliverables and face all challenges with renewed vigour and determination. He encouraged all to nurture talent, spread values, knowledge & wisdom and particularly urge the younger generation to be responsible and give their best in the country's overall development and progress. As a part of the celebration, replicas of Indian flag and sweets were later distributed to the children by Mrs Alokandanda Sengupta.

CSIR-NEIST co-organized 24th J N Baruah Memorial Lecture

CSIR-NEIST in association with Assam Science Society Jorhat branch and Dr J N Baruah Memorial Trust organized the 24th J N Baruah Memorial Lecture at Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat on 30



Top: Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST delivering the inaugural address. Just above: Dr Samit Chattopadhyay, Director, CSIR-NEIST delivering the Memorial Lecture.

August 2018. Dr J N Baruah Memorial Lecture is held annually on 2 September in honour and fond memory of Late Dr J N Baruah, Former Director of CSIR-NEIST and also an eminent scientist and educationist from Assam who contributed significantly in science and its popularization among the students. This year the lecture was held on 30 August on account of a closed day on the 2 September 2018. Held at M C Das Memorial Auditorium, AAU, Dr Samit Chattopadhyay, Director, CSIR-NEIST delivered the 24th Memorial Lecture on the topic, 'To be or not to be: recent perspectives on transformation of a Cancer cell'. In his lecture, Dr Chattopadhyay presented a lucid account of cancer, its different types and the recent developments in cancer research. He explained the various stages of normal cells converting to cancerous cells and finally leading to metastasis. He also shared some recent discoveries made in the area of colon, oral and cervical cancer types. Sharing some important findings of his work in cancer research, he mentioned that efforts going on to develop

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diagnostic kits for early detection of cancer. Earlier, Dr D K Borah, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, AAU delivered the welcome address and Dr Jatin Kalita, Principal Scientist, CSIR-NEIST spoke about Dr J N Baruah Memorial Trust. Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST inaugurated the lecture after which the dignitaries paid floral homage to the portrait of Late Dr J N Baruah. In his inaugural address, Dr Sengupta shared some of his personal experiences with Late Dr J N Baruah and mentioned the leadership qualities and discipline that he maintained which distinguish a strong personality like Late Dr J N Baruah. Dr R L Bezbaruah, Life Member, Assam Science Society spoke about the life of Late Dr J N Baruah. As a part of the event, this year the Late Dr J N Baruah Student Scholarship was awarded to Miss Gitashree Borah, a student of class XI (science) of J B College, Jorhat for having secured above 70% marks in HSLC in 2018. In his Presidential Address, Dr R C Boruah extended his gratitude to Dr Chattopadhyay for his exemplary lecture which he said is important for not only the science oriented society but a common man and relevant to the significance of the day. The programme was attended by CSIR-NEIST staff, members from Assam Science Society, Jorhat branch, family members of Late Dr J N Baruah and faculty & students of AAU in large number. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Dr Prasanta Hazarika, Scientist, RFRI & Asst. Secy., Assam Science Society.

CSIR-NEIST's beneficiary receives Ultra International ICONIC Farmer Award

Mr Ranjit Kishor Barman, a farmer from Goalpara, Assam and a beneficiary of CSIR AROMA MISSION programme has been awarded the 'Ultra International ICONIC Farmer Award' for his impactful contributions made towards cultivation and popularization of aroma crops. The award carried an amount of Rs. 51,000/- and a Citation, which was presented to him at the International Congress and Expo 2018–Navigating Future of Essential Oils organized by Essential Oil Association of India at Bangalore on 4 August 2018.



Mr Ranjit K Barman (right) receiving the award from Ultra International on 4 August 2018. Dr S P Saikia (extreme left), PI of CSIR Aroma Mission, CSIR-NEIST was also present on the occasion.

CSIR-NEIST sign Agreement with Arunachal Pradesh State Science & Technology Council



Dr Jatin Kalita, Head, RPBD Division, CSIR-NEIST and Dr C D Mungyak, Director, APSCST exchanged the signed MoA on 03.08.2018 in presence of Shri Bamang Mangha, Chairman, APSCST and members from APSCST and CSIR-NEIST.

CSIR-NEIST entered into an agreement with Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Science & Technology (APSCST) on 3 August 2018 for implementing CSIR-NEIST's technologies at Rural Technology Demonstration Centre Kimin, Arunachal Pradesh. Under the agreement, eight potential technologies of CSIR-NEIST which are socially and economically relevant would be disseminated among unemployed youth, farmers, entrepreneurs from urban, semi-urban and rural areas. The technologies are low cost, easy for adoption and suitable for providing means of livelihood to the people. CSIR-NEIST shall provide all technical assistance to APSCST and beneficiaries of the centre.

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CSIR-NEIST sign MoU with Innotech Interventions Pvt.Ltd



Mr Hamendra Ch Das, CEO & Director, Innotech Interventions Pvt.Ltd., Guwahati and Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST exchanged the signed MoU on 24.08.2018.

CSIR-NEIST signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Innotech Interventions Pvt.Ltd., Guwahati on 24 August 2018 for technology commercialization and collaborative research. The MoU also aims to expand the scope of interaction between the two organizations for undertaking future research activities.

CSIR-NEIST's team visited SASRD, Medziphema, Nagaland under STINER project

A team of scientists led by Dr P Sengupta, Chief Scientist visited School of Agricultural Sciences & Rural Development (SASRD), Medziphema, Nagaland on 24 July 2018 in connection the project on 'Science & Technology Interventions in the North East Region (STINER)' to be implemented at SASRD. It is worth mentioning that STINER is a new flagship project of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), Govt. of India aimed at providing appropriate S&T solutions required by the region for socio-economic development. Under STINER, a Technology Facilitating Centre (TFC) would be set up at each state wherein technologies which are socially and economically relevant to the state would be made available to the local mass. While TFC at CSIR-NEIST would serve as the major hub of technologies for the entire region, the state-wise TFCs would house technologies specific to the need of the state. These technologies would be sourced from various institutes & organizations across India such as DBT, DST, CSIR, NITs, IITs, ICAR, MSME etc., The proc-

ess for setting up STINER-TFC at SASRD has already kicked-off while proposals for other states are in pipeline. During the visit, CSIR-NEIST's team inspected the project site and discussed the activities to be carried out on phase wise manner. The team also had a meeting with the team from SASRD and identified 13 technologies to be implemented in the first phase at TFC, SASRD.

Papers published

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 - Deori S, Choudhary R, Tiwari D, Gangopadhyay S: calibration of hdm-4 pavement performance models for indian national highways, *The International Journal of Pavement Engineering and Asphalt Technology* (PEAT), 2018, 19(1), p: 24-35
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- ### Proceedings of Seminars/Conferences
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- ### Farewell
- The following member(s) of the staff have retired from Council's service on superannuation from CSIR-NEIST during the period.
1. **Dr H N Borah**, Principal Technical Officer
 2. **Mr Poresh Phukan**, Assistant Section Officer