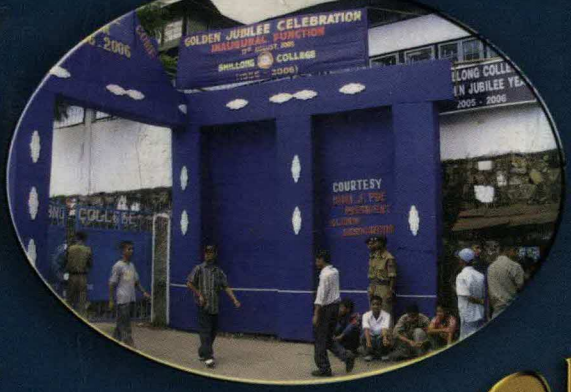

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GOLDEN JUBILEE

MAGAZINE

2006

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Left to Right

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This Golden Jubilee Magazine, 2006, is dedicated to the Memory

of

All the Architects of Shillong College

- Motivators, Founders, Teachers and People of Shillong in general-

- Who are no more to reap the joys of the harvest –

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

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(ESTD. 1956)

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Published by:

Principal,
Shillong College
Shillong – 793 003
Phone – 0364 - 2224903
e-mail:shillcoll@redifmail.com

Editor: Convener, Publications and Public Relations:

Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
e-mail : manabendra_bhattacharjee@yahoo.co.in
Phone : 0364-2221344
Mobile : 94361-60592

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GOLDEN JUBILEE MAGAZINE : SHILLONG COLLEGE : 2006

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Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh
Principal

FOREWORD

It gives me immense pleasure and indeed I am profusely happy to write a few lines in the Golden Jubilee Magazine 2006, Shillong College. Shillong College will complete its fifty years of existence on 15th August 2006, and it is a matter of pride to each one of us who is being associated with the welfare of the College. The College has been celebrating the Golden Jubilee Year 2005-2006 with many programmes consisting of academic, sports, games and other activities. Celebrations of the Golden Jubilee is a golden occasion to rejoice over our achievements and at the same time to make an introspection of our successes and failures, to enable us to move forward to fulfil our goals and objectives. First and foremost, our thanks and gratitude to God, our Creator, for the manifold blessings that He has showered upon each one of us in the College.

For the progress and development of the Institution, each one of us has a role to play, the management, the teachers , the non-teaching staff and the students. The teachers have heavy responsibilities, not only to teach and impart knowledge to the students, but also to guide them to choose the right direction in their career and to become good human souls. Students must be disciplined, studious and they must always try to give the best that they can in life. Students need to learn and grow in the right path, to be educated and enlightened, so that they will become good citizens of our Country.

On behalf of the College, we would like to convey our appreciation and acknowledgement to all those who have laboured and toiled hard from the very beginning of the College, to make and bring to what it is today. Our thanks go to all those who have helped us in whatever possible way during the one year long Golden Jubilee Celebration including the management, the Government, University, Sponsoring agencies and others. Our teachers, non-teaching staff, students - both past and present, parents and guardians, had really made an all out effort to make the Golden Jubilee Celebrations a grand success. I congratulate them for all their responsible efforts and initiatives in all aspects.

Our Special Thanks to Prof. K. S. Lyngdoh, President, Governing Body, all the members of the Governing Body for their advice, guidance and support in all important matters regarding the development of the College, academic as well as infrastructural.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Prof. D. Mukherjee, Vice-Principal, Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice Principal (Professional Courses), Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee, Prof-in-charge, Golden Jubilee Magazine, Members of the Editorial Board, Student Editor Smt. Deity Shanpru, for bringing out the Magazine. Our deep appreciations to all those scholars, teachers and students who have contributed articles, poems etc. in the Magazine.

At the close of the Golden Jubilee Year Celebration, I would like to say a Big Thank You to each and everyone, and May God bless you all.

1st August 2006

M. P. R. Lyngdoh

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SHILLONG

EDITORIAL

In the 'Children column' of a reputed magazine, a joke appeared recently which nearly goes like this:

Q: What would a primitive man call a running deer?
A: Fast Food!

The joke was reportedly contributed by a school going child. One may take this a simple humour on its face value, or be little attentive to ponder over the inherent message of this apparently simple question-answer dialogue. Is it not that the modern man, civilised as they call themselves, conceptualise the present day world as fast-world having components of fast-education, fast-health, fast-movement, fast-money, fast-job and, of course, so many fast-food! World is moving fast and so we want to get everything as fast as possible. So there are so many fast short-term courses, crash-courses etc. which give fast money to the producers and, on occasions, fast jobs to many of their products, though no body questions about the net earning and working conditions of these successful products. Nothing wrong with this may be. But coming to the field of education, it may be asked, "Does this fast culture really serve the cause of education?" Twenty-first century is often talked of as the "age of education" for propagation of a knowledge-based society, but one reckons that the ultra fast-phenomenon is probably turning education into mere a system of "collection of data and information in mind" putting the mental and philosophical growth into second fiddle. Academicians around the globe have a role to play under this given condition, for otherwise serious doubts will be raised on the progress of the human civilisation. Reading-writing habits, debates on serious contemporary issues, setting up of equipped but accessible libraries for all, etc. are some of the common attributes that must be encouraged and maintained with elegance. All concerned and responsible citizens need to contribute to accomplish this noble task.

As our college celebrates its golden jubilee with a year long programme, we commit with conviction to strive for higher goals for the cause of higher education embracing all sections of people. This Golden Jubilee Magazine has been conceived to give its readers a taste of these concepts together with a glimpse of the glorious tradition this college set forth since its inception. To add colours and quality to the Magazine the Editorial Board made an attempt to invite articles from eminent educationists, scientists and economists of our country so as to make our students a feeling of being associated with such luminaries. And what a response! Instantaneously, internationally reputed scientist Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar sent his consent and contributed a master piece urging the coming generation of students to take more interest in basic science research and study. Noted economist and columnist Shri Bibek Debroy, who incidentally has a personal relation with Shillong and Shillong College, came forward with his memoirs and propositions on spread of higher education. Prof. Jayati Ghosh of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi came forward with her eloquence on some important and contemporary issues plaguing the cause of education in the present era. Prof. Thomas Joseph, President, AIFUCTO, projected the view of the teachers in general with regard to the some contemporary issues on higher education and allied areas. Prof. Subir Datta of Rabindra Bharati University and son of founder Principal, Late Shri S. C. Datta wrote about some his experiences when he studied in this college in early sixties.

Our colleagues, who have retired from their services after chequered service careers, came forward with reminiscences of yester years and the former students also did not lag behind. So is the case with our present batch of teachers and students. All the way, it was a job that I have enjoyed throughout and it is a great honour to present the readers this volume of Golden Jubilee Magazine of Shillong College 2006.

It is a very satisfying feeling for me to present all our readers this Shillong College Golden Jubilee Magazine that contains contributions of varied nature and diverse interests from the scholars of repute, students and the

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teachers. It is obvious that the views and opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily shared by the teacher-in-charge or by the College authority for that matter.

Our scholastic achievements continue to be the source of encouragement and deep satisfaction. But this College is not just a seat of learning merely striving to prepare students for examinations and earning formal degrees. It is a home where efforts are made to expand the intellectual, emotional and physical horizons of all those who belong to the Shillong College Family with a motive to be able to serve the society with conviction and commitment. All our activities – academic, extra-curricular, sports and games, social interactions, and many other – are basically aimed at preparing each one of us, especially the students, towards this goal and we pledge to live up to the expectations of one and all.

Most gladly, I express my heartfelt gratitude to our Principal, Dr. (Mrs.) Mary Pristilla Rina Lyngdoh, for her continuing help, support and encouragement in carrying out my humble job. I remain indebted to Shri Durbadal Mukherjee, Vice-Principal and his compatriot Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice-Principal (Professional Courses) and also to all the members of the Editorial Board for their excellent support and guidance. I also acknowledge with gratitude the spontaneous cooperation received from Dr. (Mrs.) E. Kharkongor, Joint Convenor, Publications and Public Relations Sub-committee and all the members of the Publication and Public Relations Sub-committee and also from Smt. S. R. Das, Dr. (Mrs.) D. Bhowmik, Smt. I. Warjri, Smt. B. Wanniang and Shri L. Pariat and the teachers-in-charge of different co-curricular activities of the College. The Office Bearers of the Shillong College Students' Union, Student Editor Smt. Deity Shanpru and the members of the Non-teaching Staff of the College also deserve special appreciation for their help and wonderful team effort. Thanks are also due to Graphique International Printers and Mr. N. Sarkar, in particular, for taking immense care in making this magazine an immaculate one and as engaging as conceivable.

The cover design of the Magazine represents an innovative and artistic effort of our new entrant colleagues Smt. A. M. Mitri and Smt. P. Khonglah and they will surely add more colours to our future publications.

Lastly, I take the responsibility for any flaw or printing errors, in spite of best effort, and urge upon all to bear with the same and possibly forgive me with magnanimity.

HAPPY READING

THANK YOU

Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee

"When you are trying to serve society in any way,
you have to experience what they call the inner loneliness.
It comes from the fact that you don't do what people expect you to do.
All the time you do things differently and that is why you are what you are.
-Nelson Mandela

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- INVITED ARTICLES -

"The tragedy of life is not that it ends so soon, but that we wait so long to begin it. "

– Anonymous

THE EXCITEMENT OF DOING SCIENCE

Jayant V. Narlikar
Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics,
Post Bag 4, Ganeshkhind, Pune 411 007, INDIA

At a time when purely commercial attitude prevails in education it has become necessary to state the obvious, that pure science, motivated as it is by the thirst for knowledge, provides the foundation for the superstructure of science and technology which has become the mainstay of our present civilization. But even more than that it needs to be emphasized that pure science today is a natural extension of the age old and continuing efforts of intellectuals to understand the mysteries of Nature. The ancient sages searching for enlightenment went through extended periods of agony which only made the attainment of goal a matter of great ecstasy. Scientists have experienced similar moments of agony and ecstasy in their search for truth. Agony that you go through when you are searching for the elusive solution to a problem – a solution that you feel it in your bones, must exist. Ecstasy that you experience when you find it. Let us begin with an episode from the life of Issac Newton, the founder of physics as we know it today.

***

Now more than 350 years have passed since the birth of Isaac Newton. The following account illustrates how his contemporaries saw Newton. This was in 1696, at a time when Newton had ceased to be a professional scientist and had become the Master of the Mint. However, a true scientist never ceases to be one. For, someone brought to his attention a mathematical problem posed as a challenge by a famous European mathematician, called Johann Bernoulli. The solution to this challenge problem had defied all scientists for over six months.

The problem may be briefly described thus. Imagine two points A and B in a vertical plane, with A at a greater height than B. Connect the points by a smooth write of any shape. Let a bead slide in a frictionless way from A down to B. Bernoulli's question was to find the shape of the wire so that the time taken by the bead to go from A to B is the least. If you think that the straight line being the shortest path connecting A and B is the correct answer, you have to think again. Indeed the answer is not so straightforward (no pun intended!) and as mentioned above the best brains in Europe had failed to crack the question.

It is said that Newton saw the question on his return from work one evening. He was intrigued by it and tried to solve it. It took him several hours but by early morning he had solved it. The curve that the wire should be shaped as is called the brachistochrone. To obtain the answer, one needs to use variational methods in calculus, a branch of mathematics Newton himself had invented. Having solved the problem, Newton sent the solution to the Royal Society, asking the President to publish and forward it to Bernoulli without revealing his authorship. When Bernoulli saw the solution, he however immediately saw that it could not have come from anyone else but Newton. His remark reportedly was: "I know the lion from his paw".

This episode illustrates the agony and ecstasy a problem can bring to a scientist. Even though he was out of touch with regular scientific pursuits, the scientist in Newton was aroused by the challenge posed and he did not rest till he had solved the problem. Let us look at an episode from the life of another great scientist.

***

In his early life Lord Kelvin was known by his family name Thomson. This story refers to Thomson and another young man Parkinson both of whom were competing for the top rank in their Cambridge examination of the Mathematical Tripos. In the end Parkinson topped the list and Thomson stood second with the rest of the pack far behind.

There was one particularly difficult question which only the two had answered correctly. What struck the examiner most was the similarity of their answers; so much so that he suspected malpractice. Did one boy copy the other's answer? He called Parkinson for an interview.

"Tell me, how did you manage to solve such a difficult question?" he asked Parkinson.

"Sir, I occasionally read research journals. I had come across a paper wherein the author had solved this problem. So I knew the solution beforehand." He gave the reference to the paper.

The examiner, who himself had taken the problem from that very same paper, was impressed. He complimented the boy for going beyond the teaching syllabus and reading new articles. Dismissing him with a pat on the back he called Thomson and asked him somewhat aggressively: "I would like to know how you solved this problem. Parkinson who solved it saw the solution in a research paper. Don't tell me that you also saw it there."

"No Sir!" replied the future Lord Kelvin. "I wrote that paper."

In scientific research it is the originality that matters. Today we do not hear about Parkinson who topped the examination. But Thomson's work is part of our textbooks.

Examples of great scientists like these inspire us in our own humble efforts. Let me come down to Earth and share with you my own experiences that led me to opt for a career in science. These are experiences of my formative years, which students from schools and colleges can very well appreciate.

***

That I liked maths and science was noticed by my father who made me acquainted with the recreational aspects of mathematics, with its wealth of anecdotes, puzzles and paradoxes. He did this either directly or by giving me books of this nature. He also encouraged me and my brother to do experiments. Our house in the university campus was spacious enough for him to provide a chemistry lab for myself and my brother to play with.

In those days it was customary for visiting faculty from other universities to stay with their local host and so we had mathematicians like N.R. Sen, Ram Behari, A.C. Banerjee or Vaidyanathaswamy staying with us on such visits. Even if I did not understand what they were talking about, the overall ambience did help in creating an aura about mathematics.

However, a crucial development, which helped foster a competitive spirit in me took place when I was in the VIII standard. My maternal uncle Moreshwar Huzurbazar, or Morumama as I used to address him, came to live with us in order to do an M.Sc. in mathematics. He was a brilliant scholar, having done very well at the B.Sc. examination of Bombay University. [Later in his life he was a mathematics professor and finally became Director of the Institute of Science, Bombay.]

Morumama discovered that I enjoyed doing mathematics. He also noticed that my father had two blackboards built into the walls for myself and my brother to write or draw as we wished. He found a new use for the boards. Once in a while he would write a mathematical problem or puzzle, under the title "Challenge Problem for JVN". The problem would remain on the board till either I solved it or gave in and asked for the answer (which, I am glad to say, happened rather rarely).

Morumama's problems were certainly outside my school syllabus: they called for analytical reasoning and 'trick solutions' which would light up for me some hidden aspect of mathematics. My lasting regret has been that no record has been kept of those problems. But so far as I was concerned, I developed an attitude of taking on the challenge posed by a difficult question. When doing research in pure science, it becomes a challenge to find answer to your question…in this case, nobody knows the answer! You have to be the first one to find it. Sometimes even the question is not properly phrased and you have to state it correctly. This is where the thrill of research lies.

***

Let me narrate another experience I had in 1961, when beginning my research career. I was a student of Fred Hoyle, the famous Cambridge cosmologist and one of the originators of the steady state theory of the universe. This theory states that the universe had no beginning and will have no end. It was thus a rival to the more commonly accepted big bang theory, which states that the universe originated in a primordial explosion (big bang). In January 1961, the Cambridge radio astronomer Martin Ryle announced some results that, he claimed, disproved the steady state theory. This was a challenge to Hoyle, who felt that a reply to this challenge should be given at the time Ryle presented his results to the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) in February. To this end he asked me to work on a mathematical model that demonstrated that Ryle's findings did not contradict the steady state theory. As time was short, we had to find such a model within two weeks.

I worked on the model and within ten days we had a workable theory to present. But there was a snag. Hoyle had to be elsewhere on the day of the RAS meeting: he had already committed to talk to some college students on the very afternoon that Ryle was going to present his results. So he asked me to reply to Ryle's criticism that day. At first I was very scared as to how I would stand up to a seasoned scientist like Ryle in a debate. But Hoyle assured me that so long as I believed in the correctness of my results, I should not be intimidated by any scientist, howsoever important. Considerably reassured, I gave my little talk that day and could convey our point of view successfully.

This experience conveyed to me a lot of confidence. Science is a game one plays with specified rules: facts to base one's argument on and logic to regulate those arguments. The objectivity of science is its strength. Despite controversies, facts eventually win out. I embarked on a career based on this game of science and have not regretted that decision. Indeed I have enjoyed playing the game. If you like doing science there is nothing like it…there one is paid for indulging in one's hobby. If you succeed in finding an important result, you have the added satisfaction of having contributed to the storehouse of knowledge steadily accumulated by the human race.

***

Perhaps I should also mention that books like 'Men of Mathematics', 'The World of Mathematics', and 'Living Biographies of Great Scientists' played a key role in brining to my impressionable mind the excitement and frustrations of creative geniuses. The anecdotes given in the beginning of this article tell us that science is not a drab subject to be memorized, but an arena of adventures. It is revealing to know about the pride and prejudices of great scientists, and to learn that they too occasionally made mistakes. But science itself is objective and has a self-correcting tendency that leads ultimately to the right answer. This was one motivating reason behind my opting for a career in science.

Prof. J. V. Narlikar is internationally known for his work in cosmology, in championing models alternative to the popularly believed big bang model. He was President of the Cosmology Commission of the International Astronomical Union from 1994 to 1997. His work has been on the frontiers of gravity and Mach's Principle, quantum cosmology and action at distance physics. He has received several national and international awards and honorary doctorates. He is a Bhatnagar awardee, as well as recipient of the M.P. Birla award, the Prix Janssen of the French Astronomical Society and an Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. He is Fellow of the three national science academies as well as of the Third World Academy of Sciences.

Apart from his scientific research, Narlikar has been well known as a science communicator through his books, articles, and radio/TV programmes. For these efforts, he was honoured by the UNESCO in 1996 with the Kalinga Award.

Narlikar broke new grounds in space research, when during 1999-2003 he headed an international team in a pioneering experiment designed to sample air for microorganisms in the atmosphere at heights of up to 41 km. Biological studies of the samples collected led to the findings of live cells and bacteria, thus opening out the intriguing possibility that the Earth is being bombarded by microorganisms some of which might have seeded life itself here.

Narlikar was decorated Padmabhushan in 1965, at the young age of 26. In 2004 he was awarded Padmavibhushan.

It is a great honour for us that an internationally reputed Scientist of the stature of Prof. Narlikar spontaneously came forward to contribute an article for the Golden Jubilee Magazine of Shillong College. His article inviting the students to take more interest in basic science studies and research is particularly important under the present circumstances. The copy of the letter received from Prof. Narlikar, while accepting the invitation to contribute an article, is produced below. – Ed.

Dear Dr Bhattacharjee,

I have your invitation to write an article for your Golden Jubilee Magazine of Shillong College. I once wrote an article describing why I chose a career in science. Do you think an article like that would be OK for your magazine? Please let me know at this e-mail address.

Regards.
Jayant Narlikar

Shillong and the Education Issue

Bibek Debroy
Secretary General of PHD
Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)

I was born in Shillong and the fact is indelibly stamped on my passport and other similar documents. I (and my family) left Shillong in 1965. Then, Shillong was in undivided Assam. I recently went back to Shillong after 38 years. Shillong revisited has some economic angles.

At that time, and it is not much different now, the Shillong-Guwahati road connection was vital. Today, there is an airport just outside Shillong and flights operate from Kolkata. There is also a helicopter service from Guwahati to Shillong, generally regarded as unreliable. At that time, the Shillong-Guwahati route was the only option. The road wasn't very good. In those days, the road only allowed traffic in one direction. So, thrice a day (if my memory serves me right), cars and buses would form a convoy in Shillong. Ditto in Guwahati. These convoys would come and wait in Nongpoh and then cross over. Private cars were a rarity. Other than trucks, you had buses run by Assam Road Transport Corporation (ARTC). More accurately, there were three types of vehicles operated by ARTC, in three classes. First class consisted of cars. Second class consisted of vans, which I remember, were green in colour. And third class consisted of buses. Within buses, seats at the front were more expensive. Seats at the back were cheaper. All vehicles had the ubiquitous rhino inscribed on them.

In those days, my father was a clerk in a central government office. Understandably, we never traveled in first or second class. And as a kid, I was always distantly envious of people who traveled in cars and vans. What kind of people traveled in these vehicles? However, we did travel in the front of the bus, not at the back. This was important, because as the road curved and meandered through the hills, vomiting was common. At the end of the trip, ARTC buses would invariably be speckled with white traces of vomit. Before boarding, several passengers consumed tablets known as 'Avomin' to combat nausea. At the front of the bus, nausea was less likely.

Thirty-eight years is a long time. You expect things to change. But until you confront the altered reality, you don't realize how things have changed. I discovered the Shillong-Guwahati road now permits traffic in either direction. The business of convoys has disappeared. The road is more comfortable. Incidence of vomiting is less and travel time is shorter. These were expected changes. But I had not expected ARTC vehicles to completely disappear. You see them rarely. Competition from private Tata Sumos, with better service (such as door-to-door transport or from the airport in

Guwahati), has made ARTC conspicuous by its absence. No doubt easier and cheaper consumer finance has made it easier for prospective purchasers of Tata Sumos. Perhaps obvious enough. But as I said, it wasn't a change I expected. For Delhi-Guwahati road transport then, there was market failure and State intervention was required. No longer. How easily do we accept the argument that sectors characterized by market failure in the 1960s may no longer have market failure now?

After considerable effort, I tracked down the house I lived in for the first ten years of my life. The house was sold when we left in 1965. Because it would be cheaper, my father must have decided to build in an area that was then the outskirts. We didn't have piped water. Water came from a well. Once in a while, the well would be chlorinated. I don't think we were particularly deprived or that our health outcomes suffered significantly.

That makes me wonder when human development indicators used existence of piped water (as opposed to wells) as mandatory variable, a fact that, for example, pulls down Kerala. I wasn't born at home. I was born in a nursing home. But I also have similar reservations when delivery in nursing homes or hospitals is regarded as a normative failure, a fact that generally pulls India down. Surely, birth attended by skilled health professionals like midwives is somewhat different from birth in nursing homes or hospitals. Do we need the latter unless there are complications?

I won't say the same thing about electricity, which also, our house didn't possess. Instead, we had kerosene lanterns. Nor was there a paved road leading up to the house. You had to walk about half a kilometer before you got to a *pucca* road.

All that has changed beyond recognition. Water, electricity, roads, houses all around. I remember an incident when my mother had gone out to meet a friend from Kolkata and they went to a restaurant. Having returned, my mother told my father and me that she had some ice-cream and we listened, goggle-eyed with wonder. We had never seen ice-cream (not unusual in a place like Shillong), forget eating it. The object therefore had to be described.

Right in front of what used to be our house, there is now a shop that sells ice-cream. Yes, even in Shillong. A major market used to be Police Bazaar. That too, has changed beyond recognition. Every consumer good you can think of is now available. That wasn't the case 38 years ago. Connectivity may not be a sufficient condition for development. But it is certainly necessary.

I retraced my path to my old school. I used to walk to school and walk back. I measured the distance this time because I was curious about my sons thinking their school in Delhi was too far away from their home. The walk in Shillong was 6 kilometers in either direction. But in those days, I remember no particular sense of deprivation at having to walk 12 kilometers every day. Makes me wonder again. Are we over doing things a bit by insisting there should be a school within one kilometer of every habitation? If good roads exist, surely it is enough to have good schools within, say, five kilometers instead of bad schools within one kilometer.

At our office, we recently organized a seminar on the politics and economics of liberalization. Since 1991, among the most commonly used *cliche* is: "Across all varieties of the political spectrum, there is consensus on the need for reforms". Operationally, this is a meaningless statement unless one defines reforms and the modalities. So, at our seminar, we tried to pin down a minimum common

difference is not across political parties, since divergent views exist within the two major parties. In trying to identify this minimum set, inevitably, the discussion centred on the role of the State, subject to issues of a decentralized State versus a relatively centralized one.

Almost everyone agreed that the State has a role in providing primary education, health care, some physical infrastructure (especially rural) and governance (law and order, defence). I have deliberately used the word "role". Because role can mean financing or actual delivery and the two are not identical. Most people believed that the State also has a delivery role in providing these services and a few disagreed. I am bringing up education, because given all kinds of comparative advantages, Shillong could today have become one of the educational centres of India. Especially in school education. And we need to ask why this has not happened. The answer is related to the following propositions.

Proposition 1: Cross-country evidence shows that private schools are more efficient. Controlling for socio-economic factors, private schools lead to better outcome (verbal, mathematical and cognitive abilities). But (and this is the surprising result), private schools are not more expensive. For the same per pupil cost, achievement is higher in private schools. For example, in Lucknow, the per pupil cost in unaided private schools is less than half that in public schools. This is the sense in which private schools are more efficient.

Proposition 2: Government schools have no accountability and this leads to poor physical facilities, high pupil teacher ratios and low level of teaching activity. This has of course been known and was also reported by Probe (Public *Report on Basic Education in India*) in 1999, apart from data that the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) throw up.

Proposition 3: An increasing number of poor in India are sending their children to budget private schools. These schools are run on commercial principles and are not philanthropic. Nor do they receive government subsidies. They charge between 10 to 20 US dollars a year per student, roughly 5 per cent of what middle class private schools would charge. However, they also have free places for really poor students, often as much as one-third. Labourers, rickshaw pullers, auto-rickshaw drivers and market stall-owners send their children to such schools, spending between 6 per cent and 11 per cent of income on education. To restate the obvious, children are not out of school because of lack of demand. They are not in school because the quality of government school delivery is terrible.

Proposition 4: Budget private schools have qualified teachers and spend resources on teacher training and curriculum development. However, they often lack physical infrastructure (libraries, computer, science equipment), although government schools are probably worse. Teachers in budget private schools are paid 25 to 40 per cent less than teachers in government schools. Although teachers in budget private schools are often more qualified, they wouldn't be able to obtain appointments in government schools, because of corruption and cronyism associated with government appointments.

Proposition 5: Rather than encourage budget private schools, governments discourage them through bribery and corruption. Recognition requires physical infrastructure, which these budget private schools often don't possess. Most of this physical infrastructure is unnecessary to improve the quality of education. But because the physical infrastructure doesn't exist, budget private schools have to pay bribes of around Rs 50,000 to obtain recognition and Rs 25,000 per year to retain the

recognition.

Proposition 6: Public-private partnerships are also possible. For example, as in the Edison Schools systems in the US, ailing government schools were contracted out to private management. Because administrative expenses dropped from 27 to 7 per cent under the Edison system, not only did actual funding on classrooms go up, 8 per cent return was also possible to investors. In several countries, poor students are allowed to exit from government schools by using State funded vouchers. This voucher idea has been mooted several times in the Indian government's reform proposals, but no action has resulted.

Proposition 7: In some countries, there have been successful attempts to route State funding through private schools. Hence, the equation between State funding and State delivery may have been regarded as axiomatic in the past. But it is possible to break this down. The licence-permit *raj* may have disappeared from industry, but continues to be pervasive for education. Especially primary education, which everyone regards as a desirable objective.

To get back to Shillong becoming, or not becoming, an educational centre in India, it is not for me to speculate whether any of these seven propositions have relevance. I leave that for residents of Shillong and Meghalaya to decide. However, so far as school education is concerned, it is necessary to point out that Constitutionally, this is really a State government subject.

An eminent economist of our Country, Shri Bibek Debroy is the new Secretary General of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), New Delhi from January 1, 2006. Earlier, Shri Debroy served as the Director of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies (RGICS), Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi. Besides these appointments, Debroy is a professional economist, and has been educated at the Presidency College (Kolkata), the Delhi School of Economics and the Trinity College (Cambridge).

Shri Debroy has special attachment with Shillong College, as his mother Smt. Nirjharini Debroy was a member of the First Managing Committee (Provisional), 1956, of the College in early formative years of the College. We are extremely grateful to Shri Debroy for agreeing spontaneously to contribute this article for the Golden Jubilee

Magazine. A copy of his acceptance letter, which shows his keen interest and feeling for the College, is produced below.

-Ed.

Dear Dr Bhattacharjee,
Thank you for your letter of 31st October (2005).Ê My mother is indeed Nirjharini Deb Roy.Ê She is still very much alive and in Kolkata, although my father passed away last year.Ê I will be happy to write for the Golden Jubilee magazine.Ê The deadline is fine.Ê However, I have two questions.Ê First, what is the word length?Ê Second, do you want me to write something in general, such as higher education, or do you want me to focus specifically on Shillong?Ê The latter will be more in the nature of personal memories, although I can link it to economic issues.Ê Best wishes and regards,

Bibek Debroy

Commercialisation and Privatisation of Higher Education: Some concerns

Professor Jayati Ghosh
Centre for Economic Studies and Planning
School of Social Sciences,
Jawaharlal Nehru University

This brief note is intended only to raise some issues of current concern regarding policies, problems and prospects for higher education in India today. It does not provide a thorough consideration of the subject, which is extremely complex and clearly deserves much more extensive study. But since many of these issues are now under intense public debate in India, it is worth raising the broad questions and some preliminary concerns even in a general fashion, so that they can be addressed in more detail by others.

The context

There are some important facts which should form the background to any such consideration:

1. Higher education in India is already elitist as only 6-7 per cent of school entrants reach the university system. These represent for the most part a social segment which is already privileged in terms of receiving access to better quality primary and secondary education. These students are also dominantly from urban, upper or middle classes and non-backward communities/groups.

2. This is not because only this small proportion of the population desires further study – rather, there is huge excess demand in the system, with literally hundreds of thousands of students seeking to occupy the limited number of seats that are available, especially in certain streams that are currently perceived as more attractive for future job prospects.

3. This has led to the proliferation of private institutions, both recognised and unrecognised, which cater to the vast demand for higher education. This is an effective privatisation which is ongoing. This is mainly because of the inadequate availability of seats in public institutions, since thus far the private institutions (with a few exceptions) have had relatively little success in establishing themselves as among the best or most desirable places for new entrants.

4. This means that there is a strong system of rationing in operation in higher education, and especially for the public institutions recognised to be among the best. This rationing is not really based on "quality" or "merit", since the previous access to education (and even to private tutorial colleges which are no more than teaching shops) is typically critical in determining performance even in "national" entrance examinations. In many of the newer privately run institutions, where entrance is based on capitation fees, the rationing is effectively based on income and therefore excludes needy but possibly more talented young people who cannot afford to pay.

5. In addition to problems of inadequate quantity, there are enormous problems of quality in most of our institutions of higher learning, including the public ones. Apart from a

relatively small number of institutions of excellence, most of our universities, colleges and other institutes suffer from severe problems of inadequate facilities for both students and teachers, uneven quality of teaching, insufficient monitoring to ensure that classes are held and attended regularly, etc. Some of this reflects the lack of public resources directed to higher education, such that minimally adequate infrastructure (such as basic teaching equipment, libraries and so on) is often not provided. Bu there are also problems of ensuring that the facilities that are provided are used to the best effect.

6. There are growing problems of ensuring good quality faculty for teaching and research in many institutions. This problem is especially acute in crucial areas such as basic sciences, humanities and arts disciplines, because less young people are attracted to these streams because of the lower marketability and apparently lower social valuation placed upon them in the current environment. In other areas such as management, law and medicine, the possibility of very lucrative non-academic activities makes in difficult to recruit teachers in these areas.

Proposed solution

These problems are well known and widely recognised; however, they have led to differing responses in terms of the appropriate policy responses to deal with them. Everyone is agreed that public expenditure on higher education needs to go up substantially, and this is clearly one issue on which continuous pressure must be placed upon the government. However, it is also the case that public funding alone will not be sufficient to provide socially desirable levels of good quality higher education even in the medium term. Once this has been accepted, there are very different ways of approaching the set of problems that have been identified above.

One set of solutions which is currently being advocated deserves serious consideration because it reflects a certain understanding of the system that has substantial acceptance in official circles as well as among corporates. Some features of this were already outlined in the Birla-Ambani Report which was presented to the previous NDA government, and there are other votaries of this strategy at present. The three main elements of this strategy can be briefly stated as follows:

1. Institutions of higher education (both public and private) should be given the freedom, and should be encouraged, to raise their own resources as far as possible. To this end,

- Universities/institutions of higher learning should have the freedom to determine fees, with some conditions such as needs-blind admission and scholarships to needy.
- The UGC should not penalise institutions that raise their own money by cutting their grants-in-aid.
- University foundations (societies/trusts) should be allowed to save/invest money for future use and build corpuses through donations. This requires tax and other laws relevant for societies and trusts to be altered so that endowments can be developed.
- Constraints on fund raising should be removed and professional fund raisers should be allowed to be hired.
- Instruments should be created within universities for financial and portfolio management, etc.

2. It is necessary to accept hierarchies and differentials in pursuit of excellence. This can have the following implications:

- Three categories of institutions could be recognised: world class universities; state universities; and autonomous colleges, created by separating the currently affiliated colleges of universities.
- Salary differentials of faculty should be allowed (a) across institutions (b) across

faculties, so that those faculties that are unable to hire people because of higher market earnings in their profession (such as say, dentists and doctors, lawyers or management professionals) should be able to offer higher salaries than faculties where no such competitive pressure exists (c) within faculties, so that individual faculty members can negotiate their own salaries and faculties can offer some people higher salaries to attract them.

3. Grant disbursement to universities should be conditional on research conducted, and research outputs, by universities. Disbursement should not be dependent only on teaching salaries. There should be greater linkage between universities and industry with respect to research conducted.

Problems with this solution

It is possible to have a number of difficulties with this strategy, based on a differing perception of how to resolve the problems of higher education in a socially desirable and more inclusive way. Some potential areas of disagreement are listed below:

1. There are large externalities involved in the provision of higher education, and there is no country in the world where user fees are expected to raise the cost of providing such education. While there may be a case for periodic revision of students' fees, it cannot be the case that universities should try to recover costs of provision from students' fees. Further, the presumption that institutions (especially private ones) will behave in a responsible fashion and ensure that there are enough poor and needy students who are provided scholarships is over-optimistic, given the experience we already have with private hospitals that typically fail to meet their obligations with respect to poor patients, etc. If this is repeated in higher education, such a move is likely to exclude poor and backward class (including SC/ST and OBC) students who are already grossly underrepresented, and even middle class students, which would not only be socially unjust but also inefficient and potentially disruptive.

2. While there may appear to be no problem with giving freedom and easing conditions for raising funds by institutions, if this is made a priority, it may give rise to behaviour that focuses more on activities that are likely to raise money rather than pursue the basic goals of higher education and meet social needs which are not immediately recognised by private donors.

3. It is not clear that a salary differential across faculty (rather than increasing remuneration of all teachers in higher education) is the best way of ensuring quality faculty. Recognition of such "hierarchies" is problematic not only because it is in-egalitarian and excessively market-driven. This can also have very severe negative implications for collegiality which is the basic principle underlying the effective functioning of faculty in higher education. It will also operate to reduce both the attractiveness of higher studies in and the status of faculty involved in less "marketable" areas such as for example, basic sciences, social sciences (excluding economics), humanities and philosophy. Besides being unfortunate in itself, this would be very adverse for the health of a university and the promotion of liberal arts education in general. Further, it would create incentives for the young which would rely too much on current market forces and not take into account the current and longer term requirements of society in general.

Many eminent scholars have contested the argument that salary differentials are necessary to encourage "the best" to come and teach in universities in India. Instead, they have emphasised the importance of academic and other freedoms, social dignity, physical facilities, and so on. They have pointed to the inability of some of the private institutions to attract good faculty despite offering much higher salaries.

4. The creation of new institutions should not imply reduced resources for existing institutions; rather upgrading, improving and revitalising existing institutions should be a higher priority. This is especially important because the general tendency of government in the past has been to shower money on new "flagship" projects while neglecting established institutions that are therefore run down. While good facilities are important, it may be that improving facilities in existing institutions would have a greater marginal effect. In any case, if new institutions are planned, the availability of supporting infrastructure in the locality that would attract good faculty should also be considered.

Explicitly recognising a "caste system" may also be counterproductive in terms of raising the quality of the vast majority of higher education institutions that are not recognised as "world class", which are then likely to ace both psychological and financial difficulties. This is particularly important since the addition of the proposed "world class universities" would scarcely ameliorate the gross under-representation of lower income school leavers (including from the backward classes and minorities) in higher education.

5. While there is certainly scope for ranking by independent agencies, which tends to happen anyway (e.g. newspapers and journals often carry out such exercises), there are several dangers in allowing a free-for-all in which the market is to determine which is best. Problems of asymmetric information are especially evident in such services. In particular these give rise to a moral hazard problem whereby innocent students may lose out by paying out large sums to fly-by-night operators who are able to spend more on advertising than on the process of imparting education.

6. A basic point against the overall thrust of this set of proposals is it involves the creation of market-driven differentials which may well find a powerful constituency. It is also very likely that there will not be a corresponding increase in public funding as has been proposed, since this is more difficult to push through within what is seen as a fiscally constrained situation. The consequence will therefore be effective privatisation of a significant part of higher education, which is likely to make things worse by reducing access and skewing available resources even further towards currently marketable subjects away from basic research and teaching of less marketable areas.

Towards an alternative approach

Obviously, it is not enough to find difficulties with a set of proposed solutions; it is necessary to suggest alternative ways of dealing with the problems that have been described above. Clearly, to do so will require identifying the specific nature of the problems in more detail, and a closer examination of the implications of particular strategies.

1. For example, while it is clearly the case that private activity in education must continue and be encouraged, it must also be made clear that this cannot be for profit-making purposes, in however disguised a form. Further, the entry of the private sector cannot be seen as a solution to all the various problems of quantity and quality, given our own experience in this regard. Currently students and faculty very often prefer government institutions or institutions that work like government institutions to many private institutions. Many of the students graduating from private institutions are very poorly trained. It needs to be investigated as to why this is so, and the reasons for the success of some private institutions need to be studied and identified so that official policy would be directed towards replicating the positive experiences.

2. It is also becoming clear that many colleges are not taking up the offer of autonomy by the UGC even though this would give them greater freedom. Why is this the case? What

are the requirements for ensuring that such institutions can actually benefit from more autonomy?

3. Research support and infrastructure needs to be beefed up substantially, especially to improve many of the existing institutions and upgrade their faculty. State financing along with enabling mechanisms for institutions is a combination that can be worked out.

3. Is it possible to develop structures of incentives (for example, fiscal incentives) that would encourage the expansion of certain types of socially desirable expenditure on higher education?

4. It has been correctly noted that the problems facing the higher education sector need to be analysed in the light of the objectives of higher education. Different approaches may be necessary depending on whether one is concerned about the quality of teaching or the quality of research. Also the problems may be different for the sciences than in the arts, and across particular disciplines.

5. Often it is possible to attract good faculty at the starting level but not at higher levels. This needs to be investigated further and various incentives – not just pay packages (which would affect the ratio of lowest to highest salaries within the range) but other factors that inhibit mobility (such as problems of housing, schools for children, medical facilities) could be considered. Also non-monetary incentives – such as more frequent opportunities for sabbaticals etc, better facilities for research, more access to books, journals and research materials – should be thought of.

6. It is important to develop effective and implementable ways of increasing the access of socially marginalised grcups as well as more needy students to higher education. It is also necessary to ensure low drop out rates in such categories, and this is possible only if the institutions take an active interest in providing bridge courses, special language training, remedial activities, etc. that would allow such students to counterbalance the effects of a very different educational background.

7. The issue of having trained administrators who can deal with the task of effectively managing very large institutions is an important one that is often overlooked.

8. The current diversity in educational institutions is valuable and can be a source of strength. It should not be changed for the sake of uniformity alone, such as in forcing all universities to have a semester course system even where it may not be appropriate. However, some standardisation of admission and selection procedures may be a good idea.

9. Some of the areas which are critical to long-term goals (including creation of new knowledge and new technologies) are poor in terms of fund-raising potential e.g. mathematics and languages. Therefore, one needs a mechanism to disburse funds, private or public, which takes into account these long-term interests of an academic institution. If private donors are to be encouraged, on possibility is to create an education fund by industry - perhaps to provide funds in a specific area, but essentially administeredĚby professional/academic bodies.

10. Private sector funding might perhaps be best used to create new research and development laboratories. It is only recently that industry in India has started considering investing seriously in research and this should be encouraged. This is possibly one area where "private-public partnership" might encourage industry to invest in long-term/blue skies type of research and complement the work being done in academic institutions and

CSIR laboratories.

11. Our concern should be with trying to understand the type of institutional structures that facilitate knowledge production and dissemination. This is important because we need to enhance the average levels of competence significantly before we can expect spectacular peaks of achievement.

It is not a priori obvious that either corporate or government funding by itself will ensure that the best structures for such activities will naturally follow.Ê For all their many flaws, our existing institutions which represent more than half a century of public funding do have some positive features. For example, they have a very wide reach in terms of geographical dispersion and economic access (if colleges granting degrees are included). For more than half a century, they facilitated the formation of enough skilled manpower that we could enter some key sectors (but certainly not all) of the new economy. They also more or less emulate in structure the successful models of universities and research institutions elsewhere in the world. Before leaving them to decline, it is important to think of ways in which they can adapt to a changing world.Ê

Prof. Jayati Ghosh is also a Collaborating Researcher for the UNRISD Project on Globalization, Export-Oriented Employment for Women and Social Policy. She is one of the leading economists of our country and contributes columns in newspapers and magazines. We are extremely happy that she readily accepted our invitation to contribute an article for our Golden Magazine for the benefit of all, particularly the students. We also produce below the copy of her acceptance letter which shows her eagerness to contribute in everyway in the field of higher education. - Ed.

Dear Dr. Bhattacharjee,

Thank you for your mail. I would be happy to contribute a piece for your Golden Jubilee magazine, so long as it does not have to be sent immediately. How long do you want it to be and when do you require it by? Please let me know - the best address for me is jaya

With regards,

Jayati 18th March, 2006

KNOWLEDGE VERSUS WISDOM TRADING EDUCATION AND SCUTTLING DEVELOPMENT

Thomas Joseph, President,
All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisations (AIFUCTO)

The Language of Co-option

The language of 'globalization' is highly misleading. It distorts meanings. It is part of the strategy of co-option being practiced by the pundits of globalization. The objective of co-option is the same as that of the Almighty God in the story of the Tower of Babel. God is said to have confused the builders of the tower by scattering their tongues. The strategy of the modern god of globalization is different. The new god creates confusion not by scattering the tongues, but by converging them. The language of anti-globalization is co-opted by the pundits of globalization and used along side the language of globalization. This drains off meanings from the vocabulary of anti-globalization movements. It divides the opponents of globalization by creating ideological confusion.

The latest example in the series is the World Development Report 2006. The title of the World Bank Report -- Equity and Development -- is tantalizing. The report parades the concern for the poor from its first sentence to the last. It sets out measures for correcting existing imbalances. The overview of the report sums up the recommendations thus: *"In the domestic arena, it makes the case for investing in people, expanding access to justice, land, and infrastructure, and promoting fairness in markets. In the international arena, it considers levelling the playing field in the functioning of global markets and the rules that govern them and the complementary provision of aid to help poor countries and poor people build greater endowments"*(World Bank,2005). The agenda of promoting social justice through a fair distribution of resources and opportunities is placed along side the agenda of 'fair globalization' through correction of market imperfections and distribution of aid. The message is that there is nothing wrong with the market per-se. The market is presented not as the ugly reality to be confronted and overcome but as an instrument of equity that has presently suffered some imperfections which could be corrected through appropriate interventions. The deceptive practice of co-option presents three options before the anti-globalization movements–to accept the logic of cooption and to abandon the fight against globalization / to abandon the vocabulary of equity along with that of the market / to distinguish the two and to reclaim and reassert the original meaning of the vocabulary of equity. The third option is difficult, but it appears to be the only sustainable alternative.

Engines of Globalization

The technique of co-option is deception. The word 'globalization' is itself deceptive. Literally it is the equivalent of the Sanskrit expression *"Vasudhaivakudumbakam"*. But it connotes the opposite meaning. There is no diffusion of opportunities on a global scale under globalization, as the term would suggest. There is in fact a convergence of global power

— political, economic and technological. The fall of Soviet Union and the growth of a unipolar world under the tutelage of United States set the stage for the centralization of global political power. The Washington Consensus Institutions (IMF, WORLD BANK and WTO) are the economic engines of global monopolies. Faster and cheaper transportation and communication are the technological tools which brought the global village into existence by shrinking space, shrinking time and shrinking borders. In 1956 only 89 simultaneous telephone calls could be made between Europe and America. Today the number has increased to one million. From 1993 to 1999, the number of internet hosts went up from one million to forty two million. World aircraft cargo trebled between 1985 and 1997. World shipping grew tenfold between 1950 and 2000. Annual world car production over the same period increased fivefold (Buckman, 2004).

The above developments have been part of a comprehensive change in the processes of production and consumption. The expression 'Knowledge Revolution' underlines the crucial role being played by knowledge in the new processes. Knowledge has now become the most crucial component of production and consumption, more important than land capital and natural resources. This is true of all sectors—primary, secondary and tertiary. In a path breaking study, Nobel laureate economist Robert Solow has highlighted the increasing role of technology over capital in economic growth. He has shown that seven eighth of the growth of the US economy from 1900 to 1950 was the result of technical progress, while only one eighth was driven by capital. The pace of change has only increased since then. The shifting determinants of development from traditional material based capital resources to non-material knowledge resources clearly indicate that development in future is linked up with acquisition, production and dissemination of knowledge (Planning Commission, 2002).

Knowledge-based resources differ significantly in character from material resources. Firstly, material resources are costly to transport and store, whereas knowledge resources are easily transportable at rapid speed and can be stored at negligible cost. These vital differences between material capital and knowledge capital have greatly telescoped the time gap in development. While it took a few thousand years for agricultural revolution and a few hundred years for industrial revolution to transform the world and its people, knowledge revolution can transform people's lives in decades. Secondly, knowledge economy, unlike the agricultural and industrial economy, provides greater opportunities for participatory development. The agricultural and industrial economies were dependent on material resources, the availability of which was limited. The scramble for arable land in the agricultural economy and for natural resources in the industrial economy produced asymmetrical social and economic relationships in the form of Zamindari system and colonialism. Knowledge resources, unlike material resources are unlimited. While material resources are consumed when they are utilized, knowledge resources increase when shared. Historically, development has occurred under conditions in which access to critical resources was restricted to a relatively small portion of the population. The distinct characteristic of knowledge as a resource makes it possible, for the first time, to spread and share a crucial resource among the entire population. The monopolistic capitalist system of production and distribution could now be replaced by a more equitable, co-operative system of shared development. What is required is an understanding of the dynamics of the new productive process. But that understanding continues to be elusive. We continue to be guided by a philosophy of exclusion that has become technologically and ethically redundant.

Information, Knowledge and Wisdom

The gap between the equitable dream and the inequitable reality is the result of the failure to integrate information, knowledge and wisdom. Information is said to double every three years. This does not automatically lead to a doubling of knowledge over the same period. Information is not the same as knowledge. It is only a raw material for the production of

knowledge. Relevant information has to be selected, processed and synthesized into knowledge. The procedure involves both inspiration and perspiration. Systematic training in the form of education can improve both capabilities. The higher the levels of education, and better the quality of education imparted, the greater the opportunities for growth and development. But development in itself cannot guarantee welfare to all for all times. While knowledge places power at the disposal of human beings, it does not empower him to make the right choices in the exercise of his power. One needs wisdom to make the right choices. Knowledge is only one of the components of wisdom. The other component is ethics. A wise man's choices are moved by love and informed by knowledge.

The statistics released by Human Development Report (UNDP, 2005), which clearly shows that the gap between the rich and the poor within and between countries is increasing year after year, is an indication of the deficit of wisdom in the exercise of human choices. The political and economic forces guiding the current phase of globalization are presently working overtime to ensure that technology is put to the service of the few rich nations and peoples at the cost of the vast majority of nations and peoples. Twenty years ago, a person born in Sub-Saharan Africa could expect to live 24 years less than one in a rich country and the gap was declining. Today it is 33 years and widening, mainly due to aids. Life expectancy has also declined in East Europe with the figure for Russia dropping from 70 in 1990 to 59 at present. Of the 73 countries for which data are available, 53 (with more than 80 per cent of the world's population) have seen inequality rise. One billion people lack access to safe drinking water. One billion people survive on less than $1 a day. 2.6 billion lack access to improved sanitation. 18 countries with a combined population of 460 million people registered lower scores on the HDI in 2003 than in 1990. The richest 20 per cent hold three-quarters of the world's income and the poorest 20 per cent only 1.5 per cent. The world's 500 richest people have more income than the poorest 416 million people. What HDR 2005 has exposed is not the failure of technology, but the failure to use the new technology for sharing welfare. It is a political failure.

The environmental cost of the current phase of globalization is another indication of deficit of wisdom in development. The explosion in world freight has a debilitating impact on global environment. The transport sector alone accounts for about 20 to 25 percent of the total carbon emissions. A Kiwi fruit flew from New Zealand to Europe, causes carbon emissions equal to five times the weight of the fruit. It is estimated that consumption of fossil fuels at the present rate could cause global warming within the current century itself. The green house gases and acid rain that environmental pollution produces have already begun to adversely impact human, animal and plant life. Clearly the present pace of development is unsustainable (Buckman, 2004).

Growth, Development and Sustainable Development

The concept of sustainable development is comparatively new and still evolving. It includes the concepts of growth and development, but is more inclusive than either of them. Growth is understood in terms of Gross National Product (GNP). It is concerned with the flow of goods and services. It may be reflected as an increase in income, output or employment. Development is a larger and wider concept. It involves not only economic growth, but also structural changes. It has both quantitative and qualitative dimensions. It may be reflected in the social, political and cultural values and attitudes of the people. It is a dynamic process. Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen has defined it as a process of enlarging people's choices. Sustainable development is development that can be sustained over a long period of time. It involves meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their needs. It brings in ethical and ecological dimensions to the understanding of the development paradigm. It relates to the process in which the natural resources base is not allowed to deteriorate to levels which are totally irreversible. It emphasizes the hitherto neglected role of environmental quality and environmental inputs

in the process of raising real income and quality of life. It implies a greater appreciation of the factors relating to the sequencing and pacing of development.

Poverty eradication, equitable production and consumption patterns and protection and management of the natural resource base for economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development. Globalization has added a new dimension to these challenges. While the latest developments in transportation and information communication have increased the potential for maximising human welfare through sharing opportunities and resources, the actual experience has been in the opposite direction. The current phase of globalization promotes an agenda that does not do justice to man and nature. Innovations in education, including higher education, have to address these concerns.

A sustainable agenda for higher education has to address the concerns of equity and excellence. It is necessary to go beyond the goal of universal primary and secondary education. We should provide "quality education for all young people" as declared by the Geneva Conference of the UNESCO (2004). There should also be provision for adult and continuing education which would help people to update their knowledge and skills so that they could participate in the economic and social life and live healthy and meaningful lives even in old age. The curriculum at all stages should also be reinvented to inculcate in the learner the personal and societal qualities conducive to sustainable development. This would require a revision of funding strategies to impart quality higher education to all those who have the intellectual competence and emotional aptitude for scholarly pursuits. Though the system of Indian higher education, with more than 17000 institutions imparting education to more than one core young people and employing more than 4.5 lakh teachers, is the second largest in the world, the enrolment ratios in India at 7% of the relevant age group compares unfavourably with more than 80% in most of the developed countries, more than 50% in developed countries taken together and more than 20% in most of the developing countries. Most of the developed countries have achieved their present status by sustaining a heavily subsidized system of higher education over a long period. India, with more its 26 % of the population living below poverty line, cannot hope to enlarge enrolment to the desirable levels unless the Government invests more and more at all levels of education, including higher education. The promise of investing 6% of the GDP on education still remains a pipe dream. Even as public investment needs to be supplemented by private investment, the executive, the judiciary and the legislature must embark on a proactive role in setting up a proper regulatory frame work for ensuring a more equitable ,democratic and participatory system of education in private institutions.

Globalization in Higher education

In India, globalization of higher education preceded globalization of the economy in general, which is generally dated from 1991. The National Policy on Education (NPE), which came into existence in 1986, anticipated the exclusionary agenda of the current phase of globalization by positing quantity and quality as dichotomous entities. It was argued that the system of higher education in India is overdeveloped and that it has a direct bearing on the quality of education. It was decided that the emphasis from then on would be on improving quality, even at the expense of quantity. Apart from encouraging the setting up of 'autonomous colleges', schemes were also evolved for 'centres of excellence', 'potential centres of excellence' and 'deemed universities'. The ulterior objective was to divert scarce public resources to these 'islands of excellence' which could flourish in the midst of a vast ocean of mediocre institutions. The inequalities already existing in school education were thus extended to cover higher education as well.

The formal acceptance of the ideology and practices of globalization by the Indian Government in the nineties led to the progressive withdrawal of public funds from higher education on

the one hand and privatization and commercialization of higher education on the other. This was done by pitting primary and secondary education against higher education. The World Bank (Higher Education: Lessons of Experience, 1994) argued that higher education was a non-merit good as its benefits mainly accrue to the individual concerned, unlike school education which was classified as merit good as the entire society benefits from expansion of school education. The third world governments with scarce resources were advised by the Bank to reduce subsidies on higher education so that they could spend more on primary and secondary education. Accordingly, Government of India decided to reduce the subsidies on higher education from 90% to 25% with in a period of five years (Government of India, Discussion Paper, 1997). The Ambani-Birla Report (2000) and the concept paper on a 'Model Act for Universities' (2003) prepared by the UGC echoed the same sentiments. Though the Parliament did not legislate on private universities, several states did, the most brazen form of which was provided by Chattisgarh (2002). A large number of private higher education institutions also came to be set up, especially in the professional educational sector. The Supreme Court of India liberated them from the regulatory frame work through its landmark judgment in TMA Pai Judgment (2002), which has paved the way for great erosion of equity and excellence in higher education.

NCMP: Promise vs. Performance

The Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) made a solemn promise that the Government would take steps to ensure that nobody will be denied the right to professional education simply because he/she is poor. The Government even published the draft of a comprehensive law for regulating private educational institutions towards this end. But later the draft was withdrawn, obviously under pressure from the entrepreneurial lobby in education. Though the Parliament has now partially addressed the concerns of equity by providing for the reservation of SC/ST and other socially backward communities in non-minority educational institutions, the larger questions relating to regulating admission, fees, curriculum, infrastructure and service conditions of staff still remain unresolved.

The commitment of the UPA Government to the entrepreneurial lobby in education has been further reinforced at the Hong Kong Ministerial of WTO. The initial commitment for global trade in higher education has been made at Hong Kong. The Hong Kong call to achieve "a progressively higher level of liberalization" and to "intensify the negotiations" is highly detrimental to the interests of equity in higher education. Especially harmful is the new agreement on "plurilateral" negotiations. The "plurilateral" approach would undermine the flexibility that developing nations enjoyed earlier. A large number of major economic powers operating in unison could now coerce weaker nations into making offers to their requests. Since reciprocity is ingrained in plurilateralism, the Indian effort at making specific requests for lifting all barriers to the export of Indian education will have repercussions with regard to the import of educational services, with its attendant perilous impact on access and research. More over, exodus of teachers on a large scale will impact our development negatively. Shortage of teachers in engineering, medical education, management and other sectors has already put our education system under great stress. The endorsement of "sectoral and modal approach" have in effect brought, through the back door, "benchmarking" and "targets" opposed by developing countries. The Hong Kong Ministerial has also decided in favour of further liberalization in Mode 3 i.e. "commercial presence" category of trade in service, which is a euphemism for FDI in a large range of services from banking and insurance to health and education. The aggressive commitments made by India in higher education sector will progressively bring greater and greater obligations under most Favoured Nation Treatment, Market Access and National Treatment which will lead to the eventual dismantling of the subsidized system of higher education in the country.

The steps being taken by UGC to implement the recommendations of the CABE Committee Report on Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions (2005) at the behest of MHRD is further proof of UPA's commitment to the commercialization of education. The selective implementation of the report without reference to the more equitable CABE Committee Report on Financing Higher and Technical Education (2005) could wipe out even the remaining traces of equity from higher education. At present, individual colleges do not have adequate academic expertise and infrastructure to face global academic challenges and their managements have little social commitment to withstand global commercial temptations. If such colleges are given institutional autonomy, it is very likely that they will end up as copy cats conducting ready-to-serve courses promoted by multinational for-profit universities. Instead of innovation, imitation will become the norm. Instead of equity, exploitation will thrive. In the present context, it would be more meaningful to experiment with the concept of "cluster of colleges", originally mooted by the Kothari Commission. The advantage is that it could ensure optimum utilization of available expertise and infrastructure. Such clusters could have linkages with local research establishments. The clusters could jointly start new courses in emerging areas with minimum additional investment by sharing expertise and infrastructure available in different colleges. It could also promote the concept of healthy academic co-operation as an antidote to global commercial academic collaboration.

Share Knowledge; Share Development

The agenda of action put forward National Education Convention organized at New Delhi on the 12th and 13th of December, 2005 has addressed most of the above concerns. A large number of representatives of student, youth and teacher organizations and popular science movements drawn from different parts of the country had taken part in the deliberations. The Convention which discussed issues ranging from pre-primary to post doctoral levels of education has come out with a 15 point charter of demands ,the crux of which has been encapsulated in the slogan, **"SHARE KNOWLEDGE; SHARE DEVELOPMENT".** Following is the full text of the Delhi Declaration made at the conclusion of the national convention:

"In order to ensure quantitative, qualitative and inclusive development of education at all levels in accordance with the demands of the emerging realities and to ensure the strengthening of secular, democratic, equitable and scientific ethos in the education system, this All India Convention on Education demands that a National Commission on Education must be constituted to review the entire system of education and proposes the following 15 point agenda of action for the consideration of the Central and State Governments and of the people at large.

1. *Implementation of the right to universal early child care and education. Upgrade existing Anganwadis and set up similar structures wherever they do not exist. Link Anganwadis with school system. Ensure free and compulsory education up to 14 years.*
2. *Strive for common school system. Ensure at least one state funded school within one kilometre radius, with mother tongue as medium of instruction. Only recognized school should be allowed. Recognition should be granted on the basis of constitutional principles of secularism, democracy and scientific temper .Keeping these principles in view, Right to Education Bill, 2005 should be amended.*
3. *Education cess should be spent fully on state funded school education. Spend at least 6% of the GDP on education.*
4. *Integrate vocational proficiency and practical skills within the curriculum so as to*

develop work culture and employability.

5. *No self-financing courses in state funded higher education institutions. More state funded institutions with adequate infrastructure with liberal free ships and scholarships. Introduce courses in new and emerging areas in state-funded institutions. Expand state funded technical and professional education. Provide adequate funds for research to respond to social needs and to defend independent and critical thinking.*
6. *No foreign direct investment in education.*
7. *Enact central/state law to regulate fees ,admission with provision for reservation, curriculum, infrastructural facilities, and salary and service conditions of staff of all unaided colleges institutions including minority unaided institutions.*
8. *Autonomous status should not be imposed on colleges.*
9. *No private universities. Existing private universities should seek affiliation as colleges. Scrap the deemed university status granted to private universities. Bring back the earlier criteria for granting deemed university status. Scrutinize all deemed universities started in the last four to five years on the basis of the earlier criteria.*
10. *No privatization and commercialization of education. Education should not be brought under GATS. Initial offers made by Government of India should be withdrawn.*
12. *No differential fee structure and no hike in fees in state funded institutions. Ensure quality through greater state funding. Decrease the rates of interest on bank loans and provide bank loans without collateral.*
13. *Democratise the entire system of education. Elections should be held for student unions, teachers' and non-teaching staff associations. Ensure elected representation of students, teaching and non-teaching staff in decision –making bodies.*
14. *Funding should not be linked to assessment and accreditation. Assessment should be transparent, democratic and participatory. It should be conducted state wise by state agencies.*
15. *Strengthen academic relevance of higher education in accordance with the goals of national development".*

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Prof. Thomas Joseph of K. E. College, Mannanam, Kerala, is presently the President of All India Federation of University & College Teachers' Organizations (A.I.F.U.C.T.O.). The Meghalaya College Teachers' Association

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REMINISCENCES

"It is singular how soon we lose the impression of what ceases to be constantly before us. A year impairs, a luster obliterates. There is little distinct left without an effort of memory, then indeed the lights are rekindled for a moment - but who can be sure that the Imagination is not the torch-bearer"

~Lord Byron

A Personal Memoir

Prof. Subir Datta
Reader in English,
Rabindra Bharati University
Kolkata

The Golden Jubilee Souvenir of Shillong College brings back to me memories of a lost world about which I still feel impossibly nostalgic.

I joined the one-year Pre-university class at Shillong College in 1962. Since I was never sent to a school, Shillong College was my first exposure to academic discipline. I was excited as well as apprehensive. My classmates talked about their newfound freedom, and how relaxing they found life in a college, and how, unlike schools, attending lectures was now an adult option for us. But I couldn't share their excitement because for me the college seemed to be the end of my freedom. My father being the Principal of the College did not help matters. I never had the luxury of missing a single class while I was in Shillong College.

However, to be truthful, I didn't mind attending lectures since that was a new experience for me. I considered myself fortunate that someone was actually taking the trouble of explaining new and exciting ideas and concepts to me. I still have fond memories of Professor Biraj Datta who taught us Logic and Professor Tapan Moitra, our Economics teacher. In fact, I found their lectures so stimulating and inspirational that I decided within a month that I would be a philosopher, but was firmly dissuaded by my father and then I wanted to study Economics, but since Mathematics was never my strong point I dissuaded myself.

In those days Shillong College campus stretched to the horizon. There were no boundary walls, no fences, just two buildings on a hillock. Our classes were held in the new building. The classrooms were on both sides of a long corridor. The rooms were bright and airy with a strong smell of fresh paint unlike the dark and gloomy rooms in the old building which had a portico and which housed the library, the teachers' room and the office. There were only a few hundred books in the library. The number of students in the College couldn't have been more.

In the morning I usually took a bus and got off at Don Bosco and walked through the winding road next to St. Mary's College gate. In the afternoon when classes were over I often climbed down the hill to return home in lower Lachaumiere where we then lived. I feel strongly nostalgic about those solitary afternoon walks, after a day of fulfilling intellectual pursuits, down the winding hilly path when the sky slowly turned from a bright blue to a softer hue. The College then was part of the surrounding landscape and I feel sad to hear that the campus has now been fenced off.

Shillong College was also a part of my childhood because of my father's close association with it since its inception. I remember those music-filled evenings when Professor Dibyendu Guha used to conduct rehearsals with students in the sitting room of our house in Jail Road for Independence Day or for Tagore birthday programmes. The College had no building of its own then and classes were held in the Jail Road Boys' High School. During school hours, when the College authorities had no access to the school building, the office was sometimes temporarily shifted to our sitting room.

It's amazing to know that the College today has grown so large and has diversified itself in so many new disciplines. I am sure a more glorious future awaits my alma mater.

Shri Subir Datta, Reader in English, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, is the illustrious son of the founder Principal of Shillong College, (Late) Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta. He had his early collegiate education in Shillong College. It is extremely satisfying that we could contact Shri Datta, and he, on his part, readily agreed to contribute this article for the Golden Jubilee Magazine. Though the article is in the form of memoirs, we publish in Invited Articles section as the same was obtained on request. We also produce below the copy of his letter, received on 4-3-06, to show the attachment his family still has with the College. ------- Ed.

Dear Dr Bhattacharjee,

Thank you so much for your letter and the Golden Jubilee souvenir. I have many pleasant memories of Shillong College. In fact, I was a student of the college for a brief period during 1962-63 which was shortly after the college was shifted to its new campus. Since I was never sent to a school Shillong College was my first introduction to the formal academic world and I still cherish my memories of those days.

Thank you for inviting me to write about my memories of the college for the Golden Jubilee Magazine. I'll try to send it to you within the time stipulated.

My sisters join me in wishing the Golden Jubilee celebrations a great success.

With regards,

Subir Datta
4th March, 2006

99/5 Ballygunge Place
Kolkata 700 019
Telephone (033)2460-5135/7353

A Tribute to Shillong College

Prashanta Purkayastha
Former student (1959-61) and
Formerly General Secretary,
Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Jail
Road, Shillong

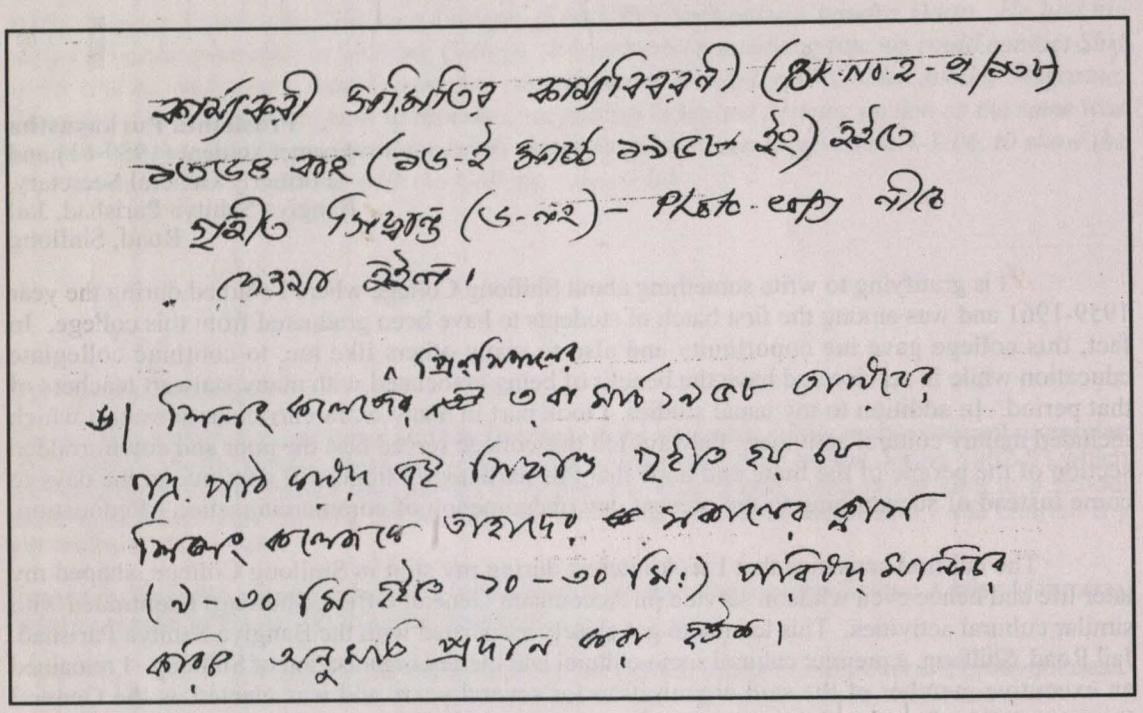
It is gratifying to write something about Shillong College where I studied during the year 1959-1961 and was among the first batch of students to have been graduated from this college. In fact, this college gave me opportunity and also to many others like me, to continue collegiate education while in service and have the benefit of being associated with many stalwart teachers of that period. In addition to my usual studies, I took part in many extra-curricular activities which included mainly cultural activities. I always felt this college served best the poor and down-trodden section of the people of the State and hope that this particularly trend will continue in the days to come instead of succumbing to the present day phenomenon of commercialisation of education.

The cultural activities that I took interest during my stint in Shillong College, shaped my later life and hence even while in service (in Accountant General Office, Shillong) I continued with similar cultural activities. This led me to get closely associated with the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Jail Road, Shillong, a premier cultural socio-cultural and literary organisation of Shillong. I remained an executive member of the said organisation for several years and was elected as the General Secretary of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad in the later part of nineties. This gave opportunity to get acquainted with many leading personality of the State in the field of arts, culture, literature etc. which helped me immensely in enriching my knowledge in those fields. Thus I got an opportunity to look back at the old files and proceedings books of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and I, most amusingly, could find one very interesting record about Shillong College which I most humbly report in this column.

Lead by former General Secretary Shri Kumud Ranjan Bhattacharjee, the activities of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Shillong were not confined to creation of library, library expansion and cultural functions. The organisation started contributing significantly in research work on Bengali language and literature and most importantly, at the same time, took initiative in dissemination of higher education in the capital town of the then state of Assam. It took upon itself to create necessary infrastructure and providing necessary help and opportunity to the needy institutions as well as students to help the cause of higher education.

During the period 1957-58, Vishwa Bharati Lok Shiksha Samsad, Shillong had no permanent study centre and the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad provided the necessary permission (16-03-1958) and infrastructure to conduct their classes in the Parishad premises on receipt of the application received them. The Parishad received a similar letter from Principal, Shillong College (dated 3rd March 1958) asking for permission to hold classes in the Parishad campus. It is pertinent to mention that the College was functioning from Jail Road Boys' High School during that time. In continuation with its spirit of cooperation and spread of higher education, the Parishad extended the necessary permission to hold the Morning Section Classes of Shillong College in its campus at Jail Road, Shillong. This fact is recorded in the proceeding books of the meeting of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad Working Committee held on 16th March 1958 (Resolution No. 06), and I take pride in enclosing the photo copy of the said resolution herein.

BANGIYA SAHITYA PARISHAD, SHILLONG



Excerpt of the Decision of the Working Committee of the Parishad held on 16-03-1958:

Book No. 2, Page No. 138, Resolution No. 6

English Translation of the Resolution may be read as follows:

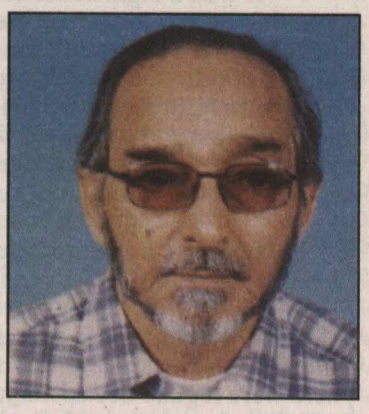
"On receipt of the application from the Principal, Shillong College, dated 3rd March, 1958, and the said being read out, it was decided to allow Shillong College to hold its Morning Section Classes (09.30 A.M. to 10.30 A.M.) in the Parishad premises".

I hope the above resolution will provide some insight into founding years of the College and the great tradition set forth by the College as well as Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Shillong.

Lastly, I would like to stress that the Shillong College is one such institution which has taken up the role and responsibility to create conditions that could enable all constituents of society to strive to be efficient and meritorious. Merit, in general, is derived from milieu. Largely, the distribution of assets determines the distribution of merit. The college is striving for creation this asset – it has done its bit but more need to be done. I congratulate the management, staff and all the members of the Shillong College family and hope that the College will continue with all the good work it has done over the five decades.

An ex-student of Shillong College (1959-61), Shri P. Purkayastha served in Office of the Accountant General, Shillong and is now residing in Mumbai after retirement.

Early Years of My Life in Shillong and Shillong College



Dr. Soumen Sen
Formerly lecturer,
Shillong College

It was an 'abode of peace' when I reached Shillong in February 1963, to join an assignment in Shillong College. I was then in my mid-twenties. Completing my schooling in Jamshedpur, a cosmopolitan urban industrial center, I came to Calcutta (now Kolkata) for higher education in early years of the decade of fifties of the last century and spent the prime years of my youth in the ambience of a metropolitan life. And, what a life it was: full of hope and aspirations following the independence and establishment of the Republic of India but at the same time fraught with scarcities, deprivations, tension, turmoil, protests and anger, that had happened mostly due to the partition of the Country and an uncertain leadership in the early years of independence. Journalists had described that period as the years of agonies for Bengal. At the same time, as it happened many a times in the history of the world, turmoil and crisis produced enlightened creativity, organised political movements, sensitive ideology, hope for the future and a tremendous wave of self belief: 'We shall overcome'. In the fifties of the last century, Bengal and Kolkata in particular, was the epitome of all these phenomena. I grew up in such an ambience.

It would have been normal, perhaps, if I would have felt bored and would have suffered from home sickness, after my arrival in Shillong. Instead, I was drawn to the enchanting landscape, beautiful, though uncertain weather, tranquil life line of the hill town, and above all, the vibrant life in Shillong College, then only about six years old and only a year old in the present site. The student community was composed of boys and girls from different communities – Assamese, Bengali, Khasi, Mizo, Nepali, etc. I was really fortunate, when, within months of our joining the College, we, Prof. Birendra Nath Datta, Prof. R. C. Sarma, Prof. Tapan Moitra and myself, were put in charge of the Social meet of the Students' Union. It was a grand event, combined with Swami Vivekananda Birth Centenary in 1963. To describe that event, I borrow a few lines from the reminiscence of Shri Pranoy Kanti Gupta Choudhury, ex-student and the Organising Secretary of the event, published in the Souvenir on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations in 1981. Gupta Choudhury wrote, "……the programme (included a symposium, mock parliament, debate, sports and football matches, dramas and variety performances and a musical recital on the life of Swami Vivekananda. Prof. D. S. Rawat was in charge of sports and games, Prof. Tapan Moitra in charge of the symposium and debate and Prof S. Sen in charge of cultural functions. The symposium on 'Economic Development in India' was highly appreciated by the local intellectuals (and) Dr. H. J. Taylor (then) Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University who graced the occasion by his presence. The exhibition debate was another highlight of the festival. Dr. Taylor was the chairman of the session and the two teams were led by Prof. Tapan Moitra and Prof. Soumen Sen, both of whom were distinguished debaters themselves. Dr. Taylor frequently intercepted the proceedings and made witty remarks and the entire audience listened to the lively debate with rapt attention. The cultural function organised on the occasion was equally successful. The talented student artists of the college presented a drama "Bhusandir Mathe" written by Parasuram and dramatised by Shyamal Mukherjee, an ex-student of the College. On the concluding day (of the week-long festival) was presented "Giti Bichitra" – an especially composed musical recital on the life of Swami Vivekananda written by Swapan Chakraborty (a student). It was so successful that the performance had to be repeated on request from the public at the State Central Library Hall on a later date to the appreciation of all."

It was a significant event in the early years of my life in Shillong College. It was the beginning of my very close association with students besides the routine class room interactions which I enjoyed always till the last days of my career. I was delighted to see the artistic skills and abilities of our students. Moreover, the cultural programme that year was indeed colourful and varied because of the participation of students belonging to different ethnic groups with their distinct traditional items. I witnessed for the first time the Bihu dance, Nepali and Naga traditional dances and heard melodious Khasi tunes along with Bengali and Assamese folk and modern songs sung with artistic perfection.

In fact, I was introduced to the milieu in which I was to work for the rest of my academic career.

The campus life was great in those years. Most of the teachers were young with full of enthusiasm. The student-teacher relationship was wonderful with interactions at personal levels. There were regular occasions when teachers and students could meet in informal ways. There were football and cricket matches where both students and teachers including the Principal himself used to participate. Annual Students Social Meets were the other events with involvement of the teachers. And, then there was that grand event – the annual picnic before the winter vacation. College authorities, particularly Principal S. C. Datta, were the source of encouragement for all these events.

We had a small teachers' common room in one corner of an old Assam type building with Principal's room and office in the other part. That did not deter us in making noises, as is normal with a young brigade. There was no dearth of topics for debate and enthusiasm on our part – be it academic, cinema, theatre, literature, sports and above all, politics. The Republic of India was young at that time – we had only three general elections. Though INC won all the elections, its popularity was in the decline. The party was suffering from internal bickering with ultimate division in two groups. Nehru era was on the wane with gradual rise of Indira Gandhi in power. The living conditions of the people were alarming. The food front was so critical that food movements were a regular feature in many regions, particularly in eastern states like Assam and Bengal. Government of India entered into an obnoxious pact with USA, known as PL 480. In some states, United Fronts of opposition parties seized power from the Congress by 1967. Five year plans were facing criticisms. There were other issues like Indo-Pak relations with war in 1965, India's Tibet Policy and Indo-Chinese war in 1962. Opposition forces were regrouping. Communist Party of India faced big splits. A new militant movement, Naxalism, shaked the political scenario of the country. Regionalism, of many varieties, was in the rise in different parts across the country. Shillong (and Khasi-Jaintia Hills) being a border area faced the effect of the three major wars – Indo-China war in 1962, Indo-Pak was in 1965 and Bangladesh liberation war in 1971. It was also in the centre of a regional movement, the Hill State Movement during the whole decade of the sixties of the last century – Meghalaya came into being in 1972. Emergency came in 1976.

India, including North-East, was in turmoil in the sixties and seventies of the last century. It was natural for us, the teachers of Shillong College, being young as most of us were, would be alive to such situations and would be engaged in debates. The teachers' room happened to be a place for such debates regularly.

Some of us also tried to take these issues to the forums of the students. We had a Planning Forum in the college with funds from the Planning Commission. Myself and Prof. Tapan Moitra were put in charge of the forum. With the encouragement and support from Principal S. C. Datta, we organised debates, symposia, etc. involving the students. Those debates, symposia, mock parliament sessions were almost a regular feature in the annual social meets of the students. The Shillong College Planning Forum organised a few very big seminars involving prominent educationists, political leaders and state dignitaries on many a current socio-political issues. One such seminar was organised on NEFA in collaboration with the then NEFA administration and Shillong Political Science Association; another as a part of Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary celebrations in collaboration with Shillong Political Science Association; and a big one on the working of the Sixth Schedule in which Prof. R. S. Lyngdoh was the principal speaker. All these happened in the sixties of the last century and were instant success.

In this context I am tempted to narrate a bit of my life in Shillong in the early years of my stay there which had a bearing on my activities in the college. From the very first year of my stay there I came in contact with a number of individuals and groups across communities, cultural, social, professional and political affiliates. Being a Bengali, I got automatically associated with the Bengali social and cultural activists of the town and organizations like Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Rabindra Smriti Granthagar, Rabindra Nritya Natya Parishad, etc. Through some of my Assamese students, I was introduced to Smti Rama Bezbaruah and Deepali Borthakur who where renowned singers and through them some other known performers. I recall my debt to them for readily accepting my invitation to help me in organising cultural events in the college on a number of occasions. I made a good number of Assamese friends, besides colleagues in different colleges, through Shillong Film Society and Assam Political Science Association which I joined in 1963 itself. I was also fortunate in getting in touch with Seng Khasi leaders like Mr. R. T. Rymbai and Mr. Kynpham Singh. The relationship continued till their death and both of them acted as mentors in my research projects. Whatever I could know about the social and cultural life of the Khasi-Jaintias was due to them, among others like Prof. B. Pakem, Prof. I. M. Simon, Dr. L. S. Gassah (now a professor in NEHU), with whom I came in contact through my association with Shillong Political Science Association, Shillong Study Centre and North-East India Council for Social Science Research.

One may ask why I am narrating all these very personal reminiscences when I am expected to narrate only those related to my life in Shillong College. There is a reason. It is to emphasize the importance of a vision of life free from parochial inhibitions. These contacts also paved the way for much required need for one to adjust and associate himself meaningfully with the setting where he is working. He must be one closely attached to the setting, feel that he is one of the many in that setting. This also helped me in establishing a good rapport with my students across communities. I have benefited much from such rapport both in my academic and personal life.

My little bit of association with the then current political life in Shillong also helped me in establishing a rapport with at least a section of the multi-ethnic student community and residents of the city. Though tranquil outwardly without any militant political movement (even the Hill State Movement, which was at its peak at that time, was peaceful), the city, then capital of Assam, was vibrant with political cross currents, both national and regional. I have mentioned in the first of this piece of writing, how sensitive the political climate of the country was at that time. Shillong was not totally out of touch with that climate. The politics of the country percolated in the town via Assam politics. There were groups, even if tiny, of left political activists and supporters, along with INC activists. There was a fairly strong strand of left trade union activities, particularly among the central government employees. There were a few Naxalites even. My interest in politics, particularly in understanding the political processes of the time, took me close to some of these groups, mostly the trade union workers. As an extension of Assam and National politics, these groups, mostly of Assamese and Bengali activists, organised movements, meetings, group discussions, where some students also participated. The 1966 students' movement for food was one such event, in which students from almost all the communities participated.

The Khasi-Jaintias were, however, involved in a bigger movement, the movement for hill state under the leadership of the All Party Hill Leaders Conference (APHLC). Ideologically I supported the movement since I believed that all the nationalities should enjoy their rights to self-determination. My academic interest in the nationality question and issues of regional politics prompted me to interact with some leaders of APHLC. I was fortunate, through the help of Shillong Political Science Association and my friend Prof. S. K. Chaube, then of St. Edmund's College, who was working on a research project on the Hill Politics, to meet leaders like Mr. B. B. Lyngdoh and Prof. R. S. Lyngdoh (and later some other) and interact with them. At that time (was it 1964 or 1965?), I organised a very big event in Shillong College in collaboration with Shillong Political Science Association with encouragement from Principal S. C. Datta. It was a seminar on the working of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India. It turned out to be a very big event with Prof. R. S. Lyngdoh as the principal speaker. The Hall, the corridor, for that matter the entire campus, was full of audience, specially the students of all the colleges of Shillong.

Another big even was a student agitation against scarcity of food in 1966. During that time, the early sixties of the last century, India, particularly the eastern region, was suffering from acute

food crisis. In 1964, Bengal saw big movement. In 1966, the people of Assam were also agitating. One day (I have forgotten the actual date) in the early part of 1966, the students of all the colleges of Shillong, across communities, brought out a procession in support of the movement. Police opened fire on the students; one died. Agitation continued; a citizens' committee with leading citizens of the town, professionals, teachers, representatives of students, was formed. Public meetings were held in Malki Ground. Citizens' Committee delegation met the Chief Minister. The government was forced to order a judicial enquiry. Then there was a legal battle on which I need not elaborate. Somehow, may be accidentally, but definitely spontaneously, the students of Shillong College played a big role in that student agitation.

This account may perhaps tell you how I enjoyed those early years of my life in Shillong, and particularly Shillong College, with full involvement. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my students of those years with whom I had an excellent relationship and to my erstwhile colleagues (some of whom have since passed away) in whose company I have learnt the essence of companionship with all its ups and down.

Dr. Soumen Sen joined the college on 28-02-1963 and served till early eighties when he joined North Eastern Hill University. Presently he is spending an active retired life at Kolkata and staying at Jx/Cluster I, Purbachal, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700 097 (Ph. 033-2335-1335).

Reminiscences of Shillong College

Dr. S. D. Nandi (Alumnus)
(Rtd.) Principal.
Oriental College, Kohima, Nagaland.

By 1959, Shillomg College had not yet completed its third year of existence. Classes were still held in the Jail Road Boys' High School at Jail Road. It was still a venture. The hassles of formative years were still visible in running of the institution. Government grants or University affiliation were still a long way ahead. The college needed more students for survival and as a consequence quality was sacrificed in admitting students. In those days numbers really mattered.

For a young college drop-out, having a job and family commitments, educating oneself formally had a low priority. But the hope persisted. Although many of Shillong`s colleges in those days offered night classes, they were either too choosy or logistically in disadvantageous locations for many. Shillong College provided the ideal institution for it did not insist on quality or on background. There was perfect complementarity between the student and the institution. The college needed students and student needed an opening.

I was working as a non-descript clerk in the LIC which was then located above the Chapala Book Stall. After the office a short walk to the college in the evening was convenient. I decided to take the plunge.

Night colleges had two categories of students. First, came those young freshers having abysmally low grade in examinations who could not procure admission in other reputed colleges. For this jean-clad, gum-chewing, long-haired crowd the college provided the clearing house of gossips. The second group consisted of college drop-outs, more aged and some of them even balding. They were mostly office workers, keen on improving their qualifications. Besides, they were themselves financing their own education and wanted to make the best use of it. They were a sober lot, communicating less and sat in the class apart from the first group. In such an ambience, I had to search out for one or two of my friends for a support base in the college with whom I could freely communicate. I persuaded my friend Sudhir Bhattacharjee with much difficulty to enrol along with me. He was still senior to me having left the college perhaps a decade back.

The college office was a small room with few chairs and two small tables. It had a small wooden cupboard at one corner in which few registers were neatly stacked. In front of the cupboard sat a person wearing dhoti and woollen wrapper, both white. He was a grave looking man and exuded authority.

"May we come in?"
"The proper address is: "May we come in SIR" pat came the reply. We dutifully repeated the sentence spoken and entered.
"We want to take admission, SIR"

"Which class?"
"Third Year, SIR."
"Have you brought your papers ?"
We produced our past records which were inspected by him.
"Have you brought the admission fee?" We paid and were admitted.
"Classes start from 15th July." He dismissed us.

Sudhir Bhattacharjee was furious. "Look at the arrogance of that clerk! I am myself a senior assistant in the office. How dare a clerk talk to me like that?" He was also critical of the gentleman's talking to us in English. I requested him to relax and calm down. He still grumbled. As we came out of the room a sense of angst set inside us. Both of us were silent yet thinking alike as we understood later. After all these years there was a paradigm shift in the classroom behaviour. Can we fit in the new scenario? Both of us were from the science background. Our option was arts. All the subjects were unfamiliar to us. Could we perform? How would we take failure in tests? Would we be objects of ridicule in the class? We entered the college with brimming hope and left it with sagging uncertainty.

On the appointed day the classes were opened by the Principal and lo! He was none other than the erstwhile clerk we met in the office. Sudhir Bhattacharjee was embarrassed to no end. We had four teachers, one in each subject that we came in contact with. The lawyer turned teacher of English was Shri Rajen Chaudhury who lectured with his eyes closed. We took the advantage of slipping out of the back door after the roll call. Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee taught History. He was fluent and very alert. D.S.Rawat, then an employee of the Department of Economics and Statistics was our Economics teacher. He was a very likeable person and very accessible to the students. Dibyendu Guha taught Bengali and was the favourite with students.

In course of time student strength increased and new set of teachers were appointed. Some of them were of our age and some were younger (Tapan Moitra of Economics who retired after me). And we continued. The initial anxiety gradually gave way to confidence. May, 1960 was another period of anxiety as the promotion examination was announced. We undertook serious efforts to pass the test. In fact, we discussed nothing else during those days except how to keep our noses above water. We could not afford to fail. The examinations over, it was the time to obtain results. Both of us passed and I still retain the first result sheet with me. A facsimile of the same is shown here which may not inspire anyone nor would my grandchildren be proud of. However, the signature of the founding Principal of the college is there which I treasure still today.

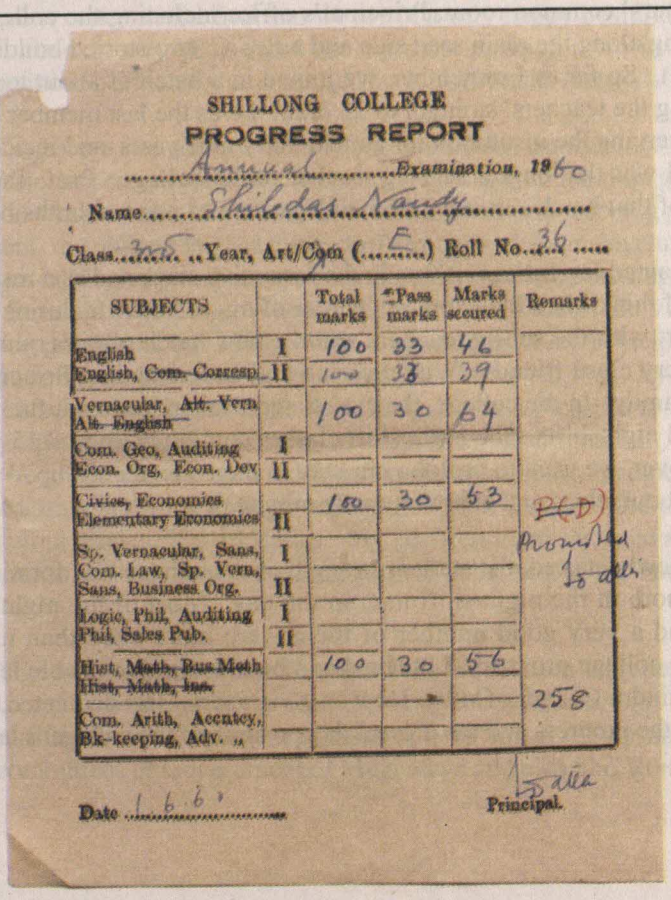
Except for students union elections the rest of my tenure in the college remained uneventful. We were pretty serious in those days about passing the Degree examination. The final examination was slated in March 1961. We were allotted seats in the St. Edmund's College. During the examinations a funny episode took place and which I am tempted to relate here. In the Hall the famous professor of History Kapila Chatterjee, who became my colleague later in Lady Keane College, was invigilating. In Shillong you could find the ubiquitous Khasi ladies selling tea and condiments in institutions. One such lady was serving tea to the invigilators inside the Hall. We signalled the lady to serve us two cups of tea which she complied readily. We paid her. Everyone was looking at us very amused. We saw two of the invigilators gesticulating outside the hall and Prof Chatterjee trying to calm them down. After the examination was over, he came to us inquiring as to why we did that. We politely replied that we did not break any examination rule and the matter ended there. Later while both of us were serving Lady Keane College, Prof. Chatterjee often repeated the episode and all of us laughed heartily over it.

I was in the office when the results of the University were announced. I could not believe the name I saw in the newspaper. My hands were trembling. There was a sudden rush of blood and my face

became flushed. Friends and colleagues congratulated me. Thus I became one among the first batch of graduates and the first University rank holder from the college. Later I met the Principal and the teachers who were very happy because we represented the result of their tireless efforts in moulding our careers. To this day a teacher of the college, even though much younger and of a different generation than that of mine evokes the same kind of respect and love for what their earlier generation had done for us.

Some days back, I happen to meet Dr. Manabendra Bhattacharjee, a very lovable person who teaches Chemistry in Shillong College. He, as the Editor of the College Golden Jubilee Souvenir, kindly presented me with a copy. I lovingly went through the write-ups and the old names immediately brought memories of the past. The publication deserves all the praises for the painstaking way Dr. Bhattacharjee has unearthed the past events in a chronological order. It depicts perhaps the history of not only of the college but also of the people who made it possible. I would have liked him to retouch the old photographs to make them more explicit. I also congratulate the present Principal, very adorable, Dr.(Mrs.) Rina Lyngdoh and her staff for carrying forward the wonderful heritage that is Shillong College.

Prof. S. D. Nandi is an alumnus of Shillong College who studied during 1959-61 while in service, later became a Lecturer in Economics in Lady Keane College, Shillong. Subsequently, he served as Principal of Oriental College, Kohima, Nagaland, for about 10 years and is now staying at Siliguri, West Bengal. Many of us are so fortunate to have been associated with such a knowledgeable and interesting personality in Prof. Nandi. Prof. Nandi has preserved the mark-sheet awarded to him by the College during college promotion examination and has been kind enough to provide us a copy of the same. A facsimile copy of the same is produced below which may bring old memories live to many of us. – Ed.



SHILLONG COLLEGE
PROGRESS REPORT
Annual Examination, 1960
Name Shiledas Nandy
Class 3rd Year, Art/Com (E) Roll No. 36

SUBJECTS		Total marks	Pass marks	Marks secured	Remarks
English	I	100	33	46	
English, Com. Corresp.	II	100	33	39	
Vernacular, Alt. Vern Alt. English		100	30	64	
Com. Geo, Auditing	I				
Econ. Org, Econ. Dev	II				
Civics, Economics		100	30	53	~~P(D)~~
Elementary Economics	II				
Sp. Vernacular, Sans,	I				Promoted to Coll
Com. Law, Sp. Vern, Sans, Business Org.	II				
Logic, Phil, Auditing	I				
Phil, Sales Pub.	II				
Hist, Math, Bus Math Hist, Math, Ins.		100	30	56	
Com. Arith, Accntcy, Bk-keeping, Adv. „					258

Date 1.6.61 Principal.

REMINISCENCES

Bankim Chandra Goswami
(Retd.) Vice Principal and
Head, Mathematics Deptt.
Shillong College, Shillong

I still remember the day when I appeared in the interview for the selection of lecturer in the department of Mathematics of Shillong College. The interview was held in Calcutta (now Kolkata) and was very short. The interview was taken by Late Shri Sunirmal Dutta, CA. He asked me whether I was ready to go to Shillong for the job and stay there. When I told him that I am from Shillong itself and the then Principal Shri S. C. Datta was my teacher in St. Anthony's College, the interview was over and I was selected for the post. After some hesitation, I joined the service on 29th March 1963 and worked till my retirement on 28th February 2001, barring of course a period of almost one and half year when I took lien and joined the Dinhata College in West Bengal as Principal.

When I joined the service, this college was only a few years old and had just shifted to its present site from a temporary arrangement in Jail Road Boys' High School. I was the only full time lecturer in the department and automatically was the head of the department from the date of my joining. The teachers' common room, Principal's office including the college library was in the Assam type building along the main road side and a R.C.C. two storied building (up to the present Physics laboratory). So far as I remember, we joined in a batch of about ten lecturers in various departments, raising the teachers' strength to 25 or26. I was the last member of that batch to retire from service after serving the institution for almost thirty nine years, and incidentally up to the time of my retirement, I was the longest serving teacher of the college. Prof. Tapan Moitra, the only other teacher left of that batch serving in the college, retired a few months before my retirement.

When we joined the college, it was in the formative stage and as a result the facilities were not adequate. But I think I had the happiest chapter of my service life during that period. We had a very good rapport with the senior teachers and the new batch of ours, almost of the same age group, were like very close friends. With a caring and understanding Principal at the top, it was like a very happy family. In the college, the classes were taken in two shifts. We had to take class in both the day and nightshifts. The night shift classes continued up to 8.15 p.m. After the night shift classes were over, we used to prolong our stay in the college even up to 9.30 p.m., gossiping and joking amongst ourselves and enjoying every minute of it.

Although newly started, the student strength of the college was formidable. The numbers of students were more in the night shift then in the day. Most of the night shift students were working people and a very good number of them were more aged than us at that time. The development of the college progressed in leaps and bounds under the able leadership of the then Principal Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta. He was a visionary. His dedicated, selfless and sincere efforts were behind the progress and the present day position of the college is largely due that effort.

The science section was opened in the college in 1963. The Mathematics department had two teachers at that time, me and Prof. Kalyan Kumar Choudhury, who joined the department few months after me. The work load enabled us to get two more posts in the department and Prof. (Smt.) Suvra Dhar was taken in and after some months Dr. Hrishikesh Dhar joined the department. In the nineties, we got sanction for another post from the Government and Dr. Bipul Shyam Purkayastha joined to fill the post but subsequently he left the college to join in the Electronics and Computer Department of the Assam University, Silchar. Shri Dikes Shadap was taken in the vacated post of Shri B. S. Purkayastha. I was fortunate to have a very good understanding with all members of my department all along. The dedication and sincerity of the teachers helped me to run the department very smoothly. The department also had the facility of "Honours Course". Every year we had some students offering honours course and I am proud to say that the results were always very encouraging and satisfactory.

Initially, the quality (academic) of students was not that good compared with the other established colleges of Shillong. But the dedication of the teachers and their sincerity along with the vital support from the college administration helped in improving the condition fast enough and the result in the University examination of our college show a remarkable progress, thereby attracting students both in quality and quantity.

Our Principal, Shri S. C. Datta, was a keen sport enthusiastic and I the first regular teacher-in-charge of the sports section of the college to organise the same in a systematic way. Although finance was a very big constraint, the cooperation of the students, Principal and other teaching staff members made it easier for me to organise all the events nicely. We teachers used to participate in certain sports events along with the students. The relationship between the students and the teachers were very good and cordial and I myself played in the College students' team in some local tournaments representing the college. After some years, when a new group of enthusiastic young teachers joined the college, I passed on the responsibility of the sports department to them. So far as the sports department is concerned, I find that we are in a very happy position now. I feel proud that now our College, almost every year, earns the top most position or so in most of the sports disciplines in the competitions held locally or organised by the University (Inter College Tournaments).

The state of Meghalaya was formed in early seventies from the state of Assam. The college being the only non-missionary co-educational college in Meghalaya at that time got special attention from the Government in terms of aids and creation of teaching and non-teaching posts in the various departments. At present, the college has teaching staff strength of about seventy and is one of the best and biggest colleges in Meghalaya. I always considered myself to be privileged being a member of the college almost from the beginning. When I retired from service as the Vice Principal of the college, the student strength was about 2500. When I became the Vice Principal of the college, I got the fullest cooperation from the present Principal Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh, who was a colleague of mine even before she became the Principal. It was a pleasure to work with such an understanding and nice personality. She is scholarly and strict disciplinarian. I hope the college sill progress to newer heights under her stewardship. I remember the love, respect and cooperation I received from the teaching staff, the college office, the Grade IV staff and the members of the College Students' Union in discharging my duties. My heartfelt thanks goes to all of them. On my part, I tried to be nice, reasonable and understanding to them in the best of my knowledge and belief.

Shillong College is fortunate to have benefit of the association with personalities like late Shri Baidyanath Mukherjee, a Minister of the then Government of Assam, Shri Dharmananda Das, IAS, Chief Secretary of the then Government of Assam, Late Shri R. T. Rymbai, IAS, Chairman of a good number of committees of Government of Meghalaya and also Shri Romesh Kharpor, Joint

D.P.I., Government of Assam, Late Shri Amulya Choudhury, Late Shri Maham Singh, M.L.A. as the Presidents or Secretaries of the Governing Body of the College. They held the post not for name sake but took active interest for the development of the institution and rendered yeomen service towards the growth and prosperity of the college. All of them were very sympathetic and concerned to the teachers cause and saw to it that the teachers always get the right deal for the right cause. When I look back with nostalgia, I remember the sad and untimely demise of my colleagues Prof. Ramesh Chandra Sarma, Prof. Purushottom Deb, Prof. N. G. Goswami, Prof.. Sudhangshu Ranjan Bhattacharjee, Mrs. Chitra Choudhury, Smt. L. Kharkrang, Prof. Ajit Kr. Gurung, Prof. Alexander Campbel War, Shri Chabilal Sarma, Shri Salikram Thapa and our Principals, Shri Dhruba Sankar Rawat, Shri Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee and the founder Principal Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta. Their demise was a great loss for the institution. A few of them were my close friends. Prof. P. Deb who was versatile genius had a heart of gold. I was instrumental in bringing him to our college from St. Anthony's College, where he was serving before. Prof. A. C. War was known to me from our school days in St. Anthony's School. He accompanied me as my junior in charge with the college educational excursion team in 1974 for all India tour. His smartness and sincerity was an asset to me in the tour. The untimely demise of these colleagues was a personal loss to me as we were very close to one another. I pray to God for the eternal peace of their soul.

We celebrated the Silver Jubilee of the establishment of our college in 1982. I was the Secretary of our college teachers' M.C.T.A. unit at that time and obviously there was an added responsibility on me. The un-stinted support of the college authority, Principal (late) Shri D. S. Rawat, the teachers and the non-teaching staff and the students enabled us to make the occasion a great success. A weeklong function was held in a very befitting manner.

With the formation of a N.G.O., 'Shillong College Academic Society', a number of Seminars, conference, etc. are being organised now in the College. This is a healthy development and need to be continued with the changing academic, social, economic and political scenario of our Country.

In my long services career of almost forty years, I had my moments of joy as well as sorrow, moments of great jubilation as well as moments of despair and depression and to mention all of them in this short space and time is humanly impossible. I have tried to account for a few of them and might have missed many. Any important omission is totally unintentional and I apologise for that. Lastly I thank all my colleagues of teaching staff, the Principal, the College Office staff for all the nice and wonderful time they gave to me and hope to pass the remaining years of my life ruminating over the fond memory of my association with the college.

Shri Bankim Ch. Goswami, former Vice-Principal and Head, Department of Mathematics, joined the College on 29th March, 1963, and retired on 1st March, 2001, after long 38 years of chequered service career. This memoir was written by him in 2001, and we produce it for the benefit of each one us.

SOME REMINISCENCES OF A RETIRED TEACHER OF SHILLONG COLLEGE

Shri Jagadish Purkayastha
Formerly Lecturer,
Department of English,
Shillong College, Shillong

Quite naturally, when reminiscing occasions of nearly three decades there is a crowding of memories and I find it difficult to choose. The time and perspective have changed and lost their initial liveliness. However I shall try to relive some of those occasions made dim by the feebleness of human recording device – memory.

Let me remember the class-rooms first. When taking Pre-university classes, equivalent to present day eleventh and twelfth classes, it was felt necessary to exercise a controlling influence over the crowded class-room, both in the day and evening sections, the teacher should exercise his loud voice effectively and also histrionic gestures. It was my satisfaction that students did not create any problem of indiscipline inside the class-room.

Another striking feature that drew my attention was the decent behaviour of students inside the crowded class-room of the college with co-educational facilities. A few words on the youthful urges may not appear irrelevant. Familial, social and individual characteristics influence the youthful urges of diverse natures and also the degree of control over the same. Aged persons often grow wise minus the youthful vitality. Reasons, awareness and vitality should adorn the journey of life. Alas! It is often a rare combination. To try to gain complete mastery over natural impulses is neither desirable nor possible. Channelising youthful urges for the constructive purposes of life will ever require both vision and self-control. Modern biological and medical researches explore new vistas of life and ethical norms of social life, will be influenced by them. But the artistic vision of life, not detached from science, should be the mooring of human existence. A matter-of-fact civilisation minus artistic joy will undo itself.

When taking B. Com. and B. Sc. classes, usually held in rooms, the teacher could teach with more ease. Often lecturers teaching English literature remain little conversant with socio-economic and scientific topics of preliminary nature. The syllabuses of B. Sc. and B. Com. Courses gave the teachers and students alike the scope to have some acquaintance with such subjects. Though one-act plays were there to be taught, yet I felt that students should develop some poetic sensibility from their acquaintances with some poems. Human realisation of a degree of beauty, truth, happiness and goodness and their contrasting features, basically forms the core of human life and poetic expressions relate to these values.

With a little digression, let me recall a funny situation related to bio-diversity and eco-system. Once while taking a crowded Pre-University class in the evening section, we heard the howling of a solitary jackal, from the neighbourhood for few seconds. Pre-University students in the evening section were most grown-up gentlemen. The eco-system of the neighbourhood of Shillong College, was then undisturbed. The cry of the jackal was immediately followed by the

teacher's advice to students, not to imitate the jackal's example. There was a roar of laughter. In those days ecology along with bio-diversity was not much talked about. Anyway, later on, I conjectured that our reaction to the solitary howling of a jackal was a kind of tribute to a member of endangered species.

The original construction of the tea-shop adjacent to the college remains the same with only minor changes but a new double storied construction is there by its side. Sometimes in the evening, Professors and the students alike visited the tea-shop for light refreshments. In dark nights the dim light inside the shop served a contrast and I enjoyed the dark nights all the more. The moonlit nights also stimulated my sense of mystery of life and nature. Admitting the usefulness of electricity, it remains a fact that prolonged exposure to the glare of electric lights limits human imagination. In modern city life we do little experience the dark and moon-lit nights.

A sense of mystery and curiosity are co-related. Curiosity often leads to knowledge. This knowledge may be utilitarian or non-utilitarian, though it is difficult to draw a rigid line of demarcation. Some branches of scientific study remain confined to human thirst for knowledge and are little oriented to material benefits. It is a boon to human life that the objective study of animate and inanimate nature is endless. The probing into the mystery of human self at the mental and spiritual levels is not less mysterious. Differentiation and integration are the twin instruments of human knowledge. 'Know thy self and know thy inner and outer environs' seems to be the dominant voice of the age.

A lecturer who has spent the best part of his life teaching students may kindly be allowed a little digression. I hope the few points of view just referred below may be of some help to both lecturers and students. A student learns from home environs, from social contacts and from teachers. Suitable exposure to the realms of knowledge and concentration are valuable instruments for acquiring knowledge. A good health with healthy organs particularly the visual and auditory is important. For the mental development of students both mental and physical nourishment are called for. Love for life, for existence may be channelised and qualitatively improved by the pursuit of knowledge, artistic joy and sports.

While lecturing in crowded class-rooms, I often foresaw the stark reality that most students would face after graduation or after passing the examination on completion of the 12th class course (formerly P.U.). Most students would face the chronic social malady of unemployment. Education must help students survive and simultaneously improve the quality of survival. Poverty I felt should generally be, except few exceptions, regarded as a retarding influence. The important goal of education is to stimulate the mental powers and guiding the same along constructive channels. Poverty often retards both the functions of the educative process – stimulation and guidance.

Games and sports offered captivating diversions to both students and teachers and I am sure the tradition continues. In this context I refer to the names of a few colleagues and I am regretfully conscious that my list is not comprehensive. Prof. A. K. Gurung (Late), Prof. A. C. War (Late), Prof. D. Mukherjee (Physics department), Prof. A. M. Pal, Prof. B. C. Goswami, Prof. P. Deb (Late), Prof. S. K. Gupta and some others either conducted or at times participated in the games. Football, hockey, field and track events, basketball, volleyball, carom, table tennis, badminton etc. were played with enthusiastic onlookers, both teachers and students. With rapt attention I used to observe Prof. A. Pal's powerful strokes while playing volley-ball. Games and sports were usually performed during the Freshers' Social Week.

Some Professors and students coordinated the cultural programmes during the Freshers' Social Week. Cultural programmes like music, dance, and drama drew enthusiastic spectators of

teachers and students. It was a creative joy for spectators to see youthful vitality revealing itself through variety and creative art. Artistic creations are primarily conscious, but the urge to create may be at some levels of human psyche unconscious. Whatever may be the interpretations of artistic creation, it a fact that beauty of art stirs our being. Art is a kind of language, expression obeying some rules of creative imaginations. Human psyche, body give the expression an appealing form which acts on our visual and auditory imagination.

In 1980, a football match was played between some members of the staff and students at Polo Ground, Shillong. I remember the presence of many Professors, Principal, our Governing Body President, Shri R. T. Rymbai (Late) and many students. The match was followed by light refreshment at New India Restaurant, Police Bazar. The restaurant is now no longer there. The performance of some members of the staff was highly praised and I was not excluded. I felt elated by my performance as the goal-keeper, though students were considerate in scoring only three goals against us. Sometimes Cricket was played at Polo Ground. Prof. H. Dhar (Mathematics Department) regarded as my young friend for many years was an enthusiastic cricketer. I also participated in the game. Prof. Chitra Choudhury (Late) usually prepared the lunch for the players of the staff. With her optimism whenever approached she came forward to offer her help. Leukaemia, she was suffering from, snatched away her life some years before her retirement.

Prof. D. S. Rawat (Late) and Prof. U. C. Kakati (Retired) for many years were involved in N.C.C. activities and both were eminently fit for the purpose. Prof. Bikash Roy (Commerce Department) with his amiably pleasant and humorous disposition, intelligent understanding and tackling of situations did N.S.S. work successfully with his followers, students. Service was done with eagerness, joy and understanding. This service is somewhat like bridging the gap of alienation between the rural and urban people. The real gap centres on economic conditions and lack of education, which can only be remedied to some extent by the de-centralisation of power and active participation of people in executing developmental programmes.

Because of my close association with the staff of the English Department, I remember all of them vividly and with tender feelings. After retirement I was no longer able to give complimentary copies of my second work entitled, 'The Supernatural and the Real in Macbeth' to all the members of the English Department but I thankfully remember that Prof. Nirmal K. Sarkar bought a copy of the same. Moreover, Prof. N. K. Sarkar's meticulous and hard labour for the preparation of the Shillong College Silver Jubilee Magazine 1981 deserves recognition. In the said souvenir, is also published Principal D. S. Rawat's congratulations to me for my book 'The Tragic Vision of Life in Hamlet and King Lear', published by the Salzburg Studies, Austria, 1977.

It would be relevant to mention the Principals under whom I worked. Principal S. C. Datta, though preceded by some others, was actually the architect of Shillong College. He was hard-working, tactful and braved situations of pressing problems. He was an M.A. in Mathematics and studied problems in a pragmatic way. I feel there should be a memorial to honour his achievements. After his retirement Prof. Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee became the Principal and served the College for a short period. The next Principal D. S. Rawat was hard-working, courteous and efficient. He served the college for a long period. After his retirement, the Principal K. L. Choudhury served the college with his power of adjustment. The situations often demanded flexible adjustments. He served the college for a short period.

Shri R. T. Rymbai, I.A.S. (Late), the President of the Governing Body, Shillong College, for many years maintained his interest in the growth of Shillong College. He also read with interest my book 'The Tragic Vision of Life in Hamlet and King Lear'. In his article 'Something to Remember' published in the Silver Jubilee Magazine, 1981, I remember how he regretted that late

Babu Jeebon Roy's remarkable contribution to the advancement of Khasi culture had not evoked a suitable response which would ensure a lasting public remembrance.

Now I shall endeavour to write in brief about the books written by me. I would like to mention the three tragedies of Shakespeare namely Hamlet, King Lear and Macbeth. While in service, I completed my studies on the said tragedies. Because of my knack of thinking originally I decided to go for a published work. I knew a published work of quality is equivalent to a Ph. D. and as a preliminary step I contacted a scholar of repute and as my well-wisher, he suggested a topic. I wrote an article of few pages and showed the same to him. Views regarding a literary work may strikingly differ and I felt the necessity of seeking the views of Prof. G. R. W. Knight, the great Shakespearean scholar. My brother, who was then a postal member of the British Council Division Library, Calcutta (now Kolkata), managed to get the address of Prof. G. R. W. Knight. I did little expect that the great scholar burdened with correspondence would read the article. Anyway he read the article and pointed out some defects but he approved the basic approach and also gave me two valuable examples. The article is still by me containing some words written by Prof. G. R. W. Knight himself. Naturally I then developed everything independently and completed my work entitled "Five Essay on Hamlet" which was published by the author and printed at Vivekananda Press, Shillong, 1973. I sent a complimentary copy of the book to Prof. G. R. W. Knight in 1973, without explicitly seeking his views. Prof. G. R. W. Knight was impressed and gave his comments. A Professor of a local college, whom I knew, suggested that I might contact the Salzburg Studies, Austria for publication. This professor on occasions bought books from the Salzburg Studies, Austria for doctoral dissertation. The Editor of the Salzburg Studies, Austria, on receipt of the book 'Five Essays on Hamlet', suggested that another work on Shakespeare might fulfil the editorial need for publication. Prof. Knight advised me to work carefully. Independently, I completed my work on King Lear, and with some minor modifications of Five Essays on Hamlet. I sent to the Editor, the type-script of 'The Tragic Vision of Life in Hamlet and King Lear'. Even before the receipt of the comments of Prof. Knight on King Lear, the Editor started printing off the book. Finally the comments of Prof. Knight on King Lear arrived. In the published book 'The Tragic Vision of Life in Hamlet and King Lear', the comments of Prof. G. R. W. Knight have been shown as extracts from a single letter, though actually there were two different letters. I presume the editorial need for publication, justified the measure. The Salzburg Studies, Austria sent the book to thirty three journals, periodicals, newspapers etc. for review. In due time, I received ten free copies of the book. In 1980, for a better circulation in our own land, I sought the permission of the publisher for an Indian reprint and it was liberally and unconditionally given. Meanwhile, I completed my studies on Macbeth and got it published in 1994. The quality of the book has been evaluated by scholars like Prof. Kenneth Muir, Prof. V. Chatterjee, formerly of Jadavpur University, Calcutta and also by the review made by the Prabuddha Bharata, Journal of the Ramakrishna Order.

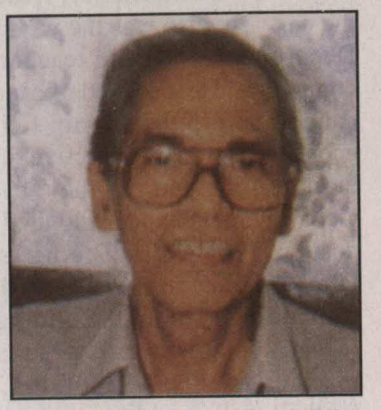
Let me refer to some of my colleagues who are no longer there on the stage of life. Some of them died after my retirement. Prof. K. C. Das, Head of Bengali Department, died after retirement in 1978. He was humble, avoided controversy and led a life of religious contentment. Prof. B. Nanda, Head of English Department, a talented person died after retirement. In the Silver Jubilee Souvenir, 1981, we observed his impressive appearance. Prof. P. Deb, Head of Chemistry Department, had written a good book on Physical Chemistry, and he died before the completion of his second work on the same subject. His cremation was performed in an impressive manner. A few days after the cremation, it moved me to note that Shri Chhabilal Sharma (now late), the humble, sincere laboratory assistant, referred to Prof. P. Deb, with tears in his eyes. I remember Prof. Chitra Choudhury of History Department who died some year before retirement. She was optimistic and sincere. She served as the Head, History Department. Prof. A. War (Late), Head of Khasi Department, the sincere teacher, somewhat reticent, was interested in games and sports also. With his patience, in the midst of his relatives and well-wishers, he braved the sufferings of the malignant disease.

Prof. S. R. Bhattacharjee, Head of Political Science department, retained his buoyancy almost till the end. He also was the victim of the malignant disease. Shri Bidhan Ch. Roy of the Commerce Department, a sincere teacher, was somewhat reserved in speech but liked to make humorous comments. He also died of cancer. Prof. N. G. Goswami suffered much from the malignant disease, cancer, before the curtain fell on the stage of an eventful life. He was optimistic, courteous, economical and constructive. He always helped the successive Principals in the preparation of the class-routine and in other academic concerns. Prof. Ramesh Ch. Sharma, Head of Assamese Department, unexpectedly died of stroke. He was a sincere teacher and fond of playing cards. The death of Prof. (Miss) L. Kharkrang of Economics Department is particularly sad, as an injury with later complications put an end to the life of a young lady who was courteous and happy. Prof. Kamalaksha Datta, the intelligent, soft-spoken person, the Head of Zoology Department, died recently some years after retirement. Prof. Ajit Kr. Gurung rather died young. He was interested in games and sports. Prof. B. C. Jyrwa, an author of Khasi books, died after retirement. He played football well in addition to his work as an author.

A few words regarding the performance of the present Principal are relevant, as on occasions I visit my old institution. When I was in service I found Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh, the present Principal, as my colleague and later on as the Head, History Department. She is a disciplinarian but not harsh. Her doctoral dissertation has been published by Vikas Publications, New Delhi. With her familiarity with Khasi culture and also awareness of the different streams of Indian culture, it is evident that she will be instrumental in the noteworthy growth of Shillong College, as a seat of learning. Prof. Ranjit Kr. Datta (Physics Department), the Vice-Principal, with his capability and pragmatic outlook, is doing his best to translate possible channels of growth into reality. The college campus at present (2002) has an impressive appearance, with proper fencing, renovation and additional structures. Above all the dedicated service of the members of the staff of all categories and the vigilant and imaginative administration, promise the institution a stable and bright seat of learning. I convey Godspeed to the members of the staff and to the Shillong College, Shillong – the seat of learning.

Shri J. Purkayastha taught in the English Department and retired on 1st March, 1994. This article was written in 2002 and submitted on 11-09-2002. We preserved it for publication in the Golden Jubilee Magazine. As we publish the same, we salute the great scholarly work of our close-to-heart 'Jagdish-da'.

Discrete Memories



Shri Ranjit Kr. Datta
Formerly Vice-Principal and
Head, Department of Physics,
Shillong College, Shillong

On the very first day, I reached Shillong I had to go to the Police Station to lodge a complaint and again after leaving Shillong about four decades later, I sought police help. But that is different story. It was 15th October 1966 that I arrived in Shillong. During those days Gauhati Shillong Road was either way traffic. All vehicles to and from Shillong and Gauhati were stopped at Nongpoh and then allowed to proceed. Luggage etc. were carried in Luggage van. The buses were of Assam State Transport Corporation. After reaching Shillong I waited for the luggage van. When it arrived, I hired a porter for my luggage and asked him to take me to a hotel. He took me to a hotel in Umshosun. I had my lunch there and told the manager that I would go to Laitumkhrah and if I needed shall take my luggage later on or spend the night at that hotel.

In Shillong College I met the Principal, Shri S. C. Datta in his chamber. I found him affectionate. He asked me about my stay and then called for Shri Haripada Roy Choudhury, Lecturer in Chemistry. He was young and was well dressed. Principal asked him to find a suitable accommodation for me. We soon became friendly. We went to Prakash Hotel in Laitumkhrah and booked a room in the first floor and then set out to bring my luggage from the hotel at Umshosun. During those days there was no share taxi. For two rupees one could hire a taxi to go to Police Bazar from Laitumkhrah. At Umshosun we called for a taxi, the driver was actually drunk and used some filthy language against us. Both of us were hurt. We lodged a complaint and mentioned the taxi number. The O.C. told us that there were many complaints against that driver. He could be arrested right now if we wanted, but during the hearing of the case we had to be present as witness. As an alternative he suggested that the driver would be rounded up and after a few lashes would be fined. We agreed, to avoid attending Court and at the same time to fulfil our desire to punish the driver.

The next day I met Shri Kalyan Choudhuri, Lecturer in Mathematics. Haripada, Kalyan and myself became close friends. We three used to go to different places, sometimes gossip in a tea stall. One common place was a restaurant in Laitumkhrah, now converted into a garment shop. There was a mess of St. Anthony's College teachers. On Sundays, we used to pay visit to meet some of Kalyan's class mates. Haripada did not stay in Shillong College for long. Soon he joined Cotton College, Gauhati and then went to U.K.

When I joined Shillong College there were two part time Lecturers and one full time demonstrator in Physics to manage one year P.U. and B. Sc. first and second year classes of three year degree course. One year later Shri Udayan Ghosh joined and we two managed all classes.

In Prakash Hotel I stayed for a few months and then I shifted to one Moitree Mess in Laitumkhrah Police Point behind (earlier) French Motor Works. When Udayan Ghosh joined the College, he was accommodated in the same mess. The mess had two components each with six members. There were some interesting characters. Some were managing the affairs of the mess

efficiently. Mess managers were selected by turn. For evening marketing the manager prepared a duty chart for the members. The cook was a Nepali boy, Patambar. The food was not bad with fish everyday and special arrangement on Sundays. The cost was not more than fifty rupees including seat rent. In 1967, the mess had to be dismantled as the owner of the house wanted to stay there following his retirement. Myself and Udayan Ghosh shifted to a rented house in Upper New Colony. Kalyan Choudhuri used to stay with his parents, brother and sister in Lower New Colony. Udayan and myself initially started self cooking. Another bachelor neighbour used to give us necessary instructions. But soon we realised that cooking was not our area of specialisation. We reverted back to Prakash hotel for the meals. After a few months Udayan went to his elder sister's house, his brother in law came on transfer. In 1969, some new teachers joined the college; soon we established a new mess at Gora lane. But water scarcity compelled us to shift to another house in Laitumkhrah.

The year 1969 brought a qualitative change in our life style. This was a period when United Front Government was in power in West Bengal. The country, particularly the Eastern India, was swayed by leftist ideas. Kalyan, Udayan and myself bought many books on Marxism, Communist Manifesto and selected works of Lenin. We studied together and discussed different tenets of Marxism. We tried to understand and explain different aspects of Physics particularly Quantum Mechanics on the basis of dialectical materialism. We are bubbling with ideas. Shri Samarendra Nath Datta also joined us. We studied the Communist Manifesto time and again. The ideas and particularly the language attracted us most. We came in touch with a political party. We organised meetings and later on developed Students' movements. We observed Lenin Centenary, Sarat Centenary, Cultural programmes on Jyotiprasad, Nazrul Birth anniversaries. During winter holidays, we used to go to villages in Cachar and Goalpara in Assam, to work among the downtrodden people. But my devotion to the cause of revolution was definitely not up to expectation. But Kalyan was an ardent follower. He gradually became a full time revolutionary. I always admire Kalyan, because he has achieved something which I failed to comprehend. He lives mostly for others and less for himself. But he was never physically fit for his lung-disease. Excessive work for the cause of revolution has taken its toll. He is now surviving on antibiotics and steroids.

Young age is full of ideas. Once we decided to take tea from a tea stalls owned by 'Ladkee Lenga' meaning downtrodden people. Over a period of time we covered a lot of such tea stalls; but as usual the idea died its natural death.

Early seventy's Shillong was quite peaceful and free movement at night was quite interesting. One night at about 10.30 p.m., Kalyan and myself were returning from Laban. We were coming on foot and there was drizzle. It started pouring when we were near Laitumkhrah Police Beat house. Our mess was not far, but we had to take shelter in the shade of a closed shop. Some time later another man came to take shelter. From the look he appeared to be a poor man. He was bare foot. Suddenly in the lightning, I noticed he had six fingers in each foot. I was curious. I wanted to know if he had extra fingers in his hands also. To my utter surprise, I discovered one additional finger in each of his hands. A rare case; I met a man with twenty four fingers. I never met him again.

Memory of Shillong College picnics occupies a special position in my mind. Every year on the eve of winter holidays the college picnic was organised. I was a regular member every year. Of the different picnics, two are significant and not necessarily for all the good reasons. The first picnic I attended was in December 1965, only two months after I joined the college. The destination was Cherrapunjee. Students also participated. Two buses were hired for the purpose. We had to distinguished guests, Prof Panigrahi of Philosophy Department and Prof. Kapila Chatterjee of History Department, both from Lady Keane College. Prof. Panigrahi, a philanthropist of repute, was a bachelor in his fifties and a strict vegetarian. I remember, he joined us in the picnic as our Principal Shri S. C. Datta's guest, but was on fast throughout. Prof. Chatterjee was a part time lecturer in History in our College. He was popular among the students, teachers and Shillong-intelligentsia

for the weekly "Young India" edited by him. He possessed a loud voice and when he took class in a hall, it was almost impossible to take class in nearby halls. Some teachers used to tell that another World War had been declared by Prof. Chatterjee. He was "Kapil-da" to us. Coming back to the picnic episode, we were late to arrive for the first gate at Umthanga. Shillong-Cherrapunjee road being narrow there was gate system. We had our breakfast at the river-side. We availed the second gate and arrived at Cherrapunjee at about one O'clock. We enjoyed the scenic beauty. A part of Sylhet District (East Pakistan, now Bangladesh) was visible. A long river probably Surma was also in our view. The experience was unique. It became dark when we were ready to take off. But the bus drivers were fully drunk and vehicles were not allowed to ply at night because of the narrow road and sharp bends. We were stranded. It was decided to approach the Ramkrishna Mission for accommodation. Kapilda, a devotee, had a good rapport with the Ramkrishna Mission. But the authorities there were not ready to accommodate the ladies. After prolong persuasion and realising our plight at winter-night, they agreed. All the girls and lady-teachers were locked in a room; we got shelter in the auditorium. The cold was unbearable. Some students arranged fire outside, but the biting cold had little respect for the fire. Some of us were shuttling between fire outside and the auditorium. Early morning we left Cherrapunjee. The girls were sent to their respective homes along with a teacher. The following day, Principal had tough time to face the wrath of the guardians and parents. It took time to settle town. Probably that was last picnic with staff and students. In the next few years nobody was interested in organising a picnic.

Another picnic in early seventies is memorable for a different reason. I was down with cold and fever and decided to remain confined in the mess. But other mess-mates were not ready to leave me alone. Most reluctantly I joined. This time we went to Barapani. It was a staff picnic. The bus hired for the picnic remained at the spot. Some teachers took the bus ostensibly for marketing. I was running temperature. After sometime, the bus returned and another batch of teachers decided to go for marketing. They took me with them. We all went to a small road side shop. We were served with country made liquor in tiny glass. I was not accustomed and did not like the smell. But others insisted that it was the best medicine for cold and fever. I swallowed. I felt better. I consumed three glasses. In an hour's time there was no sign of cold and fever. The picnic over, we returned happily. Some danced and sang in the bus. Tired as we had been we resigned to bed at about eleven O'clock in the night. When we were dead asleep, we heard dreadful knock at the door. We got up only to see one of our colleagues fully drunk and bleeding profusely. He gave us to understand that another colleague had hit him after returning from the picnic. He was insistent that we must do something immediately. We gave him first aid and told him to spend the night in our mess. Kalyan and I set out to verify facts. Our verification from a colleague in Laban at those odd hours, it was revealed that while talking to others he lost balance and fell in a drain and had injuries in the face. We two had to return on foot. The dawn was not far, we realised.

In my long thirty eight years of stay in Shillong, I received lot of love, affection and admiration from my colleagues in different colleges, students and people from other walks of life. There are sweet memories. I relish recounting fond memories.

After leaving Shillong, I realised that I have been cheated by a man regularly for ten long years. I relied on him and loved him as my younger brother. He did not gain much but my loss was huge. To teach him a lesson, once again I approached the Police through my well wisher colleagues. But this material loss is insignificant compared to my overall gains in Shillong.

Shri Ranjit Kr. Dutta, former Vice-Principal and Head of the Department of Physics joined the College on 15-10-1965 and retired on 1st September 2003 after a distinguished service career.

AMONG THE MANY GIFTS

Translation of a Rabindra Sangeet
" Anek Pawar Majhe Majhe"

by
Smt. Dipali Chakraborty
Formerly, Head, Department of

English

Among the many gifts I receive in life
Sometimes some little one I find,
And a sudden surge of southern wind—
It raises in my mind!

Days pass one by one floating on the tide,
Like strangers coming from and going back outside—
On life's flowing stream
All on a sudden there comes a bright little morn,
As if it was born
To settle down at my home an ever cherished dream!

Among the lights lost in life some little sparks I gather
To bring them up together
That torn and twisted twinkling chain of lights
Forever remains
To lift me up again,
A single moment's game, a little candle's flame
A ballad singer's half sung song with single-stringed strains.

I

Translated from the poem
"Ami" by Rabindra Nath Tagore

by
Smt. Dipali Chakraborty
Formerly, Head, Department of

English

With the colour of my own perception
The emerald became green, the ruby became red.
I opened my eyes at the sky,
And there was light
In the east, in the west.
I looked at the rose and said, 'Beautiful!'
Beautiful it became.

You may say, 'This is philosophy
Not the message of a poet.'
I will answer, 'This is truth,
Hence this is poetry.'
This is my pride—
Pride on behalf of whole mankind.
It is on the canvas of human consciousness
That the Great Creator creates His world of art.

The philosopher meditates and chants with every breath—
'No, no, no!
Not emeralds, not rubies, not light, not roses, not you, not I'.
On the other hand, the Infinite Being Himself has pursued His Creation
Within the limits of human mind,
And that is called 'I'.

Within the depth of that self light and darkness blended
There arose images and emotions.
Who knows when, by what spell of Maya
'No' bloomed into 'Yes'
through lines and colours, joy and sorrow.

Do not call it philosophy.
My mind is full of delight
In this sphere of creation of the Great Self
With a brush in hand and colours on a palette.

The scholar says, 'That ancient moon—
He has a cruel, cunning smile
Like a messenger of Death
He is stealthily approaching the ribs of the earth.
One day he will attract her oceans and mountains
With a tremendous force.
And that will produce a cipher on the new page
Of terrestrial time
And devour all accounts of days and nights.

Human achievements will lose their
pretence of immortality,
Human history will be swept over by the
Dark ink of eternal night
The dying eyes of mankind
Will suck the last hues from the universe.
The dying souls of mankind
Will wipe off all its emotions.
Power will vibrate through the skies
No light will be there.
Through the vacant hall of the deserted world
The musician's fingers will dance away,
No music will be there.

That day the unpoetic God will sit alone
In the sky devoid of its blue
With his accounts of impersonal existence.
Nowhere upto the farthest end of the vast universe,
With its unlimited number of galaxies
This voice will sound,
'You are beautiful!' 'I love you!'

Will God sit again to meditate
Through the ages
And chant in the dusk of destruction
'Speak! Oh, Speak!'
Will He plead, 'Say, you are beautiful'?,
'Say, I love'?

Smt. D. Chakraborty, former Head, Department of English, Shillong College, retired on 30th September 1994 after three decades of dedicated service. She still continues her intellectual pursuits and these two contributions, as memoirs, are only representative pieces from her treasure of similar work.

Recollection of the Past Sweet Memories

Sainkupar L. Mawiong,
Department of Mathematics,
St. Mary's College, Shillong

I cannot deny that I had a very short span with Shillong College. I took admission in the College in 1999 as a B.Sc. student with honours in Mathematics. During the course of my studies five of us were enrolled as Honours students in Mathematics. The relationship amongst us was very cordial, healthy and we enjoyed every moment of our college days in its serene environment. Interestingly, we also had five teachers in the Mathematics department and they are Shri K. K. Choudhury, Smt. S. Dhar, Dr. H. Dhar, Shri D. Shadap and Smt. S. Gupta.

I found that our teachers were very helpful, cooperative and they inspired us during their teaching. This inspiration gave us motivation to work hard to achieve the goal and perform better in examinations. Because of the encouragement, I could cross the first mile stone that led me to the position where I am today. Today, as I also teach in a neighbouring undergraduate college, I try to emolliate my teachers in Shillong College for I learnt so much from them which I want to pass on to my students. I believe this tradition of continuity in education with necessary dose of innovation is prime factor in the progress of human civilisation.

As I visit the College sometimes now, I find that a lot of change has taken place there and this gives me immense satisfaction. I do admire the College as it is today. In our time, there were limited class rooms with very little scope of subjects offered. Professional courses were also not introduced that time. Yet with such little scope, we were satisfied with the teaching, cooperation of all members of the staff of the college and above all, the college environment. In addition to the usual teaching activities, we also thoroughly enjoyed the extra-curricular activities those days and that substituted whatever facilities we missed.

The system of examination followed by NEHU, during our time, was that of Part I and Part II. So, it was very hectic and we experienced a lot of pressure. But with the active support of teachers, we were able to put enough efforts. Hard labour does not go in vain and we are so fortunate that our batch could bring 'laurels' to the college with very good results in the University final examination with myself topping the list of all successful candidates in the B.Sc. Mathematics Honours examination. I shall remain ever grateful to all the teachers of the college and its management for whatever they have given to me. I foresee a time when the college will rise to even higher glory and fame, and bring more name and fame to the State and its inhabitants.

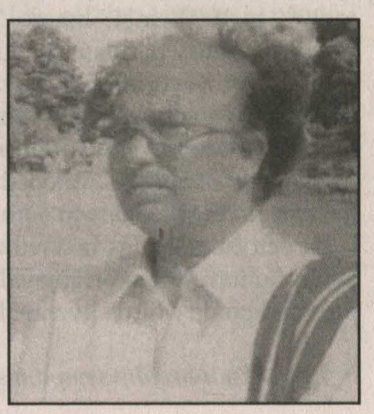
Shri S. A. Mawiong, an ex-student of the College, stood First Class First in B. Sc. (Final) Mathematics Honours conducted by NEHU in 2002, and is now a lecturer in St. Mary's College, Shillong.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

"I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious".

--Albert Einstein

Bird Flu and Bird Flu Virus



Dr. S. N. Datta
(Retd.) Head of Department, Zoology,
Shillong College

19th February 2006, morning news in different T.V. channels, Radio and News Papers announced Bird Flu in India and Government of India declared outbreak of Bird Flu in the Navapur of Nandubar district of a western coastal state of the Country, Maharashtra, as confirmed by the High Security Animal Disease laboratory of Bhopal, which is the fifth of its kind in the World (the others are in Australia, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States).

This announcement in morning news initiated a hot discussion in the break-fast tables of non-veg kitchens and 5-star hotels about their menu card because various preparations of chickens and poultry egg make a long list of the menu card.

Government of India, poultry owners as well as common people of India were probably happy assuming that bird flu flew from Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia to Middle-east Asian countries, eastern European as well as two African countries and the Nature has forgiven our divine land due to its warm climate from the curse of the dreaded bird flu virus, but facts tell Nature is impartial and it has not left aside our blessed country.

Let us take a close look at the bird-flu which has created a sensation though out the world. On 17th January, 2005, "Bird Flu Conference" held in Beijing asked the World Bank to raise $1.2 billion to help improve Health and Veterinary Sciences in developing countries suffering from outbreaks of bird flu and to strengthen surveillance in areas not yet affected by the bird flu virus H5N1.

According to Centres for Disease Control (CDC) commonly called bird flu is Avian Influenza caused by avian (bird) Influenza (flu) virus. The flu virus occurs naturally in wild migratory birds like ducks and geese, in their intestine. Usually the flu viruses are non-lethal in wild birds and generally they do not get sick, but it is very contagious among birds and can make some domesticated birds including chickens, ducks and turkeys very sick and kill them. Although the bird flu viruses are species specific, they can cross species barrier and in fact new species causing world-wide outbreak of infection. While crossing species barrier they can infect human leading to fatal condition.

The migratory water birds spread the flu virus through their saliva, nasal secretions and faeces along the route they fly over or in ponds, wet-lands or lakes where they stop in the mid-way of journey or in their final destination that is a water body. The domestic birds like ducks, chickens and turkeys become easy victim to the contaminated water. The poultry chickens get the virus from domesticated birds. This bird flu virus is deadly to the poultry birds and infected poultry birds

spread the virus among them through saliva, nasal secretions and faecal matter causing death up to 90% to 100% in 48 hours. The poultry farmers and dealers become easily infected from their infected poultry particularly during cleaning of cages, de-feathering, slaughtering and preparation of poultry for working as they come in contact with saliva, nasal secretions and faecal matter of the infected chickens which contain virus. Children are at higher risk of getting infected as compared to adults because they are more likely to have close contact with chickens and chicken faeces particularly in under-developed countries. Since 1997, 200 cases of human infection with 91 deaths have been recorded due to outbreak of bird flu in South Asian countries. The bird flu virus has also been detected in pigs in Vietnam (February, 2004) and in Indonesia (May, 2005). Outbreaks of avian flu have often originated in crowded condition in South-East and East Asia where humans, pigs and poultry birds live in close quarters.

What are the symptoms of bird flu in birds and humans?

Two types of symptoms appear in the domestic birds, one is, if the infection is not severe, it often remains unnoticed, but the feathers of the birds will be rough, the number of eggs laid will be less. The second is, in case of severe infection, the birds of the infected area will die in large numbers i.e. 90% to 100% within 48 hours.

In human symptoms of bird flu are similar to that of other forms of influenza, including cough, fever, sore throat, muscle aches, headache and pain. It may cause eye infection (conjunctivitis), pneumonia, respiratory diseases and life threatening complications.

What is the nature of bird flu virus?

The current strain of killer bird flu (influenza) virus is highly contagious and deadly too. Avian influenza, commonly called Bird Flu, is also known as avian flue, influenza virus A flu, type A flu or genus A flu. All avian influenza viruses are type A virus belonging to the genus "Influenza virus A", family *"Orthomyxoviridae"* and order *"Mononegavirales"*. Genus, "Influenza virus A" consists of a single species called "Influenza A virus" and one of its sub-type is H5N1 strain. The other two types B and C virus can be influenza in human but type A virus is generally not found in human.

This type A virus was first identified in Italy in early 1900s and was subsequently reported from different parts of the world. All known strains of influenza A virus infect birds. Some of the sub-types of influenza A virus infect human and it is feared by WHO and scientists that it may be pandemic in near future.

Influenza virus type A is divided into sub-types based on hemagglutin (H) and neuraminidase (N) protein (antigen) spikes originating from the central virus core. So far 16 different H antigens (H1 to H16) and nine different N antigens (N1 to N9) for influenza A virus have been reported. Based on the presence of H antigens type A, viruses are divided into 16 HA types i.e. 16H types each with 9N sub-types, giving rise to probability of 144 different H and N combinations. The present killer bird flu virus H5N1 is one of such combinations. Both H and N proteins play a major role during infections. The H protein attaches the virus to receptors on host cells and N protein promotes budding of the virus, releases newly formed viruses from host cells and cause infection i.e. flu in victim.

Until recently 15 HA types had been reported, but a new type (H16) was isolated from black-headed gulls caught in Sweden and Netherlands in 1999 and reported in literature in 2005. In addition, avian influenza viruses may also be divided into two patho-types: Low (LPAI) and high

(HPAI). Avian influenza virus H5 and H7 strains may be of either low or high pathogenic forms.

The generalised structure of virus is that it has got a nucleic acid core and a protein coat called *Capsid*. Viruses usually have either DNA or RNA as nucleic acid core (exception is *Rous sarcoma* Virus, i.e. RSV; it has got both DNA and RNA). Nucleic acid core and protein *capsid* together is called *nucleocapsid*. Influenza A viruses are negative sense, single-stranded segmented RNA virus, i.e. in its nucleocapsid it has got segments (molecules) of linear negative-sense single stranded RNA. There are total eight separate RNA molecules called PB2, PB1, PA, HA, NP, NA, M and NS. These 8 RNA molecules contain 11 genes including the recently discovered PB1-F2 gene, so long only 10 genes were known.

Most scientifically interesting fact but dangerous to mankind, is that this bird flu type A virus can abruptly change their genetic blueprint by antigenic shift.

What do we understand by antigenic shift? It means if two different viral sub-types infect same host cell the genetic material from both the sub-types may become jumbled together giving rise to a hybrid new viral sub-type having the combination of antigens (proteins) of both the sub-types and this is more dangerous. In such cases old antibodies of the immune system of the host organism concerned can not recognise the new hybrid RNA genome virus, hence fails to combat, and this new sub-type can spread easily causing wide spread infection. For instance, it is established that H5N1 bird flu virus has infected humans in some parts of the world. If a human infected with common influenza virus type B or type C also acquires H5N1, then genetic material of both human influenza virus and bird flu virus may combine giving rise to a mutant strain bird flu virus that can be transmitted from human to human. Such a sub-type can cause a global pandemic similar to Spanish Flu caused by H1N1 sub-type of bird flu virus A that killed about 50 million people world-wide in 1918 and 1919.

A brief survey from literature on the so far reported 9 sub-types of bird flu type A virus that infected humans is given below:

1. H1N1: A strain of H1N1 sub-type caused Spanish Flu pandemic in the year 1918 and 1919. This flu killed some 50 millions people world wide.
2. H2N2: The Asian Flu pandemic in 1957 and 1958, originated in China and killed around 4 million people.
3. H3N2: Antigenic shift of H2N2 gave rise to H3N2 sub-type. It caused Hong Kong Flu pandemic in 1968 and 1969 and death toll was up to 7, 50,000. In 2003, same H3N2 strain killed several children in United States.
4. H5N1: This strain since 1997 has infected about 200 people and killed about 91 in different countries. This strain may be the cause of future pandemic.
5. H7N7: Reported in 2003 from Netherlands, 89 reported cases of human infection with one death recorded.
6. H9N2: This strain was reported in 1999 from China and Hong Kong, two children were infected in that year and in 2003 one child in Hong Kong was infected. All three fully recovered.
7. H7N2: In 2003, from New York one and in 2002 from Virginia one infection were recorded due to this strain and both were totally cured.
8. H7N3: Two cases of human infection from British Columbia in February 2004 were reported and both fully recovered.
9. H10N7: Reported from Egypt in 2004. Mild illness in two infants due to infection of this strain was recorded.

The present outbreak of bird flu has been reported from different parts of the world. So

far this dreaded bird flu virus H5N1 has been reported from 25 countries and not only about 200 million birds are affected by this virus but it also has killed 91 people out of the 200 cases of human infection recorded. The countries affected are: Asia – China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq; Europe – Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Italy, Austria, Germany, France, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden; Africa – Egypt and Nigeria.

The infection of bird flu virus has become severe in South-East Asian countries and India. In India, most affected states are Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. In India thousands of poultry chickens died due to infection and millions were culled by concerned Government authorities to prevent spread of infection. Only in Maharashtra 8.5 lakhs chickens in 46 poultry farms were culled and 5, 87,000 eggs were destroyed.

What is the consequence of current outbreak of bird flu? Does it have impact on economy of a country?

To find out the answer let us consider the case in India. Some observations from different national new papers are: people in general are afraid to take chicken dishes and eggs, consequently prices of other non-veg items like fish and red-meat have soared up; in Indian Parliament Canteen chicken preparations are not liked under the influence of the news item; different Air-lines have stopped serving chickens to their customers/passengers; Government of India has banned export of poultry products.

Therefore, this outbreak of bird flu has definitely affected Indian poultry based economy directly as well as indirectly. Total output of poultry in India is about Rs. 24,000/- crores annually including export of about Rs. 500/- crores poultry products to Japan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Bahrain and U.A.E. Direct impact is that as export has been totally banned, India is loosing foreign currency of about Rs. 500/- crores annually. The domestic consumption has been stopped in affected areas and largely reduced in un-affected areas, consequently poultry farmers and sellers of poultry products are not only in financial crunch but also facing hardship to earn their bread. Indirect affect is that the supporting industries supplying raw materials, i.e. chicken feed to the poultry are suffering due to lack or reduction of purchases, for instance in Maharashtra 53 tonnes of bird feed has been destroyed on 24th February, 2006.

Although poultry based economy has been affected very badly due to present outbreak of bird flu but it is worth-mentioning that there no danger from properly cooked poultry products. If the chicken meat and eggs are properly cooked at 70° Celsius or above in hygienic conditions, the bird flu virus dies in the cooking process. This virus is heat sensitive and can not survive at that temperature. Hands and surfaces after contact with uncooked chicken meat, including frozen meat and eggs must be washed properly. Extra care must be taken during handling an egg. Egg shells generally become contaminated with bird faeces, so the outside of the egg is to be washed properly before use, hands should be washed after handling an egg and eggs should not be separated into yolk and white with bare hands. The uncooked chicken meat and eggs should be handled putting on rubber or latex gloves.

Why is the bird flu so dangerous?

The main danger from bird flu is due to non-availability of proper medicines. Amongst the available anti-viral drugs most effective is TAMIFLU, but it is very expensive and also not easily available because the only Pharmaceutical Company in the world named 'Roche' manufactures TAMIFLU. There is no human vaccine at present against bird flu virus H5N1 or any other sub-

type. Although attempts are there to produce it, the currently available vaccines against H5N1 are meant for domestic birds.

The positive danger to mankind is that if a person already infected with human influenza virus also acquires H5N1 sub-type, a mutant strain may evolve by antigenic shift and such a mutant strain may have the potentiality to be transmitted from human to human. This newly evolved strain will be virulent and may cause global pandemic similar to Spanish Flu of 1981 and 1919. According to World Health Organisation (WHO), there is mounting evidence that theH5N1 strain has capacity to jump the species barrier and cause severe disease, with high mortality. It is feared that the H5N1 sub-type of avian influenza could trigger the next pandemic.

Is it possible to prevent pandemic of bird flu?

Answer is, it is not certain. Prevention rests on elimination of virus from birds. It is possible to cull the poultry birds in the affected areas to restrict the spread of infection but not the migratory birds acting as carrier of bird flu virus without symptoms of disease. So plans should be there to educate the people to make them aware about the disease and its symptoms. As per recommendation of WHO, 3 km radius area surrounding the centre of infection is to be declared as infection zone and 10 km radius area should be considered as surveillance zone. All the poultry birds must be culled in the infected zone. Proper observations should be continued on suspected human cases. Vaccines to treat human infection by H5N1 or any other sub-type must be developed as early as possible. Available drugs and vaccines effective against birds' infection are to be stocked to meet the requirement.

Pandemic means large scale outbreak that occurs simultaneously in many countries. So a coordinated effort should be made in national and international level along with WHO to combat the next flu pandemic to check the death of 50 million people and economic consequence of loss of more than a trillion dollars as predicted by the scientists.

An Introduction to Environmental Physics

Ms. E. N. Dkhar
Sr. Lecturer,
Department of Physics
Shillong College

Environmental Physics, as its name implies, is the application of the principles of physics to the problems in the natural and man-made environment. It plays a pivotal role in exploring, monitoring and, above all, understanding the world we live in. It's Physical Principles and Applications examines the fundamental problems that arise from the interaction between humans and their natural environment. Taken from a physicist's perspective and considering how the negative impact of our modern existence upon our environment can be avoided, or at the very least reduced. This subject brings together the latest developments, theories, research and concerns from both a scientific and social perspective. The social and political problems of global warming, ozone depletion, the spread and consequences of pollution, and the development and exploitation of energy sources all require an understanding of the basic physics.

Many controversial environmental issues revolve around complex scientific arguments, which can be better understood with a grasp of the key scientific concepts. Environmental Physics provides an introduction to the physical principles that underlie environmental issues and shows how they contribute to the interdisciplinary field of environmental science as a whole. Physics forms an important plank in the building of environmental science- along with many other disciplines.

Heat flow and the properties of radiation are important in understanding Earth's climate and our influence upon it. The low efficiency of photosynthesis can be explained by the quantum energy of photons involved, while the efficiency of a power station is limited by the laws of thermodynamics. The study of fluid dynamics can be used to describe the dispersion of air and water pollutants, while the law of nuclear physics constrains the disposal of radioactive waste. Landslides, tornadoes, falling raindrops and sedimentation are all natural systems that can be understood by Newtonian mechanics. The earth's magnetic field provides a tool to investigate the geological history of the earth and a sub-surface surveying technique.

Daniel Hillels, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author in his books, Introduction to Soil Physics, addresses current environmental concerns and trends in exploring a wide range of interactions among the phases in the soil and the dynamic cycles of energy, water, solids, solutes, minerals, gases, and living organisms in the soil. It focuses on fluxes of energy and matter in soils and at their interfaces to the atmosphere and to marine ecosystems.

Radioactivity from Natural, Industrial, and Military Sources provides information on radiation in the environment and human exposure to radioactivity. As the Cold War ended, nuclear weapons began to be dismantled, and cleanup of the nuclear weapons facilities assumed center stage.

Contamination from accidents involving weapons, reactors, and radionuclide sources has become a matter of concern. The Chernobyl accident occurred as a result of a complex sequence of events during the course of routine test of reactor operation that resulted in almost all the control rods being removed from the core against the recommended operating guidelines. Nuclear stations produce waste throughout their operating lives as well as at decommissioning. Other sources of radioactive waste include hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, nuclear submarines and research labs. For any nuclear waste, activity level will decline over time as radioactive decay occurs, hence storage and disposal of the waste requires a good knowledge of nuclear physics.

Physics also provides a basis for understanding the dynamic interactions between the atmosphere and the oceans. This understanding is essential to stewardship of the environment: for addressing problems like urban air pollution and Lake Acidification and for dealing with natural hazards such as floods, hurricanes earth quakes etc.

The discovery of the destruction of stratospheric ozone by chlorofluorocarbons and other manmade materials is a classic example of the use of physical science to understand how human beings change a natural system. The layer of ozone that shields the earth from the sun's ultraviolet radiation is being depleted. Global warming is partly a consequence of altering the carbon cycle on the planet by the burning of fossil fuels. One of the best tools for measuring human impact on climate is the identification of small concentrations of tracer atoms in environmental samples. Various long-lived radioactive nuclei serve as such tracers in much the same way that short-lived radioactive nuclei serve as tracers for the study of biological systems. This method for environmental monitoring has become increasingly important as ever more sensitive detection techniques are developed

The demand of energy are obviously crucial to all of us as evidence is growing that the problems are becoming more severe with the passage of time as our fossil fuels diminish and underdeveloped countries become more energy dependent. The wide range of resources - coal gas, oil, hydropower, and nuclear power, specifically, the worldwide reserves of fossil fuels, the uses to which these fuels are put, and the conversion of fuels into other forms - such as the conversion of coal to gas or liquid fuels are enormous. Fossil fuels inevitably produce carbon dioxide as a by-product of energy extraction. The substitutability and attractiveness of alternative forms of energy production are also important. The principal alternatives are nuclear power (both nuclear fission and nuclear fusion) and renewable energy (wind, hydropower, photovoltaic cells, and solar thermal energy). Power from nuclear fusion could provide huge amounts of pollution-free energy, using hydrogen from water as its only raw material and producing the inert, non-radioactive gas helium as the only source of product. Recently, France is among the six nations in the world to set up this reactor costing 10 billion Euros. This reactor is expected to be operational after 15 years. Compared with nuclear fission reactors, a working fusion reactor would have power density many times higher. Nuclear power does provide an important source of electricity with low emission of CO_2 and as such has been hailed by some as the solution to global warming. But it has certain limitations. As environmental concerns escalate, solar power is increasingly seen as an attractive alternative energy source. With the recent development of technology in this field, new solar cell types, including polymer and organic cells, new bio-fuel processes and new wave energy devices are being employed. The concept of whole new energy systems based around wind, solar, and other energies is put into a real-life context. Improvements in energy efficiency contribute directly to environmental quality, and many of these improvements are applications of physics. The oxygen sensor in the automobile exhaust, which permits far lower emissions of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides, is another application of physics. The use of energy in agriculture, transportation and so forth, and the pollution that accompanies these uses brings to the discussion of energy conservation and projections of energy supplies for the future.

Remote sensing a satellite-based instruments to detect reflected and emitted radiation from the earth's surface, characterizing environmental systems and allowing study of many features that can be deduced from colour and temperature, provide a powerful tools for monitoring many environmental features.

Effects of electromagnetic radiation from power lines and mobile telephones are well-publicized examples of environmental changes that have been linked to effects on human health. More recently, the increase in use of mobile phones has caused yet more public concern. Here the fact that research into the effects of mobile phones has gone on for less than five years means that the question is left very much open to debate. Hence "the world needs physicists" to tackle the problem.

Physics can never be taken in isolation when dealing with environmental problems. It does play a pivotal role in exploring, monitoring and understanding the world we live in, and man's effect on it, both on local and global scale. Physics is above all an underpinning science and one that plays a crucial role in understanding the environment and the major issues that confront the world today. It is the responsibility of those teaching physics to the current and future generations of students to ensure that its importance to the development of environmental research is as great as in the more `traditional' physics research topics of nuclear and particle physics, cosmology and astronomy.

"Science does not need mysticism and mysticism does not need science, but man needs both."

--Fritjof Capra,

When I Flew around the earth in a spaceship I saw how beutiful this planet u. Let us preserve and increase this beauty, not dethroy it."
-Yuri Gagarin, the astronant, who was the first human being to orbit the earth on 12th April 1961.

Bio-diesel – A New Fuel on the Track

Dr. (Mrs.) Ayesha Ashraf Ahmed
Department of Botany

Energy is the lifeline of modern society. Today it is impossible to imagine a world without conventional energy sources. Many countries are not laden with energy worries. Petroleum which is conventional source of energy is fast depleting in nature. Petrol and diesel will soon become scarce and costly. Increase in the number of automobiles indicates that there will be a great demand for fuel in near future. Experts predict that the present crude oil reserve may sustain for another 40 to 50 years if the present trend of consumption continues. Without oil, progress and development cannot be envisaged. Moreover, burning of petroleum fuels is always accompanied by the ever threatening problems of pollution affecting the environment. A dismal picture indeed. The only way to face such kinds of energy crisis and challenges is to provide greater emphasis in tapping alternative energy sources. Bio-diesel which is carbon neutral, has now emerged as the most viable alternative to petroleum fuels all over the world and its use and production is increasing rapidly especially in Asia, Europe, and in the United States.

What is Bio-diesel:

Bio-diesel is a fuel which is produced from vegetable oils or animal fats. Soya bean oils are most commonly used, though other crops such as mustard, palm oil, hemp, jatropha seed oil also show promise. Animal fats include tallow, lard, yellow grease etc.

These natural oils and fats are rich in triglycerides. These triglycerides when combined with alcohol (ethanol or methanol), in presence of a catalyst, produce fatty acid esters. And these fatty acid esters are called bio-diesel as they show striking resemblance to petroleum based diesel derived from fossils.

History:

It was Rudolf Diesel, who first visualised that bio-fuel can be alternative to petroleum based fuel and this vision stood as an example for the future.

It was way back in 1893, on the 10th of August that Rudolf Diesel demonstrated that peanut oil can be used to run an engine. In remembrance of this event, August 10 has been declared as the International Bio-diesel Day.

How is bio-diesel produced:

Bio-diesel can be made by chemically combining any natural oil or fat with an alcohol,

such as methanol or ethanol. Methanol has been the most commonly used alcohol in the commercial production of bio-diesel. Fats and oils are chemically reacted with an alcohol with the help of a catalyst to produce chemical compounds known as fatty acid methyl esters. Bio-diesel is the name given to these esters which is a transparent amber-yellow liquid with a viscosity similar to petro-diesel, the industry term for diesel produced from petroleum. Bio-diesel can be used as fuel as it has combustion properties very similar to those of petroleum diesel.

Environmental benefits of Bio-diesel:

Unlike petro-diesel, bio-diesel does not release air pollutants like particulates of sulphur, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and air toxins. In fact, bio-diesel helps mitigate global warming.

Advantages of Bio-diesel:

Bio-diesel can be mixed with petroleum diesel at any concentration in most modern engines. Bio-diesel functions in current diesel engines without any modification and can be distributed using today's infrastructure. Fuel stations are beginning to make bio-diesel available to consumers, and a growing number of transport fleets use it as an additive in their fuel.

Bio-diesel from *Jatropha*:

Now, the most talked about source of bi-diesel is *Jatropha curcas*. About one-third of the energy in the fruit of Jatropha can be extracted as oil that has a similar energy value to diesel fuel. It has oil content as high as 35-40 per cent. *Jatraopha* oil can be used directly in diesel engines or added to diesel fuel as an extender or trans-esterised to a bio-diesel fuel.

Bio Diesel Plant – *Jatropha curcas*
In Inset: Seeds from which oil is extracted

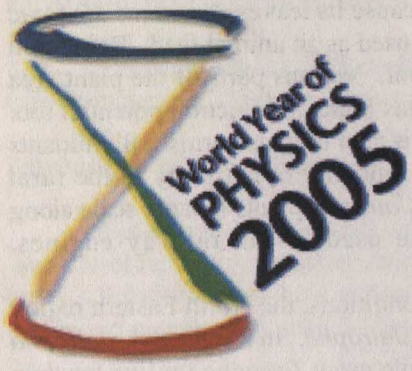
Belonging to *Euphorbiaceae* (castor family), *Jatropha curcas* (*Phisic* nut in English; *Diengsong* Dkhar in Khasi; *Bhotora* in Assamese, *Ratanjot* in Hindi) can grow easily without much care. Originating in the Caribbean, the *Jatropha* was spread as a valuable hedge plant in Africa and Asia by Portuguese traders. Being drought tolerant, it can be used to reclaim eroded areas, be grown as a boundary fence or live hedge. *Jatropha* is not browsed, because its leaves and stems are toxic to animals, but after treatment, the seeds or seed cakes could be used as an animal feed. Being rich in nitrogen, the seed cake is an excellent source of plant nutrient. Various parts of the plant area of medicinal value, the flowers attract bees and thus the plant has honey production potential too. Besides being used as bio-diesel, *Jatropha curcas* extracted oil is also used as varnish, illuminants etc. It being a multipurpose shrub, *Jatropha* can provide an immense opportunity to the rural economy. Now in India, plans are being chalked out to cultivate *Jatropha* plants in large scale along railway lines and waste lands and the derived oil will be used to run railway engines.

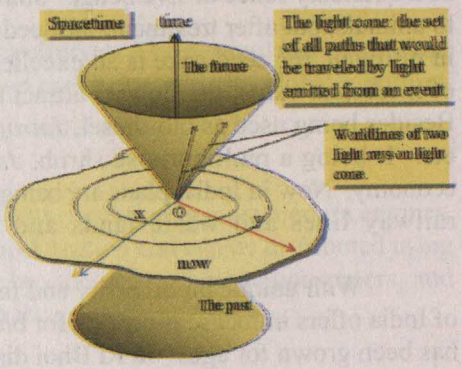
With unique biodiversity and favourable geo-climatic conditions, the North Eastern region of India offers immense prospects for bio-diesel production from *Jatropha*. In Meghalaya, *Jatropha* has been grown for ages. In Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya, people grow *Jatropha* for live fencing. Recently, with the rest of the country, even in Meghalaya, the true potential of *Jatropha* oil as a substitute of petro-diesel has been realized.

Today, one of the important needs for achieving our country's target of energy independence by 2030 is to increase the power generated through renewable energy sources from the existing 5% to 25%. And bio-diesel offers the immediate answer to it. Bio-diesel has tremendous potential as one component of a strategy for reducing petroleum oil dependence and minimizing fossil fuel consumption. It will minimise the country's burgeoning petroleum imports, among others. *Jatropha* can, no doubt, fuel the future economy and is a possible candidate to replace fossil fuels as the world's primary transport energy source.

Dr. (Smt.) A. A. Ahmed joined the College as lecturer on 4th July, 1985, and served for more than twenty years with distinction and dedication which made her very popular with the students. She took active interest in extra-curricular activities of the College as well. However, she resigned from her job on 15th May, 2006, for personal reasons. The Shillong College Fraternity wishes her a very happy, productive and peaceful life.

Proceeding of IYP-2005 celebration of Shillong College





Coming under one ensign with the International Physics community, the Department of Physics, Shillong College, celebrated the International Year of Physics (IYP- 2005) by organizing A Seminar on, "Radiation" and "Harnessing Radio activity", under the aegis of the college and supported by a number of sponsors which included, the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), the Atomic and Mineral Directorate (AMD), the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education (DHTE) and the State Council of Science, Technology and Environment (SCSTE).

The Department of Physics, Shillong College celebrated the International Year of Physics on the 4th of October 2005. It was indeed an auspicious occasion as the year 2005 also marked the year long Golden Jubilee celebration of the college, from August 2005 to August 2006. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr. R. Gupta, Chairman cum Managing Director, UCIL-Jaduguda, Govt. of India and the Guest of Honour was Prof. Mrs. B.M. Jyrwa, Department of Physics, NEHU.

The programme for the day was well structured and started off with the registration of participants at 9.00 a.m. All participants were handed with mementos, writing pads, and pens. The inaugural function started with an introductory report on the aims and objectives of the IYP-2005 by Mrs. E.N. Dkhar, Sr. Lecturer, Physics Department. This was followed by the presentation of bouquets and mementos to the Guests and other dignitaries by the students. It was rather unfortunate for the Deptt. that the Principal of the college, Dr (Mrs.).M.P.R .Lyngdoh, who is also the Chair Person of the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee was unable to attend the function due to her pre-committed academic assignment, but she warm heartedly sent her best wishes and her message related to the function was read out .Then the Vice Principal and HOD Physics, Shri.D.Mukherjee, who was also the Chairman of the day delivered the welcome address. After this, the students of class XII Science and B.Sc mesmerized the audience with their beautiful melodious welcome song. The song itself was written and composed by Mr. Phrangki Lamin Khonglah, a student of Class XII Science. The lyrics of the song show the scientific temper of the youth and it goes as follows:

What makes us realize,
What makes us realize,
Why there is day and night?
Why the sun or the moon is bright?

Why we stand on the earth?
And what composed the earth?
Newton makes us realize
Franklin makes us realize
Einstein makes us realize,
Why the sky is blue?
What gives us a clue?
Why the stars don't fall,
As do apples all?
What enables us,
To see and to hear;
The things around us,
From far and from near.

Later short speeches were presented by various guests who also stressed a lot on the importance of Physics in particular, and Science, in general. Another song was later presented by the students of the college which added more colour to the function. At the end of the inaugural function, Mr. S. Lato, Lecturer, Physics Department presented the vote of thanks

It was indeed a prerogative of the physicist to celebrate the International Year of Physics, to mark the centenary celebration of Albert Einstein's "Annus Mirabilis": The wonder years of Physics; and the faculty members of the Physics Department, Shillong College, were amongst the privileged lot. The celebration of the day saw a large august gathering comprising of the students and teachers of different schools, colleges and the university; the members of the Press, the media persons and a host of dignitaries. Among the dignitaries present on the day, besides the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour, were Mr. J.D.Rynjah, Vigilance Officer UCIL, Mr. R.D. West, Member Secretary SCSTE, Govt. of Meghalaya and Mr. R.S.Lorit, Joint director, DHTE, Govt. of Meghalaya. We had in our midst, Mr. S.K. Malhotra, Head, Public Awareness Division, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Mumbai and Mrs. S. Patwardhan, Scientific Officer-E, Physics Lab of AMD, who were also the Resource Persons of the day, besides Prof. Mrs. B.M. Jyrwa of Physics Deptt. NEHU. The events of the day are highlighted in two sessions, the details of which are given below.

In the first session, a paper on "Harnessing radio-activity" was presented by Mrs. S. Patwardhan. She mainly highlighted on the importance of radio-activity and the need for tapping and harnessing radio active energy for various useful purposes such as agricultural development like better seeds, better crops, preservation of seeds etc, and for medical purposes, which, can all be achieved with the help of peaceful nuclear energy. This paper presentation was followed by an active interaction of the Resource Person with the student participants and others who asked questions on the various possibilities. After the interactive session, we had a lecture by Prof. Mrs. B.M. Jyrwa. Her topic of interest was "Radiation" and "Radiation Types" in which she enlightened the audience and the students, in particular, on Electromagnetic Radiations, and Cosmic and Nuclear Radiations. The session then concluded and all participants were invited for lunch.

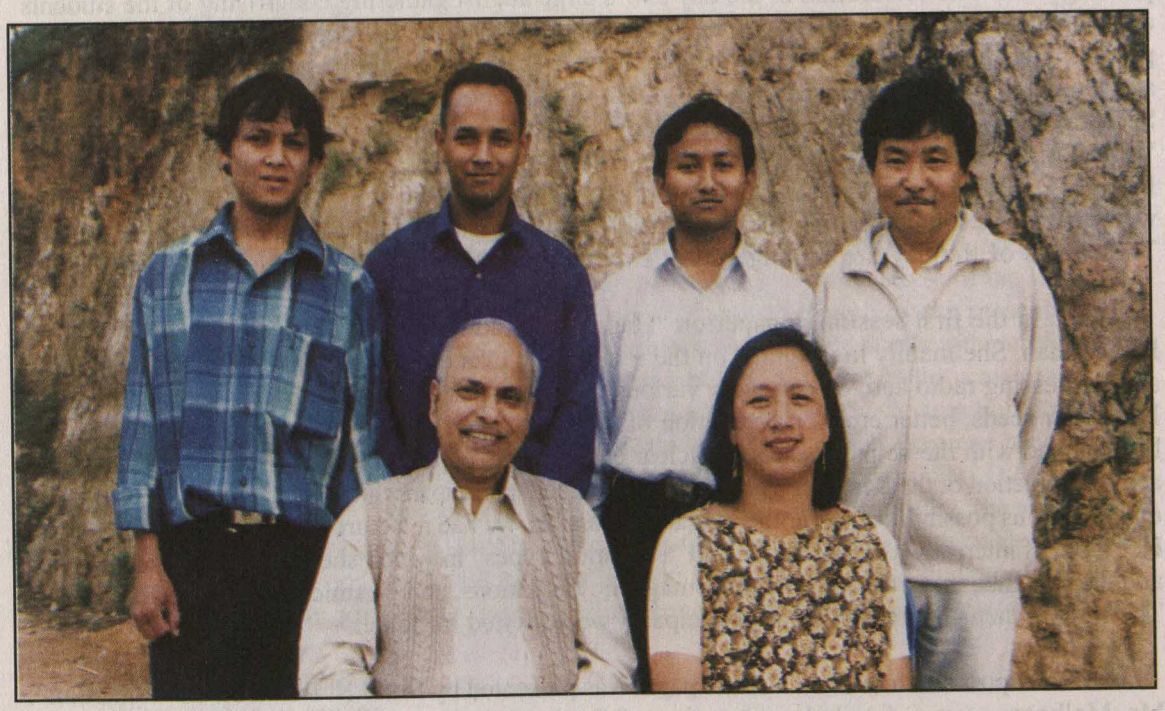
In the post lunch session, another paper was presented by Mr. S.K. Malhotra on "Radiation". Mr. Malhotra gave a detailed explanation of the importance of nuclear activities for various developmental and peaceful purposes, and negated all speculations regarding radiation hazards and the ill effects of radiation. He firmly stressed and emphasized on the need for tapping nuclear energy

for the socio-economic development of a state or country. He also reiterated that nuclear energy and nuclear power plants are the least harmful due to the fact that extreme safety measures have been taken at the site of a nuclear power plant to ensure that there is no leakage of radiation, thus guaranteeing maximum safety and sound health for workers and all those living nearby. This paper presentation was followed by an interactive session, during which the students and teachers actively participated by putting up their queries.

The programme of paper presentations was followed with very informative demonstrations of the various simple aspects of Physics by Mr. J.B. Pandey, a senior teacher of B.S.F School. Mr. Pandey beautifully explained phenomena like reflection of light, pressure, relative motion etc. by simple demonstrations and interpretations, capturing the interests of the students and also enlightening them.

The function then ended with a vote of thanks by Mr. A. Dkhar, Lecturer Physics Department, where he highlighted about the day long celebration which had been enjoyable, knowledgeable and had more importantly greatly benefited the participants, and the students in particular. He extended his gratitude to the Resource Persons for the thought provoking papers they presented, which had indeed greatly motivated the young students and tickled their minds to think carefully on the various issues, to be more pragmatic, and be free from all misconceptions which are often based on mere speculations. He also thanked the different schools and colleges who had participated in the function, and to all the teaching and non-teaching staffs of the college who have helped in making the function and celebration a grand success.

May Einstein evoke curiosity and excitement in the field of Physics to the General Public.
Faculty Members of the Physics Department.



Prof. D. Mukherjee (H.O.D), Smt. E. N. Dkhar, Shri S. Lato, Shri M. Rynjah and Shri A. Dkhar.
Lab Attendant: Shri C. Kumar Rai.

Timeless Tulshi

Shri Mangkara Nongkhlaw
IIIrd year B. Sc., 2005 Botany (Hons.)

Tulsi is regarded as a sacred plant in India since time immemorial. Due to its unique medicinal properties, this truly gifted herb holds a special place in ancient ayurvedic texts. The tea made from its leaves is a popular home remedy for treating ailments affecting the stomach and is also considered to be highly beneficial in relieving symptoms of cold and cough.

Tulsi is a member of the mind family, labatae. Of the several known species of this herb, the most common one is Ocimum sanctum (holy Tulsi). All parts of this plant are useful medicinally, which are used as powder or boiled as an infusion. The two popular varieties of holy Tulsi are Sri Tulsi that has green leaves and Krishna Tulsi bearing purple leaves.

Tulsi is an annual herb founding the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world. It is a branched herb having aromatic leaves and small flowers that vary in colour from white to red and are present in small clusters on cylindrical spikes. The fruits are small and the seeds yellow to reddish in colour. The steam distillation of leaves produces a bright yellow volatile oil with characteristic clove-like aroma. Other constituents of its essential oil are flavones and Phenolic acids.

Tulsi has anti-microbial as well as anti-inflammatory properties. The ursolic acid present in Tulsi has anti-allergic properties. Tulsi also has anti-stress properties, as its essential oil has been shown to increase physical endurance and prevent stress-induced ulcers in animals.

Amazing results have been obtained in a randomized placebo-controlled trial of O. sanctum leaves in patients with non insulin dependant diabetes mellitus. Earlier, experimental studies on albino rats had reported that leaf extract of Ocimum sanctum had hypo-glycemic effect. To explore this further, the scientists studied the effects of treatment with holy basic leaves on fasting and post-prandial blood glucose and serum cholesterol levels in human beings. Results indicated a significant decrease in fasting and post prandial blood glucose levels during treatment with Tulsi leaves compared to during treatment with placebo-leaves. The average total cholesterol levels also showed mild reduction in these patients.

Experimentally, the scientists have demonstrated the in vivo radio-protection by Ocimum flavonoids. The scientists also found that two flavonoids namely, Orientin and Vicenin, isolated from the leaves of Ocimum sanctum had radio-protective effects in mice. Both compounds provided protection against death from gastro-intestinal syndromes as well as bone marrow syndrome when mice were injected with these flavonoids intra-peritoneal, before whole body exposure to gamma radiation. An increase in the drug dose, however, did not increase protection.

The immuno-regulatory profile of Ocimum sanctum has been evaluated in albino rats. Basically, a methanol extract and an aqueous suspension of Tulsi leaves were investigated for their immuno-

regulatory profile in response to injection by salmonella typhi and sheep erythrocytes by quantifying the agglutinating antibodies employing the klidai agglutination and sheep erythrocyte agglutination tests as well as E-rosette formation in albino rats. As an increase in the antibody titre was observed in these tests, this study clearly indicates the immuno-stimulatory effects of Tulsi leaves.

Luscious Lychee

Lambert Osmond Marbaniang
IIIrd year B. Sc. 2005 (Botany Hons.)

An attractive and rare tropical fruit tree that bears a luscious red fruit, the Lychee originated over 2000 years ago in low elevations of Southern China in the provinces of Kwangtung and Fukien. One of the most environmentally sensitive tropical tree fruit crops, lychee is adapted to areas of the world characterized by warm sub-tropics and elevated tropics having cool dry winters and warm wet summers (Menzel, 1991). China, India, South-east Asia, and South Africa are among the major producer countries.

Its common names are Lychee, Litchi, Leeche, Lichee or Lichi. The Litchi or Lyche tree is native to southern China and south-eastern Asia. It was widelycultivated for its prized fruit even before 1766 BC and is the most important fruit plant in the Sapindaceae (Menzel, 1984). It reached Hawaii in 1873, and Florida in 1883, and was conveyed from Florida to California in 1897. The most popular varieties grown in South Florida are the Brewster, the Hakip and the Mauritius.

The fruit consists of a single seed covered by an agreeable sweet-acid tasting, crisp, white, juicy, translucent aril or pulp, which is high in Vitamin C. It also contains magnesium and phosphorus, as well as small amounts of iron, zinc, copper, manganese, selenium, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, calcium, Vitamin B-6, and Vitamin E. It may be eaten fresh, frozen, canned in syrup or dried to produce Litchi nuts. The trees make beautiful landscape specimens with their dark green leaves and bright red fruit.

Lychee Lore

The Chinese considers the Lychee, which is a red, heart-shaped fruit, a symbol of romance and love. The imperial concubine Lady Yang Kuei Fei of the last emperor of the Tang dynasty, Hsuan Tsung (712-756 AD) had a passion for lychee fruit. To woo Lady Yang Kuei Fei, the emperor had brought them from Canton in Southern China to his northern palace, a distance of 600 miles. The emperor arranged for guards mounted on horses to convey the Lychees in a "Pony Express" so that Lady yang Kuei Fei would get her Lychees when they were still fresh.

Lychee Plant

The plant is a dense, symmetrical, oval evergreen tree with a dark brown, short, thick trunk. Growth habit differs considerably on culture. Trees may have erect or drooping branches and grow 20 to more than 40 feet in height (Galan Sauco, 1989). Lychee trees can live for many years. Two trees in China were reported to be 1,200 years old, the largest being 10.5 feet in diameter.

Commercial cultivars are geographically adapted and number over 100 world wide. Well managed nature Lychee orchards, usually about 30 trees per acre (70 trees per hector) can produce as much as 8,000-12,000 lbs of fruit per acre (10-15 tonnes of fruit/ha) in a good year. Orchards area usually planted at a much higher density and average yields per tree range from 22-174 lbs (10-80 kg). A four year old tree was reported to have produced 2 to 3 lbs (0.9-1.4 kg) of fruit, while a 12 year old tree yielded 308 lbs (140 kg).

The round fruit, a drupe, is about the size of a large strawberry. The leathery skin is covered with sharp-tipped tubercles. The seeds are dark brown. The fruit must be ripen on the tree, and then is harvested over a six-week period. The shelf life of the fresh fruit is only 10 to 14 days. The tree bears small (2 to 3 mm) white to greenish yellow flowers. A nectar is present on every flower. Nectar, secreted only in the morning, is highly aattractive to honey bees and flies.

Plant Culture

Lychees need full Sun, but young trees must be protected from heat, frost and high winds. The tree needs a well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. A soil pH (measure of acidity) between 5.5 and 7.5 is acceptable, but plants grow much better in soils with a pH at the low end of this range. A thick layer of organic mulch is applied to the soil after planting.

The Lychee does not tolerate standing water, but requires very moist soil. So the tree has to be watered regularly when it is growing actively. The trees are very sensitive to damage from salts in the soil or in water.

Young trees tend to grow slowly, and many gardeners tend to give them too much fertilizer in an attempt to push them along. Young trees should receive only light applications of a complete of a complete fertilizer. Mature trees area heavy feeders and should be fertilized regularly from spring to late summer. Chelated iron and soil sulphur may be necessary in areas with alkaline soils.

Young trees need to be pruned to establish to establish a strong permanent structure for easy harvest. After that, removing caressing or damaged branches is all that is necessary, although the trees can be pruned more heavily to control size. V-shaped crotches should be avoided because of the wood's brittle nature.

Lychees need warmth and a frost-free environment, but can often withstand light freezes with some kind of overhead protection. When they are young, building a frame around the plants and covering it with bedding plastic sheeting, etc. when frost threatens should be enough. Electric light bulbs can also be also be used for added warmth. Air layering is the most common method of propagating Lychees because grafting is difficult and seedlings are not reliable producers of quality fruit. To grow a plant from seed it is important to remember that seeds remain viable for no more than a day or two under dry conditions. Young seedlings grow vigorously until they reach 7 or 8 inches in height. They will stay at this height for up to two years without further noticeable growth. Wedge and bud grafts are possible, but seldom used.

The fruit must be allowed to ripen fully on the tree. Over mature fruits darken in colour and lose their lustre. The flavours lack the richness associated with a certain amount of acidity. To harvest, entire fruit clusters are snipped off, keeping a short piece of the stem attached. Lychees can be stored for up to five weeks in the refrigerator. They can also be frozen or dried. Lychees will begin to deteriorate within three days at room temperature.

From Editor's Desk----

Facts We Need to know

1. An average person in India generates 0.15 to 0.35 kg of garbage daily.
2. Human settlements discharge four times as much waste into water bodies as do industries.
3. A banana peel takes three to four weeks to decompose. A plastic shopping bag may never decompose.
4. The amount of fresh water available for human use directly is less than one per cent of all the water on this planet.
5. Energy for cooking food consumes half of all the energy produced in India.
6. Dogs considered to be the most faithful of animals, were domesticated more than 10,000 year ago by humans.
7. Many medicines originated from animals. The first anti-coagulant was produced from leeches that secrete an enzyme, hirudin, with anti-coagulant properties.
8. One full grown tree neutralises the carbon dioxide out put of one person.
9. A full grown tree is able to absorb the pollution generated by a car running continuously for 25,000 km.
10. Over 25 per cent of our medicines are derived from plants.
11. Trees and plants are able to reduce the temperature of an area by as much as 10 ^{o}C.
12. Vegetation absorbs noise. Trees are able to reduce the noise level by about six to eight decibels for every 30 m of tree cover.
13. Ozone hole was first reported in the year 1985, over Halley Bay, Antarctica. It occurs most between September and November over this region and its size is that of the size of the United States of America.
14. More than 180 countries have signed "the Montreal Protocol", formulated in 1987, to make sure that Ozone Depleting Substances are gradually done away with.
15. Sunlight contains about 58% infra-red radiation, 40% visible and 2% ultraviolet light.
16. Never view the Sun directly, eclipse or no eclipse, without safe, tested filters, otherwise temporary or permanent damage could be caused to eyes.

The Complex Motion of the Earth in the visible universe

How fast is the earth spinning?	0.5 km/sec.
How fast is the Earth revolving around the Sun?	30 km/sec.
How fast is the Solar System moving around the Milky Way Galaxy?	250 km/sec.
How far our milky is was Galaxy moving in the Local Group of galaxies?	300 km/sec.

Medicinal properties of some spices recognized for long time

Spice	Medicinal properties
Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)	Anti-inflammatory, diuretic. Laxative, good for affections of the liver, jaundice, diseases of blood.
Red pepper (*Capsicum annuum*)	Anti-inflammatory, for pain relief (Rheumatism/neuralgia); useful in indigestion, rubefacient.
Garlic (*Allium sativum*)	Anti-dyspeptic, anti-flatulent, for ear infection, duodenal ulcers, as rubefacient in skin diseases.
Onion (*Allium cepa*)	Diuretic, emmenagogue, expectorant, for bleeding piles.
Fenugreek (*Trigonelia foenumgraecum*)	Diuretic, emmenagougue, emollient, useful in heart deseases.
Cumin (*Cuminum cymminum*)	Antispasmodic, carminative, digestive stimulant.
Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*)	Anti-dyspeptic.

Enviroment calendar

On these days you can organize a special item, hold an exhibition or a competition. You can present any of the following items listed below

- **Read a poem or a quotation or both at the beginning of the assembly.**
- **Enact a play highlighting the issue.**
- **Organize a quiz.**
- **Hold a discussion on the specific issue.**
- **Organize a debate on the particular issue.**
- **Hold a painting competition.**
- **Have tree plantation programmes.**
- **Take up a 'clean your neighbourhood drive'.**
- **Organize a 'just a minute' competition.**
- **Have a photograph competition.**
- **Give a talk on the subject.**
- **Arrange a wall display highlighting the occasion.**
- **Hold a classroom board contest on the specific topic.**
- **Organize a Poster competition.**

February 2 World Wetland Day - On this day, in 1971, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance was signed. Wetlands are a very important part of our biodiversity and it is essential to see that they are well protected.

February 28 National Science Day - It is necessary to highlight the role of science in the protection of the environment. This day should be taken as a platform to put forward the message.

March 21 World Forestry Day - Activities such as the planting of trees and highlighting the urgency to increase the green cover.

March 22 World Water Day - The decision to celebrate this day has been taken recently as drinking water sources are fast depleting. The world must wake up to the problem and begin conserving it.

March 23 World Meteorological Day - Everyone has to be reminded that weather is an integral part of the environment.

April 7 World Health Day - The World Health Organisation (WHO) was constituted on this day in 1948. In the changing environment around us health is becoming an important issue.

April 18 World Heritage Day - Environment includes not just the natural surroundings but also the manmade ones.

April 22 Earth Day - In 1970 a group of people in the United States of America got together to draw the attention of the world to the problems being caused to the earth due to modernisation. Since then this day has been celebrated all over the world as Earth Day. May 22 International Biodiversity Day – Protecting and bringing awareness about Biodiversity.

May 31 Anti Tobacco Day - The world is now aware of the problems faced by not only the smokers but also the people who inhale the smoke. You can take up an anti smoking

campaign in your family or the neighbourhood.

June 5 World Environment Day - On this day, in 1972, the Stockholm Conference on Human Environment was held in Sweden. There was a large gathering from all over the world and people expressed their concerns for the increasing environmental problems.

July 11 World Population Day- Population has to be given special attention, as it is an ever-increasing problem especially in India.
August 10 International Bio-Diesel Day - Harnessing Environment Friendly Bio-diesel.

September 16 World Ozone Day-The United Nations declared this day as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer. It is the day the Montreal Protocol was signed.

September 28 Green Consumer Day-The problems of consumerism and its impact on the environment is an area of major concern in today's world. Awareness building on the importance of recycling-reusing-reducing should be taken up seriously.

October 3 World Habitat Day-The earth is the habitat of not only human beings but also all living creatures. Increasing human activities is threatening the habitat of other living things.

October 1-7 World Wildlife Week -Celebrate this week by building awareness on the importance of preservation of our wildlife.

October 4 World Animal Welfare Day-The welfare of animals has to be looked into and given due importance.

October 13 International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction-Due to a change in the environment there has been an increase in the number of natural disasters. Efforts have to be taken to reduce these disasters.

November 14 Children's Day in India- Children can work together for a better tomorrow by improving the environment around them.

December 2 Bhopal Tragedy Day- Mark this occasion by taking a pledge to put in your best efforts to prevent such a tragedy from occurring again.

"I was a born to a tanner. He was a worker but was always eager to learn. He was my first teacher and it was he who inspired in me the love for work, instilled in me the love for my country. May your work also be governed by these two passions."

Louis Pasteur

TEACHERS' COLUMN

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one".

----- Mark Twain

Review of Books on Folk Tales

Smt. Smriti Rekha Das
Head, Department of English

Folk-tale voices culture of a people. It holds up the mirror of a race by providing its belief, practices and habits. Further, it serves as a clue to history in the absence of adequate written records. So folk-tale today opens up enormous possibilities to students, researchers, anthropologists and social scientists. Recent revival of interest in this field is an indication of this realization of varied significance of folk-tale. It also speaks of people's undying love in folk tales which has drawn them to dive deep into its inexhaustible riches.

Mrs. Rafi, an English lady during her stay in Shillong grew immensely interested in Khasi folk-tales and made a wide survey in this area and the outcome of her study is the book, "Khasi Folk-Tales". It was first published in 1920, reprinted in 1985, by Kishan Kumar on behalf of Spectrum Publication, Panbazar, Guwahati. The book with its collection of fascinating folk-tales, complemented by illustrations which comprehensively speak of the bio-cultural heritage of the Khasis, has remained a treasure-house for folk-lorists, students, researchers and social scientists. The life and culture of people dwelling on a hill of enchanting beauty canopied by deep blue, white expanse of sky has been most vividly portrayed. The range of work in this volume is wide both in academic and in cultural sense. Besides providing enormous resource to anthropologists and sociologists, it would serve as sure guidelines to students and research scholars in all disciplines of behavioural sciences.

The story 'What Causes the Eclipse' reveals the belief of the Khasis as eclipse being caused by the periodical attack of the Giant Toad eating up the Sun, because the Sun, his rival had married the beautiful girl whom he had given magic shelter (i.e. the skin of a toad) to conceal her human form from the clutches of a tiger. Mankind being afraid of the Toad swallowing the Sun, raised a din and started beating drum at which the toad fled away frightened to renew its attack sometime later. Even today this habit of beating drum during eclipse exists among the Khasis. However unscientific the notion may be, it shows the primitive men's curiosity, his inquisitiveness to know and explain why there is an eclipse and why there are such things as the stars, the moon and the sky.

The story, 'How the Peacock got his Beautiful Feather' allures us of ceaseless reading by its simple and charming narrative technique. It described the peacock making love to the beautiful damsel living in the Blue realm, marrying her, pestering her by his audacity and finally deserting her. The blue tears shed by her left mark on the feathers of the peacock and his feathers dotted with sad, sad tears were all transformed into the colours of the rainbow with beautiful dots of tears on them.

'U Raitong' (the Khasi Orphans) another tender story of loveliness, of woman sacrificing herself at the altar of love is supposed to be the originator of 'Sati' (Suttee, wife-sacrifice) in many parts of India.

'Khasi and Jaintia Tales and Beliefs' by I. M. Simon was published in 1966 by the Department of Tribal Culture and Folklore Research, Gauhati University. The author has collected in this volume a good number of stories illustrating Khasi beliefs, culture and practices. The stories have been classified into different sections. One Section deals with legendary tales having historical value, the other with tales having association with local rivers and streams. The last two sections are mostly wonder tales associated with magic, supernaturalism and some local beliefs.

This is a fairly comprehensive work representing cultural heritage of Khasi and Jaintia people. In its informative introduction, the writer has summed up the traits and characteristics of people pointing out similarity in habits, beliefs and religious practices with other neighbouring races like the Bengalese and the Assamese. The book has surely proved highly useful to those interested in the field..

Mr. Hamlet Bareh's 'Khasi Fables and Folk Tales' published in the year 1971 by Firma K. L. Mukhopadhyay is a collection of tales not included in the works of Mr. Simon and Mrs. Rafi. The contents have four sections, viz. Indigenous; Historical; Fables, and Miscellaneous. 'An Earthquake in the Stone Inscription' speaks about native people's belief in earthquake being caused by great giant. 'Why a Virgin Dame Among the Khasis' is a story of the first Khasi queen from whose progeny had emerged some Syiem lineage groups into the interior areas of Khasi Hills. The historical section contains revealing stories on why the matrilineal law of succession and how Jaintiapur became the capital of Sutnga.

Folk-lore in the N.E. India (published in 1985) marks the depth and expanse of interest in Folk-tales in recent years. Edited by Dr. Soumen Sen, the then Head of the Department of Folk-lore Department, North-Eastern Hill University (who also served in Shillong from 1963 to 1985), the book contains precious articles and essays on the multifarious significance and importance of folk-lore. Dr. Sen has summed up the enormous possibilities that folk-lore opens to students, researchers, historians, anthropologists and social scientists. One can easily perceive the leap between 1920 and 1985, between Mrs. Rafi and modern researchers. According to Dr. Sen, to regard "folk-lore only as oral literature is to deprive it of its clan-vital, historical potential". Folk-lorists, he demands, should value all those expressions of folk tales, its dance, songs, crafts, customs and oral literature. His own essay in this volume, 'Myth: Feudal Consideration of Jaintia Kingdom' gives us the historical backdrop of kings, studies various versions of legend and myth available and concludes how on a tribal base Hinduism was adopted, how the Syiems of Sutnga became Raja of Jaintia and how Raja became a patron of Brahminism and granted lands and villages to Brahmins.

'Folklore in the North East' is an collection of valuable articles of immense significance. One of the most enlightening articles is 'Eunuch Priesthood and Deity Dorai' by Dr. Sujit Choudhury, an eminent intellectual of the N. E. India. Based on several case study of worship of Dorai in the Cachar district of Assam and Sylhet district of Bangladesh, his essay points out that "that Dorai and Eunuch Priesthood may be regarded as a local parallel of the widespread tradition" of the worship of female goddesses by eunuch priests in West Asia and the Mediterranean regions, the Greek Artemis, the Roman Cybele and Syrian Astarte, where the priests are not natural but castrated eunuch. Dr. Prafulla Goswami's 'Social criticism in Assamese Tales', in the same book, refers to an interesting tale where the story-teller unconsciously plays the role of social critic. The servant (who was given just one fish in the bowl) asked the master (who was given a bowlful of fish), "Sir,

do Kowai fish move singly or in shoal?" The master answered "in a shoal, of course". The boy said, "There is one fish in my bowl while there are so many in yours. Let my fish also move along with those!" Another thought provoking article in this volume is 'Basic Pattern in Myth Making: Myths of Arunachal Tribes' written by J. N. Choudhury. Based on studies of the tales of Minions, (a section of Adi Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh) Gallongs, where the primitive philosopher is vexed by the inevitability of death. The writer fin;ds a strange echo of Yudisthira's queries in Mahabharata , 'Whose child is dead? Why does death sweep away creatures of the World?' The writer perceives the Universality of basic psychological approach among different peoples at different times. The book contains many more enlightening articles.

If folk lore opens so many vistas of explorations, it is only desirable that the present generation dive deeper and deeper into these inexhaustible fountain-troves spread around the nooks and corners of the world.

Quality Vs Quantity: Challenges in Higher Education

Dr (Mrs.) E. Kharkongor
Eco. Deptt., Shillong College

The quest for higher education in the knowledge era of the twenty-first century is to meet the ever changing demands of the market economy. Assessment, accreditation, quality assurance and enhancement have become the key words for the survival of higher educational institutions. The two terms, quality and quantity convey different meanings altogether, yet they are inseparable and complementary to each other. The interdependence between these two terms is of prime importance in the scenario of higher education today.

Quality has been defined as a 'degree of excellence'. It denotes a 'standard' or a 'norm' which conform to customer satisfaction. Quality is an elusive attribute. It is related to context and is need- specific. In the realms of higher education the parameters of quality are manifold. These parameters are of great significance in the process which involves the production of intellectual human resources who are responsible for shaping the destiny of the country. It is therefore necessary that institutions of higher learning provide an education which will enhance and enrich the overall quality of life.

The focus on quality differs among stakeholders. Students may focus on the teaching-learning process, facilities provided and more importantly on immediate placements or campus recruitment. The management may focus on the grades achieved and grants to be received. Prospective employer's focus will be on the nature of the output equipped with specific skills to suit specific needs. Educationists may desire a value- enriched curriculum, language teachers may focus on communication skills while subject teachers may desire less of these components and more of their subjects packed in the process. Parents want the best of everything that education can provide to their wards. In such a situation the different issues of quality in higher education have to be carefully weighed and observed. Questions have to be answered on the effectiveness and applicability of higher education to meet the challenges of changing needs.

Quantity on the other hand denotes a determinate amount. In the scenario of higher education it may be taken to indicate the support systems available within the educational institutions. These are financial resources, human resources, physical resources, time resources and community resources. Quantity also denotes output or the product which have been moulded by the available support systems to meet well-defined specifications. Interestingly, it is the student or the learner who is the product of higher education and he is also the customer who seeks to benefit tremendously after passing through the various sets of processes.

The Indian higher education system has witnessed unprecedented quantitative expansion

in terms of institutions, disciplines, subjects, enrolment, faculties and staff. But this has been followed by a progressive dilution in the quality of teaching, research etc that the utility of higher education is now being questioned. Inequities of access exist amongst gender, socio-economic groups and between various states. Further higher education is facing a resources crunch compelling institutions to concentrate more on mobilizing financial resources rather than on improving the quality of education. These quantitative issues pose as the challenges and problems for higher educational institutions in fulfilling conditions of assessment and accreditation by the NAAC.

The most important question confronting higher education today is the question of translating the expectations of quality into achievements within the constraints that exists. This becomes more important since quality tends to get diluted with quantity and quantity without quality is meaningless. In the pursuit of excellence, priorities should be clearly understood. The objectives and targets laid down to be achieved should be based on the identified strengths and potentials that the institution have. Attention to detail, effective communication, evaluation procedures, organization and management are vital for quality enhancement. A continual study, analysis of purposes, policies and programmes in which the support systems are utilized will ensure and sustain the quality of the product which comes out of the higher education.

An institution's pursuit of excellence is a demanding and a commendable task. This pursuit has to be perceptible to every member involved in the process. As higher education faces the challenges of improving the overall quality of life; it is imperative therefore to integrate quality issues and the quantity parameters which are not separate entities but complementary to each other.

NEED FOR QUALITY ENHANCEMENT AND SUSTENANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr.(Ms)D. L. Buam
Lecturer, Department of Chemistry

In the present world of globalization, changes have taken place in the various spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activities. There is an urgent need for maintaining, sustaining standards and promote development in the system of Higher Education in India. In response to this need a number of Seminars and Conferences on Quality Assurance in Higher Education were held in India and recently a National Seminar on Role of IQAC for Quality Enhancement in Higher Education was held at Yeshwant College, Maharashtra, from 28th to 30th December 2005 well attended by over 500 participants including two teachers from Shillong College, namely Dr.(Mrs.) Eva Kharkongor, Department of Economics and the author of this article.

Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya College in Nanded, Maharashtra was established in 1963 and was accredited by NAAC and awarded CPE status by UGC in the year 2004. The college is committed to the aspirations and vision of Late Shri S.B. Chavan, founder of the College, to administer academic programs rigorously, to promote research and development and publications in areas on contemporary relevance and to meet other challenges of present scenario. The College felt the need to organize organize a 3-day National Seminar on 'Role of IQAC for Quality Enhancement in Higher Education' from 28th to 30th December 2005 in the College premises. It may be mentioned here that the NAAC aims to provide financial assistance to academic institutions, which are accredited to organize workshops/ seminars at a state and national level on themes related to **quality issues in higher education**. This seminar is being sponsored by the NAAC. The Director of NAAC, Shri V.S. Prasad, inaugurated the seminar as seen in the picture . In his inaugural speech he stressed on the seven-point list of Total Quality Management (TQM) elements in

Lighting up the Lamp to inaugurate the Seminar

HigherEducation which include infrastructure, effective governance, teaching- learning, methodologies , reliability of Examination system, mechanism for improvement and motivation of students and relevant programs. Since quality assurance is a continuous process, the NAAC has taken many post accreditation activities to facilitate quality promotion, sustenance and enhancement among all institutions of higher education in general and among accredited institutions in particular.

There were a good number of resource persons who presented keynote speeches on issues related to quality of higher education in India. There were around 50 paper presenters from all over the country under various sub-themes to name a few, the quality-improving techniques like the Kaizen, Six Sigma, ISO and others. The object of ISO is to promote the development of standardization and related world activities with a view to facilitating international exchange of goods and services and to develop cooperation in the sphere of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity.Some of the papers presented have thrown light on TQM (Total Quality Management) System in Higher Education .The topics of the papers mostly reflected the role of all stakeholders – students, teachers, management, IQAC members etc for quality enhancement in higher education. The paper presented by Shillong College teachers reflects the role of IQAC to balance quality and quantity in higher education as these are complementary terms .There were also interesting topics related to globalization and higher education as India is a member of the WTO, it has to comply with the related issues like the scenario of Indian Education and GATTS agreement. Education services including higher education are one of the 12 broad sectors included in the GATTS agreement that comes into effect in 2005. But so far, the government had not cleared its stand on the issue or formulated a policy on opening up of the education sector to foreign investment. Foreign direct investment (FDI) in technical and higher education sector will, however, be allowed once a policy is formulated according to HRD sources. There is every doubt as one thinks of the present globalization of education as to whether it is a threat or an opportunity but the fact is that there is now a rapid increase in the number and variety of institutions that may sweep out the traditional affiliating institutions.

Statistics: A Substantive Application

Sankar Goswami
Head
Department of Statistics
Shillong College, Shillong

Statistics is a set of methods that are used to collect, analyze, present, and interpret data. Statistical methods are used in a wide variety of occupations and help people identify, study, and solve many complex problems. In the business and economic world, these methods enable decision makers and managers to take better decisions about uncertain situations. **In other words, Statistics is a science which assists us to make decisions under uncertainties** (based on some numerical and measurable scales).

The World is becoming more and more quantitative. Many professions depend on numerical measurements to make decisions in the face of uncertainty. Statisticians use quantitative abilities, statistical knowledge, and communication skills to work on many challenging problems.

Decision making process under uncertainty is largely based on application of statistical data analysis for probabilistic risk assessment of the decision. Managers need to understand variation for two key reasons. Firstly, so that they can lead others to apply statistical thinking in day-to-day activities, and secondly, to apply the concept for the purpose of continuous improvement. An organization database contains a wealth of information, yet the decision technology group members tap a fraction of it. Employees waste time scouring multiple sources for a database. Some times the decision-makers get frustrated when they cannot get business-critical data exactly when they need it. Therefore, too many decisions are based on guesswork and as a result many opportunities are also missed.

Vast amounts of statistical information are available in today's global and economic environment because of continual improvements in computer technology. To compete successfully globally, managers and decision makers must be able to understand the information and use it effectively. Statistical data analysis provides hands on experience to promote the use of statistical thinking and techniques to apply in order to make educated decisions in the business world. Statistical data analysis helps managers forecast and predict future aspects of a business operation. The most successful managers and decision makers are the ones who can understand the information and use it effectively.

Statistical thinking and methodology have also become the scientific frameworks for literally dozens of fields including education, agriculture, economics, biology, and medicine and with increasing influence recently on the hard sciences such as astronomy, geology, and physics.

Probabilistic modeling are used to control the flow of traffic through a highway system, a telephone interchange, or a computer processor; find the genetic makeup of individuals or populations; quality control; insurance; investment; and other sectors of business and industry.

Computers play a very important role in statistical data analysis. The statistical software package, viz. **SPSS, SAS, STATISTICA, STATGRAPHICS, MINITAB,** etc., which are used for this purpose, offer extensive data-handling capabilities and numerous statistical analysis routines that

can analyze small to very large data statistics. The computer will assist in the summarization of data, but statistical data analysis focuses on the interpretation of the output to make inferences and predictions.

Some of the applications of statistics are mentioned below (in very brief):

Industrial Data Modelling

Industrial Data Modeling is the application of statistical, mathematical and computing techniques to industrial problems. Its applications aimed at science and engineering practitioners and managers in industry, considers the modeling, analysis and interpretation of data in industries associated with science, engineering and biomedicine. The techniques are closely related to those of chemo-metrics, techno-metrics and biometrics.

Econometrics and Time Series Models

Econometrics models are sets of simultaneous regression models with applications to areas such as Industrial Economics, Agricultural Economics, and Corporate Strategy and Regulation. Both models are used successfully for business applications ranging from micro to macro studies, including finance and endogenous growth. Econometrics is mostly studying the issue of causality, i.e. the issue of identifying a causal relation between an outcome and a set of factors that may have determined this outcome.

Market Research

A "market" is influenced by a multitude of economic, social, psychological, cultural, legal and political factors. Any of these factors can influence the behavior of consumers in a market. Market Research always involves some form of data collection - either Secondary Research or direct from the consumer. It analyses the raw data to help management see clearly the main factors and trends in a specific market, usually with a major focus on the client's own products, services, brands, or company, and often on their competitive positioning.

Survival Analysis

Survival analysis is applied to examine the data where the outcome of interest is 'time until a specific event occurs'. Survival data come from trials concerning life-threatening conditions, but the methodology can also be applied to other waiting times such as the duration of pain relief. The methods of survival analysis are applicable not only in studies of patient survival, but also studies examining adverse events in clinical trials, time to discontinuation of treatment, duration in community care before re-hospitalization, contraceptive and fertility studies etc.

Information Theory

Information theory is a branch probability and mathematical statistics that deal with communication systems, data transmission, cryptography, signal to noise ratios, data compression, etc. Claude Shannon is the father of information theory. His theory considered the transmission of information as a statistical phenomenon and gave communications engineers a way to determine the capacity of a communication channel about the common currency of bits

Spatial Data Analysis

Many natural phenomena involve a random distribution of points in space. Biologists who observe the locations of cells of a certain type in an organ, astronomers who plot the positions of the stars, botanists who record the positions of plants of a certain species and geologists detecting the distribution of a rare mineral in rock are all observing spatial point patterns in two or three dimensions. Such phenomena can be modeled by spatial point processes.

Boundary Line Analysis

The main application of this analysis is in the soil electrical conductivity (EC), which stems from the fact that sands have a low conductivity, silts have a medium conductivity and clays have a high conductivity. Consequently, conductivity (measured at low frequencies) correlates strongly to soil grain size and texture.

Geo-statistics Modelling

The Geo-statistics modeling combines the classical statistics-based techniques with space/time imaging. The modeling process includes a group of spatiotemporal concepts and methods that are based on stochastic data analysis. The aim of such modeling approach is to provide a deeper understanding of a theory of knowledge prior to development of mathematical models of scientific mapping and imaging across space and time.

Sequential Acceptance Sampling

Acceptance sampling is a quality control procedure used when a decision on the acceptability of the batch has to be made from tests done on a sample of items from the batch. Sequential acceptance sampling minimizes the number of items tested when the early results show that the batch clearly meets, or fails to meet, the required standards.

Biostatistics

Biostatistics is a sub-discipline of Statistics which focuses on statistical support for the areas of medicine, environmental science, public health, and related fields. Practitioners span the range from the very applied to the very theoretical. The information which is useful to the biostatistician covers the range from that needed by a general statistician, to more subject-specific scientific details, to ordinary information that will improve communication between the biostatistician and other scientists and researchers.

Criminal Justice

This topic usually refers to the wide range of statistics used in the criminal justice system. For example, statistical analysis can be done about how much crime is drug-related by using the available criminal justice databases, and other source of data. The main issue for the statisticians is to access the specific unit record files for secondary analysis and to implicate long-term policy based on evidence. These analyses are carried out considering the existence of limitations such as the ethical norms on data release and legislation on privacy and confidentiality.

Event History Analysis

Sometimes data on the exact time of a particular event (or events) are available, for example time of asthma attach; epilepsy attack; myocardial infections; hospital admissions etc. on a group of patients. Sometimes, occurrences of these types of events are on a regular basis. An objective of statistical analysis may be to determine whether any concurrent events have influenced the occurrence of the event of interest. For example, daily pollen counts may influence the risk of asthma attacks; high blood pressure may proceed a myocardial infarction etc..

Warranties on manufactured products

In today's global market, warranty on consumer and industrial product has become an important component because it provides protection for both buyer and manufacturer. For a manufacturer, a warranty helps to communicate information about product quality, and sometimes may be used as an effective marketing tool. Warranty decisions need both technical and commercial considerations and an effective warranty management is critical for the financial success of a manufacturing firm.

A statistical planning and analysis can be employed to formulate an effective warranty policy.

Actuarial Science

Actuaries are the professionals employed in Insurance Sectors and their job is to evaluate the likelihood of future events, design creative ways to reduce the likelihood of undesirable events and to decrease the impact of undesirable events that do occur. The impact of undesirable events can be both emotional and financial. Reducing the likelihood of these events helps relieve emotional pain. But some events, such as death, cannot be totally avoided. So, reducing their financial impact is very important. Actuaries are the leading professionals who combine strong statistical analytical skill, business knowledge and understanding of human behavior to design and manage programs that control risk. This is why the actuarial profession has consistently been rated as one of the top five jobs in the United States according to *Jobs Rated Almanac*.

Meta-Analysis

Meta-Analysis deals with the art of combining information from the data from different independent sources which are targeted at a common goal. There are plenty of applications of Meta-Analysis in various disciplines such as Astronomy, Agriculture, Biological and Social Sciences, and Environmental Science. This particular topic of statistics has evolved considerably over the last twenty years with applied as well as theoretical developments.

Neural Networks Applications

Artificial neural networks provide a well-established, powerful tool to infer patterns from large databases. They have proved to be very useful to solve problems of interpolation, classification and prediction, and have been used in a vast number of business and financial applications.

Data Mining

Data mining is the extraction of hidden information from large databases. It is a powerful new technology that can predict future trends and behaviors, allowing businesses to make proactive, knowledge-driven decisions. Data mining tools include techniques like case-based reasoning, cluster analysis, data visualization, fuzzy query and analysis, and neural networks.

Control Charts

Control charts are used in industry to monitor processes that are far from Zero-Defect. It is a simple pictorial device for detecting unnatural patterns of variations in data resulting from repetitive processes. Control charts provide criteria to detect whether a manufacturing process is within or out of control.

Six-Sigma Approach

Six-Sigma is a fundamental approach to delivering very high levels of customer satisfaction through disciplined use of data and statistical analysis for maximizing and sustaining business success. What that means is that all business decisions are made based on statistical analysis, not instinct or past history. Using the Six-Sigma approach will result in a significant, quantifiable improvement.

Capture-Recapture Approach

Capture-recapture methods were originally developed in the wildlife biology to estimate the population size of some species of wild animals.

Credit Scoring: Consumer Credit Assessment

Credit Scoring is now in widespread use across the retail credit industry. A credit scorecard is usually a statistical model, but in use it is embedded in a computer and or human process. Accurate assessment

of financial exposure is vital for continued business success. Banks and other financial institutions are coming to rely more and more on sophisticated mathematical and statistical tools. These tools are used in a wide range of situations, including predicting default risk, estimating likely profitability, fraud detection, market segmentation, and portfolio analysis.

Multivariate Data Analysis

Multivariate analysis is a branch of statistics involving the consideration of objects on each of which are observed the values of a number of variables. Multivariate techniques are used across the whole range of fields of statistical application, viz., in medicine, physical and biological sciences, economics and social science, and of course in many industrial and commercial applications.

Medical Science

In medical science, the statistical tools are used to analyze the observed facts relating to the causes and incidence of diseases .The efficiency of manufactured drug or injection is also tested by using 'the test of significance'.

Physical Science

Among physical sciences, statistical methods were first developed and applied in astronomy, geology and physics. Currently its area of application is increasing and being applied in more branches of physical

Genetic Laboratory

Sequences of entire genomes, genotypes of individual variations in thousands of polymorphic loci and hundreds of individuals, gene expression measurements via cDNA chips on thousands of genes in a variety of conditions: these are some of the types of datasets which are now available to genetic researchers.... The statistical genetics laboratory uses tools from information theory, Bayesian statistics, Markov chain Monte Carlo to identify in these massive datasets scientifically valuable information.

Forensic Laboratory

In traditional methods of statistical forensic, for example, for facial reconstruction tissue depth data was collected from cadavers at a small number of landmark sites on the face. Samples were tiny, commonly numbering less than ten. Although these data sets have been superceded recently by tissue depths collected from the living using ultrasound, the same twenty-or-so landmarks are used and samples are still small and under-representative of the general population. A number of aspects of identity- such as age, height, geographic ancestry and even sex - can only be estimated from the skull. Current research is directed at the recovery of volume tissue depth data from magnetic resonance imaging scans of the head of living individuals; and the development of simple interpolation simulation models of obesity, ageing and geographic ancestry in facial reconstruction.

There are so many other applications of statistics and now-a-days it has become indispensable in research work. There is hardly any research work today that one can find complete without statistical data and statistical methods. It may be mentioned that in last three decades there has been a significant explosion in the use of statistical methods. This has been true in recent years with the advent and use of high-speed digital computers which have the capacity to process large amounts of information.

So, there is an exciting career in studying Statistics and allied topics.

BE PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE

Shri K. D. Ramsiej
Department of Philosophy

Preparation is one of the basic criteria to the successful life. Life without preparation is worthless and non-successful. To prepare means to be ready at any time for anything in the years to come. Future life is very much dependent on the present life. Any action performed is consequently followed by its fruit, as the proverb says, 'whatever we sow, so we reap'. There is always a necessary connection between our performance and the outcome of our action, we are responsible for, whatever we do 'good' or 'bad', 'right' or 'wrong'. Be prepared is to be alert, to be ready and to be prompted ourselves whatever we think or we do or we believe. Preparation involves both physical and mental readiness to achieve our goals herein life or after death. There are sayings which appeal to us: 'The future belongs to those who know how to prepare themselves'; 'Preparing for life is equivalent to preparing for death'. To lead a successful life is dependent on preparation and how to attain eternal life is also dependent on preparation. Jesus said, 'Stay awake because you do not know either the day or the hour' (Math 25:13). To be a teacher is to prepare for the students and to be student is to prepare for future career.

The future is rushing at us at breakneck speed. The future is approaching at lightning speed that is why we have to be prepared for the future. The concept of the speeds of the future in ancient ages and modern days has different annotations, and in the present era, the world is moving so fast that we often get perplexed by its sheer speed and ramifications. It is for us, therefore, to be able to adjust with the future. If one wants to achieve a leading role in life, he or she has to prepare himself for that. Bill Gothard says, 'Leadership is seeing the consequences of our actions further in the future than those around us can."

The students of today are not simply going to colleges or universities or attending classes for having forming degrees but to have visions, planning, goals and to dream for the future. If you have any specific vision or goal then you should determine to achieve that through hard-work with strong determination. Therefore, that particular aim can be achieved. For example, Walt Disney is one of the leaders who has achieved the goal though his vision before the foundation of Disneyland in Anaheim, North America. Everybody was influenced by this dreamer in North America and everyone appreciated his vision.

The God fearing people get lot material to think for the future. The Bible has a lot to say about the future, in fact it is a book for futurists. Whole Book of the Bible is devoted to the future in the form of divine prophecies – books like Daniel, Isaiah and many others. If you are a good Christian who tends to fear the future, then have comfort in the promises of God for His people. The Bible says, 'Since no man knows the future, who can tell his what is to come?' (Ecc. 8:7); 'Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord.' (Pa. 102:18); 'For I know the plans I have for you.'; the Lord declares, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, Plans to give you hope and a future" (Jer, 29:11). Christ has the power in control of the future. His job is to take care of the future. Our great task is to spread the news of Christ's coming because He will

bring to earth His promise, the glorious future.

To be an effective leader is to have the vision and direction towards the future which is one of the primary tasks of leadership. The leader is responsible to take the lead in planning for the future. They must lead the team in developing organizational goals, plans and strategies to attain them. The leaders are the persons who are shaping visions and making plans for the society. To cite the example of William Carey who declared to his critics as he left for India 200 years ago, "Except great things, attempt great things." We should aim high and we should have a strong determination to achieve that particular aim. Nothing is impossible if we work hard to reach at the target. George Bernard Shaw says, "I am a dreamer, some men see things as they are, and ask why; I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?" Therefore, thinking of the future is very important for human beings because human beings are not like lower animals who are satisfied with bodily foods only.

If, at all, you want to get job as a public servant or a teacher or a business person or social worker or else, you should be prepared for that. Unless and until you be prepared yourself nobody would help you. As the proverb says, 'God helps those who help themselves.' Self-help, self-reliance and self-control are the first steps to the ladder of life. While living here in this world which are full of changes, pain and pleasure, life and death, gain and loss, mind and body, so on and so forth, we should be always alert, ready and prompt to tackle the situation.

If anybody think about their married life then be prepared yourself for that. Married life is not always a bed of roses but a flower surrounded by the sharp thorns. First of all, we should be equipped with sound mind, sound body and dependable financial position. We should be able to stand on our feet for maintaining our livelihood. We should choose the right life partner so that when the time of trouble and sorrow comes we can sail together to reach the destination. Many young boys and girls considered married life as mere physical contact with some enjoyment. If we think in that line then we are still ignorant. We have to think and observe seriously otherwise we shall destroy ourselves. A good leader is a successful family member. To build a society, first of all, it is important to build our own families.

As stated earlier, where there is life there is also death. Life and death are conditionally related to each other. It is like the two faces of the same coin. Though nobody wants to die earlier but we have to be prepared to meet the death at any time it comes to us. Some people consider the physical death as a sleep, some as the end and some as painful attack. Death is uniform for all, whether rich or poor, low or high and so on. There is a saying that people often utter: "Six feet of earth make all people equal." A poem inscribed on the tombstone in one graveyard has significant lesson for all us, which goes as follows:

"Take heed, dear friend, in passing by,
As you are now, so once was I,
As I am now, you soon will be,
Prepare for death and follow me."

Every human being has to make himself ready for a departure. Therefore, be prepared for the future, as it comes, in life.

Shri K. D. Ramsiej of the Philosophy Department of the College is a good organizer, social worker and presently the President, Meghalaya College Teachers' Association.

Scouting and Guiding

Smt. R. Pyngrope
Department of Political Science

The Boys Scout Movement is a movement of National, International and Universal character, the object of which is to endow each separate nation and the whole world with a youthful spirit that is physically, morally and spiritually strong.

It is NATIONAL, in that it aims through National Organizations, at endowing every nation with useful and healthy citizens.

It is INTERNATIONAL, in that it recognises no national barrier in the comradeship of the scouts.

It is UNIVERSAL, in that it insists upon universal fraternity between all scouts of every nation, class or creed.

This movement was founded by Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell (1857-1941), Chief Scout of the World, affectionately known to all scouts and guides as 'B.P."

Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden Powell was born in London, England, on February 22, 1857. Educated at Charterhouse, he was commissioned in 1876 in the 13th Hussars, a cavalry regiment of which he eventually became honorary colonel. He served with his regiment in India, Afghanistan and South Africa. Following other duties in Matta and West Africa, he saw action in the South African (Boer) War, during which he held Mafeking with a small force against Boer besiegers from October 15, 1899, until relieved on May 17, 1900. He later organized the South African constabulary, which he headed as Inspector General until 1903.

In Training recruits for this force, Baden-Powell developed their self-reliance, resourcefulness and courage, and following his return to Britain, he was invited to develop a program for boys based on these principles. The movement which he then initiated developed 1908 into the Boy Scout Movement, an organization that eventually spread throughout the world. With the assistance of his sister, Agnes Baden-Powell, he founded the Girl Guides (known later in the United States as the Girl Scout).

Scouting was introduced in India in 1910 and Guiding came a year later.

Scouting and Guiding is a training in citizenship through healthy and happy activities that interest young men and women and develop their ingenuity and resourcefulness while training opportunities are provided for them to think for themselves and for others and also promote their physical and mental development.

Rangering and Rovering are the senior sections in the Guide and Scout wing of the Bharat Scouts and Guides. It meets the needs of young men and women to adjust easily to the challenges for present day life and it also contributes to the positive development of the society in which they live. The Ranger and Rover age is from 16 to 25 years.

The training is not given through talks but through actual experiences by creating and providing opportunities to understand responsibility, developing herself/himself through knowledge and skills necessary to carry it out.

The Training and Programme of the Movement are based on the fundamental principles so as to enrich the quality of life of the individual, family and society. In short, Rangering and Rovering offer:

- Fun and friendship.
- Membership in a world wide organization.
- Adventure.
- A sense of belonging.
- Opportunities to lead and to make decisions.
- New experiences.
- A chance to use leisure time in service to community.
- Exploring creative skills and activities.
- Training to enjoy the out of doors.
- Varied activities for personal development.

In the words of the Founder of the Movement, Lord Baden-Powell, the aim of the Scout/Guide movement is "Character Development through happy citizenship, through natural rather than artificial means." But other things besides character are needed to make a good citizen. Hence the entire programme of Movement is based on 4 (four) Sign posts: (1) Character and Intelligence; (2) Health; (3) Handicrafts and Skill; and (4) Service. The special responsibility of a Ranger and a Rover is to render service by taking Guide and Scout Promise out into a wider world and the aim of Rangering and Rovering is to help her to interpret the promise by good citizenship and service and to develop their ingenuity and resourcefulness.

The purpose of the Movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as member of the local, national and international communities.

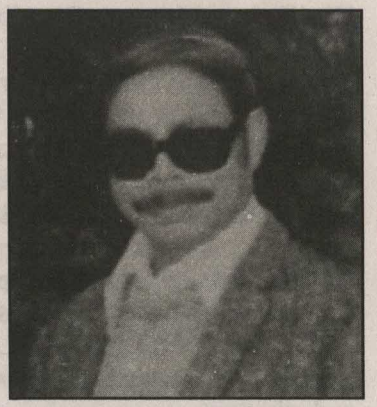
Smt. R. Pyngrope, who teaches Political Science in the College, is the Teacher-in-charge of Ranger and Rover Cell of the College.

The Life and Works of B. C. Jyrwa

Shri T. S. Rajee
Lecturer, Khasi Department.

Shri B. C. Jyrwa was an accomplished and renowned Khasi poet and novelist. Books, poems, etc. authored by Shri Jyrwa are included in the texts of secondary, higher secondary, degree and post-graduate level studies. (Late) Shri B. C. Jyrwa illuminated the Khasi Department of Shillong College since 1st of March 1975 till his retirement on 31st January, 1996. Sahitya Academy honoured him, and on 24th June, 2006, the Shillong Chapter of Sahitya Academi along with the Khasi Department of Shillong College organised "Prof. B. C. Jyrwa Memorial Lecturer", held at Conference Hall, Shillong College. This article by Shri T. S. Rajee, lecturer, Khasi Department, Shillong College, presents a vivid picture of literary genius of (Late) Shri B. C. Jyrwa.

A Life Sketch:



Late B.C. Jyrwa

Babu B. Chedrack Jyrwa was born and brought up in a respectable Christian middle class family. He was born on the 16th of April, 1932, at Jaiaw Langsning, Shillong. He was the fifth son of (Late) Shri Bishon Nongbet of Mylliem, and his mother was Smt. Lesibon Jyrwa of Nonglwai village, East Khasi Hills District He attended school when he was 10 year of age, in Riatsamthiah Presbyterian L. P. School in 1942 and successfully cleared Primary level in 1947. From 1948 to 1951, he went on to continue his studies in the Khasi Pnar Academy, Mawkhar and later shifted to Mawkhar Christian High School where studied up to Class X. From his early age, B. C. Jyrwa displayed a thirst for knowledge. While pursuing his school education, he was forced to undertake teaching assignment in Nonglwai Junior Basic School in 1957. However, this did not stop him from attempting Matriculation. After undergoing training in Basic Training School in Malki,

Shillong in 1958, he joined as a teacher in San Shnong Junior Basic School at Kynton, Umlyngka in 1959. He then appeared and passed Matriculation as a teacher candidate in 1963 from the Board of Secondary Education, Assam. In the same year, at the age of 31 years, B. C. Jyrwa entered into a new chapter of his life when his marriage to Miss Magritta Kharlukhi of Mawphlang was solemnized on the10th of October, 1963, in the Presbyterian Church, Mawphalang. During these years, he gathered considerable experience as a teacher especially in the teaching of Khasi Literature as a subject. He taught in San Mer Junior Basic School, Upper Shillong in 1963 and in Shon Roy Basan High School, Lummawbah, Shillong from 1965 to1975. In 1964, Shri Jyrwa completed his Pre-University (Arts) from St. Anthony's College, Shillong. While serving as a teacher, he again added to his qualification when he graduated from Gauhati University in 1968.

The year 1973 introduced him to teaching at the higher level when he joined Christ King College, Mawlai. On the 1st March, 1974, he joined Seng Khasi College, Mawkhar, Shillong, as a lecturer in Khasi and served there till 1976.

It was on the 1st March, 1975, that he joined Shillong College as a regular teacher in Khasi Department. Later he took over as Head of the Khasi Department in 1992 immediately after the demise of Shri A. C. War. He continued teaching till he retired from service on 1st February, 1996, after having served for 21 long years. He was associated as a founder member and teacher of the Greater Mawlai College inaugurated in 1993 and became the Principal in 1996. He continued in this capacity for about three years.

In addition to his interest in study and teaching, Shri Jyrwa had an inclination and was influenced by the beauty of nature. This started with his exposure to books that he read in one of the School Libraries where he was the teacher-in-charge. The beauty of Nature, therefore, has a deep impact on his aspiration in becoming a writer and renowned author in Khasi Poetry, Essay and Fiction.

His Work and Literary Contributions:

In brief Babu Jyrwa has contributed immensely to various Organizations, Associations, Unions, Societies, and to the Church where he belonged as a member, and as a Church Elder of Jaiaw Presbyterian Church, Shillong. It may perhaps be noted that as a person, B. C. Jyrwa was strongly inclined towards the Christian faith. This clearly explained the philosophical elements in his writings of poems and fictions like "U Klew" (poem) and in "U Kynjri Ksiar" (fiction).

He attended and took active part in various Committees, Seminars and Conferences both in the Church and elsewhere. He was made Editor of 3 (three) Souvenirs:- (1) Soso Tham Birth Centenary Souvenir (1973); (2) Dr. H. Lyngdoh Centenary Souvenir (1977); and (3) Mondon Bareh Birth Centenary Souvenir (1978) besides being member of various other Souvenir Committees – literary and otherwise.

In 1973, he was made a member of the Khasi Hills District Council's Primary Education Forum and a member of the Moderation Board for the L. P. Schools in Khasi and Jaintia Hills. He was also appointed the Secretary of the Literary Committee of the Syngkhong Kyntiew Ri in 1975-76 and also decorated the post of President of the organization during 1990-92. He was the Secretary of the Reception Committee to received the members of the Sahitya Akademi who to Shillong in 1977 as an Inspection Team on the invitation of "Ka Seng Ki Nongthoh Khasi" for a spot verification of Khasi Books and Literature. In 1978, he was actively involved in organizing the famous Khasi Indigenous Dance held at Polo Ground, Shillong, to exhibit the different dance forms of the Khasi and Jaintias.

It is important to remember that on the 11th of September, 1979, Babu Jyrwa along with other renowned writers were able to officially form "Ka Seng Ki Nongthoh Kot Khasi", which was later known as the Khasi Author's Society, in Scorpio Printing Press, Mawkhar, Shillong. He was also elected as the Founder General Secretary of this Organization. In 1980, B. C. Jyrwa was made the Editor of the Souvenir Committee of the Shillong Government High School Centenary. In 1981, he was elected as the Founder Chairman of the Study Tour Circle (STC), formed by the Khasi Author's Society, to conduct study tours to various places in Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

As stated above, he displayed a keen interest in reading and writing and out of his hard work and dedication, he published a number of books on Khasi Poetry and Fiction with which Khasi students and teachers are familiar with.

The following are the books written and published by Babu B. C. Jyrwa:

1. Na Pongshai ki Puramit (Poetry) – 1970.
2. Na Nengpei ki Sur Myllung (Poetry) – 1971.
3. U Kynjri Ksiar (Fiction) – 1971.
4. U Khain bad ka Ngen (Fiction) – 1973.
5. U Ksan bad U Thombor – 1973 (Poetry in the form of Blank Verse which is the first and rare type of poetry in Khasi literature).
6. U Kyrdoh Mawlynnai (Fiction) – 1974.
7. U Pyrkhat (Fiction) – 1976.
8. Ka Jingkmen B'la bam Hynroh – 1980.
9. Ki Mationg ka Jutang – 1980 (Poems wrote in the form of Free Verse).
10. Ki Syrwet Ksiar (Essays) – 1981.

He also wrote Text Books in Khasi for the Lower Primary Schools. These are –

- Ki Kot Khasi II bad Ki Kot Drawing for Classes IV, V and VI.
- Ka Kot Khasi Klas VI and VII.
- Ka Kot Social Studies – Klas I, II.

From the above listed books, some are still in use and prescribed as Text Books in Lower Primary Schools, and also in Colleges and University. Babu Jyrwa had the talent and capacity to write in various forms of literature and proved himself to be one of the leading authors in Khasi poetry and fiction. He had also contributed many articles in Khasi Newpapers, Magazines and Journals. Moreover, he contributed by was of writing Prefaces, Introductions and Reviews on some of the Khasi Books written by different Authors.

Besides showing his skills and acumen in writing, he also took part in Skit and Stage plays. He has also written stories based on the Bible like "U Khun Sarong Awria" and "Ka Father". He was also involved in directing and producing the First Khasi Feature Film, "I Mei Jong Nga" (1983) and "Balei Ia Nga" (1987). Therefore, the Khasi Community is undoubtedly indebted to his valuable contributions.

In the later years of his life, Babu Jyrwa did not keep good health and passed away on the 25th of June, 2001, at the age of 69 years, when the Khasi Society still expected a lot more contributions from him.

1400 years
(A poem of Rabindra Nath Tagore)
Translated by

Smt. Smriti Rekha Das,
Head, Department of English

A hundred years hence
who thou ant reading my poem
in curiosity intense,
A hundred years hence!
From the joy of new-born vernal dawn
only a fragment,
any melody of its bird, any flower,
any pulsation—
dipp'd in emotion, to thee could I send,
A hundred years hence?

Yet, opening thy southern-door, only for once
Sitting by thy casement
plung'd in imagination, glance towards the horizon
dwell in thy thought—

A hundred years ago, one day
ecstatic joy floating from which realm of heaven
ting'd the bosom of the sky,
new spring days, free, unchained
wild, untamed,
laden with fragrance of pollens, flapping its wing
fanned the southern-wind
in a flash crimsoned the orb
in youthful odour,
A hundred years earlier.

That day, heartful of melody, eager
kept awake a verse-maker—
many of his thoughtful flowers
aspiring to embower
in passionate verse,
A hundred years earlier.

To-day, a hundred years after
who is the new poetsinging in thy dwelling!
Warm vernal greetings of today
I send to him.
In your spring days let my songs of spring
for a single moment ring,
in your heart beat, in the hum of new-born bees
in leaves' resonance
A hundred years hence.

STUDENTS' SECTION

"It was on my fifth birth day that Papa put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Remember, my son, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of your arm".

---- Sam Levenson

Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today

Thongkholun Khongsai
B.A. Ist year (Eng.) 2005.

Man's life upon the earth is not very long. In course of his daily life he has to perform number of duties and responsibilities. If he skips over one duty, thinking that he would do it a little later or tomorrow, he makes a foolish mistake. He leaves one duty undone and he has fallen arrears. And arrears pole up. So as soon as a man has work to do he should do it without a moment's delay. Time is always changing, and no one can tell what the next moment is going to be like in a man's life. A favourable hour can suddenly change into an unfavourable hour, and what the man could do before, would never be done again; for the tide of his life has changed.

Time is the cleverest thief. If a man is not on guard and does not keep a watch over his time, it will steal a part of his life everyday, his opportunity to do something great and even his special moments.

We have always heart that time and tide wait for no man. This is a valuable lesson which every wise man should be careful to follow, if he does not want his life to be useless.

Young men and women have to learn this proverb. They should always be up and doing with whatever work they have got for the moment on their hands. But the sad tendency commonly seen among them is that they think that they will have enough time in the future to do their work. Thus, in this way they make a great blunder in their life.

This dilatoriness is a dangerous enemy in the life of most man who does not know the value of time. Battles have been lost for a moment's delay. Businessmen have come to grief because they did not catch time by the forelock. The world is full of the sad history of many ruined lives, because some one somewhere neglected the proper usage of time.

Don Ritshong (B.Com IIIrd year) adds:
Mary: where are you born?
Alvy: In India.
Mary: Which part?
Alvy: All of me.

Don Ritshong adds more:
In computer class, the teacher asks a student:
Teacher: what is the full form of U.P.S.
Student: U Please Say, Madam.

How Did Handshake Originate?

Lawanpli S. Khongsit
XII (Sc.)

Today it seems natural to us to shake hands when we meet people or bid Good bye. There are so many things we do without thinking. But during the yesteryears these actions symbolised something.

In primitive times the hand was a symbol of power and strength. During those times men used their hands to fight enemies, kill animals and make weapons to defend themselves. When a hand was extended to some one it could have represented good will since it showed that he was not armed and ready to make friendship.

It was customary for the Arabs at one time to kiss the hand of his superior. But later on, the polite Arabs resisted the efforts of people to kiss their hands and sometimes they would end up clasping hands as each tried to prevent the other from showing this mark of inferiority.

The early Greeks extended their right hand when they wished to make friendship with a stranger. So it is interesting to know what was done during the earlier ages. And while we shake hands without thinking, we are really carrying on a custom that had been handed over to us by our ancestors.

THE BEST

Lawanpli S. Khongsit
XII (Sc.)

If we cannot be a sweet fruit
We can be a flower;
The best flower of our tree.

If we cannot be a pen,
We can be the best pencil.

If we cannot be a speaker,
We can be the best listener.
If we cannot be a physician,
We can be the best nurse.

For every creation is special,
And so are we.
Whatever we are working at
We can bring the best out of everything.

Confessions of Poetaster

Paul H. Shylla
IIIrd year B.A., Eng.(Hons.)

To me, my poems are like an extension of my soul. They are a living entity that has been produced by the assimilation of all my thoughts, ideal and feelings. In this regard I truly identify myself with the 'Samurai' of the old Japan. For a Samurai (Japanese Warlords), his sword is an extension of his soul. It is only when he is one with his sward that he could use it effectively.

There is definitely a power in the human mind – the moment when we are at peace with ourselves where this corporeal frame is of no consequence to us anymore – that human capacity for creative expression is at the highest.

When a Samurai goes to war, he does so seeing death as an unavoidable possibility. Thus he no longer fears death but he embraces it. He fights instinctively and without a second thought. He moves in perfection as if the sword is not a weapon but a part of his being. Rigorous training of both body and mind has brought about his ability which through time transforms into an instinct. This identification might seem very absurd but the reasoning is buttressed by the fact that the Samurai are also poets. They compose poem (Haiku) which are usually short lyrical couplets about life and various other themes in their spare time.

The importance here, however is of 'the stage' – the stage in which both a Samurai and poet forgets their bodily self and attains that peace of mind in which perceptions are deeper, wisdom blossoms and merges with imagination to translate into another victory in the battlefield for the Samurai and beautiful metrical composition for the poet. This stage is arrived at after a great deal of self discipline in training and practice to enhance their respective skills. This stage is given great importance in Wordsworth's 'Tintern Abbey' and may unconsciously be the inspiration for this discourse. I have not yet attained this stage in my life but I have been fortunate to experience some moments of inspiration that may be compared to it. I still have so much to learn. As a novice in this field, I have always engaged myself in a sincere self introspection and serious analysis of my works. What then is verse or poetry? As I have already said above, it is an expression of my thoughts and feelings translated into metrical composition or sometimes a response to something beautiful that I see.

Most appealing to me are sights that arrest me as I journey through this life and all attempts to capture them in poetic composition falls short of the reality. T'is not because of anything else but that I am yet to attain to that maturity and mellowness of poetic ability (for want of a better word). For the diction which is most necessary eluded me and ever leaves me and my works in want.

It is a fact that universally approved, that a wider range in vocabulary is essential, especially if one wishes to communicate in a tongue not entirely his own, but another's.

This and there are many other faults that I have observed in myself which needs to be rectified. Thus,, for the time being I seek solace in calling myself a 'modern day poetaster' not that I have a low self esteem but taking it as a transitional period through which poet must pass.

For a Samurai the first battle he fights is the one he fights with himself. It is only when he has proven to himself that he is capable that he ventures to a duel with others. Thus also for a poet or anyone for that matter, recognition of one's talent always starts with oneself, emboldened we face the world.

On Drugs

Paul H. Shylla
IIIrd year B.A., Eng.(Hons.)

The weary eyes ever searching-
With drooping lids and pinpoint pupils
Searching for a throbbing vein,
Injected Nirvana through a needle.
Alas! But for how long,
Can the hollow world of hallucination
Make right the worldly wrongs?
No! Tis not the solution.

Hallowed names to hollow things
Angel's dust and ecstasy,
Are but just a few of these.
Intoxicating delicacies.
Concoctions from the devil's own cauldron,
Harbingers of their own destruction.

STOP

Estonia Cecil Mawthoh
Ist year, B. A. 2005

When life seems to grow still
In spite of your will
To do all you must
To prove your worth.

Its hard to proceed
Striking a balance,
Your duties to others
And attend to your needs.

Speed in the order of the day
Come in time what may,
You've got to get through
Before it breaks you.

Stand aside and let the world go by
It's a risk worth taking
To preserve the delicacy,
Of your true self.

The CATC Camp – A Brief Note

Thongkholun Khongsai
2nd Meghalaya Bn. NCC
Shillong College, Shillong

CATC is a Combined Annual Training Camp for the NCC Cadets to imbibe a good personality and moral qualities in them, for the benefit of the society. It is a Combined Training Camp organised for both boys and girls. This camp is the most important camp organised by the NCC headquarters because after attending this camp any NCC Cadet will be eligible to appear for his/her 'B' and 'C' certificate examination.

The camp was held at Umroi Cantonment in Barapani, Meghalaya from 3rd to 14th December 2004. NCC cadets from different colleges and schools in Meghalaya attended the camp. From our college eleven SD and SW cadets attended the camp under the guidance of Dr. B. P. Tripathi who is our ANO.

The main objective of this camp was to train the cadets for the "C' certificate examination. Therefore, the main activities of the camp were drill, Map Reading (MR) and Weapons Training (WT). Apart from this, we had some other activities like firing, physical training (PT), a career guidance programme in 'Defence Services', cultural display and competitions. We also had a brief lecture, 'On how to face the SSB interview'.

After undergoing all the trainings in the camp, the 'C' certificate examination was conducted for the cadets who were eligible. A college-wise competition was also held, where the cadets from Shillong College came out with flying colours. I would like to list out some of the events which we won:

1. SUO Paul H. Shylla won the first prize in the individual firing competition.
2. Cadet Kordorlang (now Sergeant) won the second prize in the individual drill competition.
3. The contingent of Shillong College, both SD (Boys) and SW (Girls), each won the first prize in the Guard of Honour competition.

By working together as a team and cooperating with each other, we could earn name and fame for our college during our stay in the camp.

The best part of the training which we had with camp was firing. This is the exciting and adventurous training in NCC. In fact, firing is what every cadet would not like to miss. We the campers got the privilege of different firing SLR and LMG. Although there were lots of camp activities, we daily got a time for games and used to have a company-wise competition. We also got a chance attend the firehouse concert in Polo ground and I would say that we were really fortunate the witness this great band performers in the stage as it was a lifetime opportunity.

As the activities and trainings ended, it was time for us to leave. On the 13th of December we had the comp file and we were discharged from the camp the next day. On learning the camp, we were filled with lots of emotions and fond memories of the camp. There were tears in the eyes of most of the senior cadets who had to part with NCC and the camps as it was their last camp, for they have completed their NCC courses. This sight reveals to me their love for NCC and the life

they have lived in it.

Although this was my second camp in NCC, I would say that this is the best NCC camp. It has made me familiar to the life and adventures of NCC. After attending this camp, I came to know what it means to be an NCC cadet. In this camp, I did not only learn about the NCC activities, but I have also learned how to live a cooperative life and how to work as a team with one another. In conclusion, I would like to extend my heartiest gratitude to my seniors for giving me an opportunity to attend this camp.

SACHIN – THE LITTLE MASTER

Steven H. Kharbuli
XII-Sc.

Sachin is the world's best batsman
With a bat, he's really a craftsman.
He may be stocky and short,
But unfit, I ensure he is not.

He uses the willow like a master,
For in bat-speed there's no one faster.
He cuts and drives with class,
A bad ball he never lets pass.

It doesn't matter if you're Pollock or Warne,
When his bat hits the ball, it's gone!
Everyone from Bradman to Waugh,
Says he's one of the finest they saw!

Though he's famous and one-of-a kind
Someone more simple, you never will find
He's quiet, he's calm and he's cool,
'Play your best' is his only rule.

We salute you Tendulkar, our little master,
When you retire it will be a disaster.
Stay healthy till the day you quit,
Our prayers are with you, say fit!

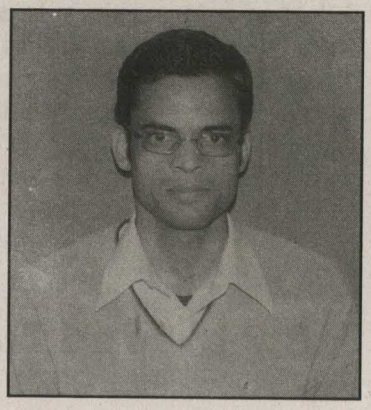
What Are You?

Balajaied Synrem
B. A. IInd year (Hons.)

A poor teacher tells
An average teacher explains
A good teacher demonstrates
And the best teacher motivates.

A poor student understands
An average student learns
A good student thinks
And the best student innovates.

Superstition – A curse to the Society



Dinanath Joshi
II/B.C.A., 2005

Recently, I heard of a news item that a boy chopped off his aunt's head accusing her to be a witch and was cause of his brother's illness. The boy is now in jail but does not repent for what he has done. Rather, he is happy that he has got rid of an evil woman and now his family would be safe. This is just one incident of superstitious practices. There are many more inhuman practices and terrorising incidents taking place in one part of the country or the other, the news of which can be frequently read in the newspapers. It has been a common practice in India since ancient days to torture innocent people accusing them of practicing black magic.

Even though the evil of superstitious belief has decreased to some extent in modern days, it still remains in many parts of India, especially in villages. A sick person who needs immediate medical help is taken to a witch doctor instead. The witch doctor, taking the opportunity, convinces that it is the work of an evil spirit and to disable its effect he demands some valuables from the family members of the sick person. In this process, they spend a huge amount and the condition of the sick person only worsens instead of improvement. But, the people have such a blind faith that they continue to listen to the witch doctor and keep on fulfilling his demands.

This is not only the case in villages. Even in modern towns and cities, we can find many examples of superstitions. If we happen to go to any shop or business organisation run by a Hindu, we will not find any of them being devoid of a lemon hanged with chillies in order to prevent their business from evil spirit as they believe. People consider a journey ominous and fraught with dangers and difficulties if any one sneezes at the time of starting or if they see an empty pot or a boat on land or if a crow caws from a dried up branch of a tree of if they see a jackal to the right or a snake to the left of them or even a cat crosses the road in front of them. There are many more examples which prove the fact.

Though superstitions have wide influence on men they do not have any foundation. There are some individuals in our society who find it an easy way of earning and by taking advantage of the innocent people, become their protectors in the guise of a wizard or saints. They make people believe in what they think and say through different techniques, which the people are completely unaware of. Lack of education may be one of the reasons for people believing in such frauds. But, even the educated class of people including people in reputed posts of teaching, politics, administration, etc. are often seen going to the self-styled saints or 'gurus' and touching their feet to get their blessings so that they get success in their respective fields.

I consider superstition as a curse to the society. Whatever it is, cases are not rare where superstition

have done and are still doing great harm to mankind. The sooner men can get rid of them the better for nation and humanity at large. It is necessary for all the educated people to enlighten those who are entangled in such practices and not indulge themselves in such practices else, it will be a great disrespect for the education which they have received. The government should also formulate strict laws to punish those who are misleading our society and put an end to this curse. Superstition is one of the main reasons for our society's backwardness and if the society has to progress any further, we all have to take an oath that we will get rid of superstition.

How to Find Happiness

Jasmine, Alvy, Bilatty and Lombri
B. Com. IIIrd year

Everybody, everywhere
Seeks happiness, it's true,
But finding it and keeping it
Seems difficult to do.

Difficult because we think
That happiness is found
Only in the places where
Wealth and fame abound --

And so we go on searching
In "palaces of pleasure"
Seeking recognition
And monetary treasure.
Unaware that happiness
Is just a "state of mind"
Within the reach of everyone
Who takes time to be kind.

For in making others happy
We will be happy, too.
For the happiness you give away
Returns to "shine on you".

THE BEST

Simon Swett
B. A. IInd year

The best king is Thin-king
The best wealth is Health
The best cure is Nature-cure
The best culture is Agriculture

The best city is Simplicity
The best ship is Friendship
The best love is True-love
The best day is Today.

THE COLLEGE AND GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

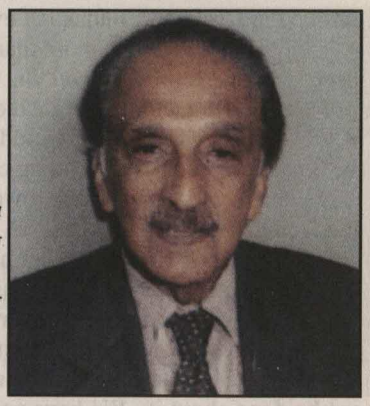
"The range of our continuing celebrations tells us something important. They tell us that, unlike so much in the modern world, this relationship, the one between sovereign and people, has grown stronger and deeper with the passage of time".

-- the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

SPEECH



*of the **Chief Guest, Shri M. M. Jacob,** His Excellency Governor of Meghalaya*
At the Inaugural Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Shillong College
held on the 17th August, 2005 at 10.30 a.m. at Shillong College Shillong

I deem it a great honour and a privilege to be invited to inaugurate today's Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Shillong College. I am thankful to the Principal of the College and its teachers forgiving me this opportunity. The present occasion is a landmark in the history of this institution, which has come a long way since it was first established in the year 1956. It is a tribute to the founders and the patrons as well as the management of the college that the institution could be developed to its present stature. The institution has matured into one of the leading colleges and its entering upon the 50th years of its successful existence is a cherished moment for the teachers, the students and all others associated with it over the years. During this period, the college has achieved commendable progress and has served the cause of Higher Education for the students in a very good way.

From a rather humble beginning, the college has grown through the selfless services of a number of dedicated teachers, as one of the premier institutions of the state as well as of the region. I am happy to note that today, the institution has in its roll a cross section of around 2300 students with as many as 80 members in the teachers faculty. The college also offers a wide range of subjects both in the Arts and Commerce streams under the deficit grants in aid by the then Government of Assam, before the creation of the state of Meghalaya while the Science stream was brought under the deficit grants in aid in the year 1975. The college also has introduced some professional courses like Bachelor of Computer Applications, Bachelor in Business Administration, etc. besides under-graduate and higher secondary courses to cater to the needs of the students and to promote development of Information Technology in the region.

In today's world of expanding knowledge and information, all disciplines of Higher Education whether they are humanities, languages, social sciences, physical sciences or life sciences have diversified significantly and even existing assumptions and theories have been challenged. These developments have cumulatively helped in endowing a knowledge society in the world ultimately leading to deeper and wider understanding of the human society and new discourses in the scientific and technical fields. One has to realize that in our developing society, higher education today has to address the real needs of people in many areas and present solutions and alternatives to our planners, academicians and administrators in the country. It is necessary to see all our efforts are co-ordinated. All our agencies, like the UGC, the State Government as well as the experts in the field have to work in close concert so that real progress is achieved not only in the field of education but in other spheres of economic and social objectives.

Education has changed a lot in its direction and contexts over the years. Now, the present day requirement has to be taken into account, for a reasonable education plan. Earlier 'knowledge' was the criterion but now, we are on the threshold of a 'knowledge-based' society. In the earlier days, more emphasis was given to moral lessons but today scientific, information technology and material progress are marooning ahead along with the status of market economy that is assuming larger proportion.

The status of education in India requires a face lift. Most of our planned ambitious programs have not met with adequate success. But we as a nation, can be proud of our achievements in the electronics, and many other engineering fields where in, we could produce a larger number of IT professionals and technocrats who could make a landmark even at international levels.

In India we also have causes to worry and find places for more than eighty lakhs children who are expected to join in the Secondary Schools. The Planning Commission feels that Rs. 9,000 crores would be required annually, to meet the salary of eight lakhs teachers. School infrastructure alone would be running

into several hundred crores. According to an estimate – there are around 2.02 crores of children who are enrolled in Classes IX and Xs of every year.

There would be more than three crores of children, ready to join in classes X. Hence, the foremost issue is to find resources, and this would be the major task of the Government of India. Here in Meghalaya too, the State is facing the crunch of inadequate finance to support education.

Public participation including private or corporate initiatives would be nominal. With more resources, we could mitigate the impending crisis of vocational courses. Perhaps the Central Government would have to make a new and fresh look towards the north-east, particularly Meghalaya, and equip with more schools and facilities for vocationalization. The schemes, if and when started, should have useful link with the market. I mean to plan such scheme that has got market value.

Another area of concern in Meghalaya – is the lack of trained teachers. According to the UNESCO, there is going to be a massive shortfall of 2.5 million teachers in India and the SAARC countries. What we can do in our state is to provide with more teachers-training institutes and ensure that, right from the primary schools, teachers must be trained ones. I am not happy with the teacher's training schemes in our State. More can be done about it. We have not even thought about teachers, who could train students in modern areas. We should spend more money on Teachers training. Equally important is the prestige for teachers. They should feel the job of a teacher is financially attractive and conditions of service are conducive.

I am equally unhappy with the high drop-outs rate. On one of the statistics, I have noticed that Bihar has 79% of drop-outs, followed by Meghalaya with 72% and Assam with 69%. Even literacy rate needs improvement. It is alarming to witness Meghalaya – with a rich tradition and background in excellent education, now lagging behind in comparison to all North-Eastern States, in the literacy percentage. I say this today, so that the educational experts in our State, along with the State Government should urgently attend to the ailing education sector. It is the basic key in improving the quality of life, for the people of the region. Why not the State Government prepare a perspective plan for Education for Meghalaya?

The President of India – Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam – is one who usually gives his frank views on several aspects of educational system. Recently, he has brought out an agenda for quality in higher education. I totally agree with him in principle and hence, I am bringing out a few points as highlighted by the President. (1) Capacity building for students who passed out from colleges and face the real world – is the first and foremost step; (2) ingredients of capacity building must be embedded right from the beginning of the student's life; (3) research and inquiry is another subject as also, creativity and innovation.

Students should be able to know how to manage 'knowledge' collectively and also to work in multi-disciplinary schemes. The teacher should be the facilitator and 'knowledge' manager. He has to emphasize the need of moral leadership in education.

The growing concern for quality culture in higher education, the world over, has spawned a problem of gigantic proportions for India, which needs to develop both the quality and the quantity of higher education with better academic and physical infrastructure. This need for quality assurance, evaluation and sustenance has led the University Grants Commission, working towards quality enhancement since its inception, to set up the National Assessment and Accreditation Council since 1994 to assess and accredit institutions of higher learning in accordance with national and international norms mooted by international network and quality assurance agencies in higher education. It is a matter of great pleasure that the Shillong College had been assessed and accredited at the 'B' level (72.60%) in August 2003.

The other area of serious concern and of greater challenge is rural empowerment, which the present educational system has to accept and address. Enriching the potential rural youth by providing up-to-date technical, social and moral higher education is essential for sharing of best practices among higher educational institutions; focus is also to be given on criteria such as innovations in teaching, learning and evaluation, students support and healthy practices.

I am happy to know that the Shillong College is also organizing a national seminar of 'Role of Higher Education for social changes in India with special reference to North Eastern Region' as a part of its Golden Jubilee Celebration. I hope that some of the points I have raised here would be deliberated in the seminar.

With these few words, I congratulate the students and the teachers of Shillong College who are present here today, and wish you all a bright future. I declare the year long Celebration of Golden Jubilee Year of the Shillong College open and wish it all the success.

JAI HIND :: THANK YOU ::: :::: MITHELA KHUBLEI,

SPEECH

Dr. (Mrs.) K. S. Lyngdoh
President, Governing Body, Shillong College,
And Professor of Education, North Eastern Hill University,
At the Inaugural Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Shillong College
held on the 17th August, 2005 at 10.30 a.m. at Shillong College Shillong

It was with great pleasure that I received the invitation of the Principal to participate in the Golden Jubilee Celebration of this institution. I would like to thank the Principal and the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee for affording me the opportunity of being present at this joyous occasion and of joining in at the celebratory function.

At the outset, I would like to pay a brief tribute to the group of public-spirited individuals led by late Sudhindra Chandra Dutta who had the vision, verve and determination to come up with the idea of founding a new college some fifty years ago. It is remarkable that the group should have thought of establishing a college and even more incredible that they were successful in seeing the idea through to actual realization in the face of various setbacks, hurdles and difficulties.

It is a cause to celebrate indeed that from that small beginning 50 years ago the college has not only survived but also thrived and grown from strength to strength to develop into a robust and outstanding institution that it is today. In my estimation and I am sure in that of many observers, Shillong College must surely currently ranked among the top 7 or 8 colleges of our city, state and region. I dare believe that were Shri Datta and his group of pioneers to witness what their original conception has turned out to become, they would be very proud and gratified indeed. Sudhindra Chandra Datta and his co-workers together with all those who have played a part, whether big or small, in holding up the good name and banner of Shillong College down the years deserve the highest commendation and honour.

Education is one of the most critical factors in the survival, welfare and progress of any society. As an input, education can improve and upgrade almost any aspects of life at all, be in religion, health care or the home. By imparting sound education to literally thousands of our sons and daughters, the Shillong College has put the community and the entire society in its debt. Shillong College has helped produce hundreds of teachers, technicians, administrators and home makers who have made a mark for themselves all over the city, state and region. The value added by the college is incalculable and merits our greatest appreciation and gratitude.

It is very creditable too, that the college has made earnest efforts to keep up with the demand of the times and to adapt to new circumstances as for example by way of enhancing the Information Technology Capabilities and providing degree level instruction in Business Administration. This branching off into Professional and Vocation training is the most useful services for fresh entrants to the job market. All these initiatives together have helped make the Shillong College brand name, so to speak, very robust, strong and much sought after indeed.

This Golden Jubilee Celebrations affords an opportunity for looking back on the achievements that the college has notched up over the past 50 years. But the celebrations should also serve as a occasion for looking forward and planning for their future – even perhaps, for the next fifty years.

As part of such future planning, the college, I feel should continue to focus on adding value to its

services, providing even better student facilities, further enhancing staff and faculty capabilities and forging stronger college-community interaction. I have another small suggestion to make. St. Stephen College, a premier college in Delhi, is famous for the score or so highly stimulating societies or clubs dedicated to such specialized photography, cinema, social service, music and fine arts. Perhaps Shillong College community may consider setting up of similar specialized societies in their campus as well.

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations therefore, I would like to stress that if education is to be real must be life changing. The process of education must not only be socially or economically uplifted but most importantly must be morally uplifted. So today must be a day of rethinking and thanking God for his manifold blessings upon the institutions for the realization of a dream. There is no greater power and motivation than the commitment to a dream. I am positive that the dream was to create an educational institution par excellence where young minds are given an opportunity to flower, where their curiosity and inquisitiveness are fostered into a spirit of enquiry, where the emphasis is all round development of minds, body and spirit – through exposure to regimes other than academic, with tools to discover and achieve their true and highest potential, where their image of self is one of responsibility to himself, his environment and his creator – where students shed their parochial boundaries and prepare to become global citizens and leaders of thought and actions relative to the future – where the educational process and equipments is at the cutting edge of technology and each student's academic background prepares him to be pro-active in the technologically holistic world of the 21st century.

Before I conclude, I wish to draw your attention to the importance of accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). When India embraced the pathway of economic liberalization in right earnest in July 1991, it was clear that education which provides such vital infrastructure support to the economy could not be left behind for very long. Accordingly, ten years ago the NAAC was set up with a view to facilitate quality control, standardization and competitiveness in higher education of the country through a strategy of external evaluation and accreditation. The advantage of going in for accreditation is that it sharpens an awareness of standards and quality, inculcates a culture of constant innovations and improvement, attracts better funding and provides assurance as regards the quality of student output.

The first round of NAAC accreditation was concluded a couple of years back and from this year, 2005-06, onwards a new round of re-accreditation has gotten underway. The modified criteria for the new accreditation-round involves such aspects as (i) curricular development, (ii) Teaching learning process and teacher quality, (iii) Promotion of research and participation in extension activities, (iv) Maintenance of infrastructure such as libraries and computer facilities, (v) Student profile and student activities, (vi) Organization structure, perspective planning, staff development, (vii) Management, value based education, social responsibilities and institutional ambience and initiatives. Grading this time round will be as per a 9-point scale that is more elaborate than that adopted for the first round.

It is to the credit of Shillong College that it had offered itself up for NAAC assessment in the first round itself. And it is absolutely praiseworthy to note once again that the college has lost no time in opting for the re-accreditation process which involves two years of institutional preparations and formation of an internal quality assurance cell prior to final onsite evaluation. This move reflects very favourably on the promptness, sincerity of intent and determination of the college authorities.

I see a brilliant future ahead for the college and am certain that given the zeal and passion that its members have displayed in the past, great new heights would be scaled in the years to come. I once again extend my heartiest congratulations to Shillong College for its achievements of the last fifty years and wish its every success for the next fifty years.

Thank you all so very much. May God bless you.

SPEECH

Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh
Principal, Shillong College,
At the Inaugural Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Shillong College
held on the 17th August, 2005 at 10.30 a.m. at Shillong College Shillong

We have gathered here today for the inauguration of a year long programme of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Shillong College – August 2005-2006. With happiness and jubilations we rejoice that Shillong College has entered its fiftieth year of existence and has grown as a premier College of the State and the region. First and foremost, our gratitude to God, the Creator, for all the blessings that He has showered upon all of us, and to be able to reach the height of what we are today. Our deep appreciation goes to the founders of the College, the Presidents and members of all the Governing Bodies, the donors, teachers and staff who have toiled untiringly since the inception of the College. It was through their sincere efforts and dedication that the College which had started in a very humble way with 35 students has become as one of the biggest Institution. At present Shillong College have 2300 students in its roll, with 80 teachers and 32 non-teaching staff. All of us take pride in this achievement.

It was in 1950-55, that some well meaning citizens realizing the need for more Colleges in Shillong mooted an idea to set up a College in Shillong, the capital of the then undivided Assam, to cater to Higher Education of the State. There was a plan to start the College in 1951, but it did not materialize. In 1956, at the initiative of some enthusiastic persons like Shri Satyen Kumar Kar, Shri Subhash Chatterjee of Lady Keane College and other who seek public support for starting the College, the first Managing Committee of the College was constituted provisionally with (Late) Benode Bihari Ghosh as President. Shillong College was inaugurated on 15th of August, 1956, and began with few students at Jail Road Boys' High School. Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta, a Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics in St. Anthony's College, became the founder Principal. He resigned from the parent college in 1958 and took over as a full time Principal. Before the establishment of North Eastern Hill University in 1972, Shillong College was affiliated to Gauhati University.

In 1962, the College was shifted from Jail Road Boys' High School to the present campus at Boyce Road, Laitumkhrah, Shillong. In 1960, the foundation stone of the College building was laid by Shri B. P. Chaliha, the then Chief Minister of the composite State of Assam. In 1963, Science stream was started in the College. In 1969, Arts and Commerce streams came under the Deficit Grants-in-Aid of the Government of Assam. The Founder Principal, Shri S. C. Datta retired in 1970, and Shri S. Bhattacharjee of the Department of History took over as Principal. He retired in 1973 and Shri D. S. Rawat became the Principal. He had a long term as Principal and retired in 1990. Shri K. L. Choudhury, Head, Department of Economics, took over as the next Principal. In 1975, Science stream was brought under the Deficit Grants-in-Aid of the Government of Meghalaya.

In 1981, Shillong College completed its twenty five years of existence, and the Silver Jubilee of the College was celebrated with a week long programme. The celebration was inaugurated by Prof. B. Pakem, the then Education Minister of Meghalaya. In 1995, Shri K. L. Choudhury retired as Principal and Shri T. Moitra, Head, Department of Economics took over as acting Principal . He retired in 2001 as Vice Principal. In 1996, a full fledged Principal was appointed. In the same year the post of Vice Principal was created and five senior-most teachers have served as Vice Principals which include, Shri T. Moitra, HOD, Economics, Shri B. C. Goswami, HOD, Mathematics, Shri U. C. Kakati, HOD, Botany, Shri R. K. Dutta, HOD, Physics and Shri N. K. Sarkar, Senior Lecturer, Department of English and the present Vice Principal is Shri D. Mukherjee, HOD, Physics. In 2004, when we started the Professional Courses, the Governing Body appointed Dr. S. K. Gupta as Vice-Principal (Professional Courses) to look after and monitor the new courses. Our

gratefulness and appreciations to all the Vice Principals of the College.

For the past fifty years, Shillong College saw many achievements and so also many ups and downs. In 1997, the new Library of the College was inaugurated. It is well stocked Library and its functioning has been computerised. It was also in 1997 that the Shillong College Academic Society was formed and registered. Many activities like National Seminars, Conferences and other programmes were conducted by the College and the Shillong College Academic Society. The College is grateful to the UGC for the financial assistance under VIII, IX and X Plans, North Eastern Council, Planning Department and Education Department, Government of Meghalaya and other funding agencies who have helped the College in their infrastructural and academic development.

In 1999, the Department of Garo was opened to cater to the students who want to take up Garo language, one of the languages of the State.

Realising the importance of Computer Education in this age of Information Technology, the College introduced Computer Applications for Higher Secondary Classes in the year 2000, initially in collaboration with Aptech, and from 2002 the College is running the course on its own.

In 2003, an Information and Career Guidance Cell of the College was set up in a small way to provide information and guide the students in many aspects.

In 2002, the Alumni Association of Shillong College was formed to bring the alumni closer together and to be able to share their thoughts and ideas in the forum. We are proud that many of our alumnae are well placed in the different fields of life. This has given us a great satisfaction.

Another landmark in the history of Shillong College was the visit of the Peer Team of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore headed by Prof. R. K. Mishra, former Vice Chancellor, Gorukhpur University and three members from August 5th to 7th, 2003. The Executive Committee of the NAAC on the recommendation of the Peer Team declared Shillong College as an Accredited Institution at B-Level. Although in some areas we are very strong, but lack of infrastructural facilities and other limitations hindered us from getting a better score. We now know our strengths and weaknesses and we will try to give the best that we can for we believe that there is no end towards perfection and excellence.

In 2004-05 Academic Session, the College started Professional Courses in Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA), Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) and B. Sc. in Computer Science. The Courses were introduced to cater to the needs of the students of the State and the Region in spite of many constraints. The computers including the Laboratory were funded by North Eastern Council for which we are greatly indebted. In 2004-05, Statistics was introduced for Higher Secondary Classes and from 2005-06, it was introduced in the Degree classes also.

Besides the Academic pursuit, the College encourages and promotes Sports activities, Seminars, Workshops, Debates, Study Tours and other co-curricular activities. This year our Men Football team became the champion in the NEHU Inter-College Sports 2005 and we have retained the title for 3 consecutive years. The College provides opportunities for the students to participate in NCC, NSS and Rangers. Many students have excelled in their studies and have participated in many activities and programmes and they have brought laurels to the College.

Our gratitude to our President, Prof. K. S. Lyngdoh and Members of the Shillong College Governing Body for their guidance and support. Our special thanks to our Vice Principal, Shri D. Mukherjee and Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice Principal, Professional Courses for their cooperation. We would also like to thank all our dear teachers, staff, parents and guardians, alumnae and students for their support.

The Shillong College Community is proud of the humble achievements and successes during the last fifty years and at the same time accepts and shares our failures and weaknesses and try to do ever better.

As members of the Shillong College fraternity, we have a heavy responsibility to see that the College will develop, progress and grow from strength to strength in the years to come.

On behalf of the College, I thank each and every one for your kind presence to share with us on this auspicious day.

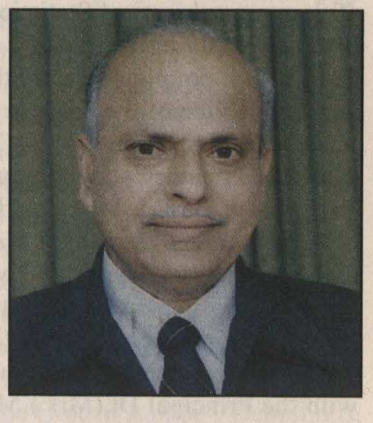
I wish each and every one a very happy celebration of the Golden Jubilee Year.

May God bless you.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

2005-06

CONVENER'S REPORT



Shri D. Mukherjee,
Vice Principal and Convener

THE BACKGROUND

We, the members of the Shillong College fraternity, are now passing through a glorious phase with regard to our association with this great institution which is celebrating its Golden Jubilee Year from 17th of August, 2005 to 17th of August, 2006. I can't help being a bit nostalgic in looking back down the memory lane.

The idea of establishing a new College was actually conceived in the early fifties of the last century by some responsible, sincere and society conscious citizens of Shillong, who had the farsightedness to realize the necessity off setting up of an educational centre to cater to the growing need of the common people of Shillong, the then capital of undivided Assam, towards satisfying their aspiration for higher education. To bring higher education within the reach of the common people was novel idea. Although initially its execution into reality had to pass through some rough weather due to various constraints but finally with the Grace of God, Shillong College was established on 15th of August, 1956 at the initiative of some enthusiastic, energetic and selfless residents of Shillong. The College started functioning from the Jail Road Boys' High School with a nominal roll strength of only 35 students with (late) Prof. Sudhindra Chandra Datta as its Founder Principal. In the early years of infancy, some well wishers and a band dedicated teachers under the dynamic leadership of late Shri S. C. Datta guided and nurtured the College. In 1962, when the College was shifted from Jail Road Boys' High School to the present campus at Boyce Road, Laitumkhrah, Shillong, Pre-University and Under-graduate courses in Arts and Commerce were only being offered to the students. In the same year both the Arts and Commerce str3eams came under the Deficit Grants-in-Aid of the Government of Assam.

In 1963, Science stream was started with One year Pre-University Course which was soon followed by introduction of Degree Courses in Science. The Science stream was brought under the Deficit Grants-in-Aid of the Government of Meghalaya in 1975. In 1970, our respected and beloved Founder Principal Shri S. C. Datta retired and passed the baton to Shri Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee as the Principal of the College. After the retirement of Shri S. Bhattacharjee in 1973, Shri D. S. Rawat assumed the charge of the Principal. During his tenure (1973-1990), the College celebrated its Silver Jubilee in the year 1981 on completing twenty-five years of existence. Since then, it is another twenty-five years and we are now celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the College. The Institution has passed through many ups and down during its long arduous journey for the last five decades and now it stands tall as one of the premier Institutions of the State as well as that of the North Eastern Region. During this period, the Institution has registered an all round development and has expanded into a full grown centre of collegiate education. In August 2003, the College has been assessed and accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore, at the B-level. In 2004, the College started offering some Professional Courses besides the Under Graduate and Higher Secondary Courses in Arts, Science and Commerce. At present,

the College has a teaching faculty of more than 80 teachers and some 2300 plus students on its roll. Two more subjects of Statistics and Sociology have been introduced in the College from the year 2005 and 2006 respectively.

For the last couple of years, the College Authority was considering the idea of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the College in a befitting manner with a year-long programme spanning from August 2005 to August 2006. To monitor and supervise the proposed celebration in a planned and systematic manner, a Golden Jubilee Steering/Organising Committee was formed in 2004, with His Excellency, Shri M. M. Jacob, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, as the Patron-in-Chief, and a team of 8 Patrons and 28 members, drawn from the various sections of the society including dignitaries and personalities from the Government of Meghalaya, North Eastern Hill University, Heads of various Government Organizations, N.G.O.s, Governing Body members of the College, Principal, Vice Principal, Vice Principal (Professional Courses) and Members of the Staff of the College. For effective execution of the various programmes of Golden Jubilee, a Core Committee was constituted with the Principal Dr.(Mrs.) M.P.R. Lyngdoh as the Chairperson, the then Vice Principal Shri N. K. Sarkar as the Convener, Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice Principal (Professional Courses) as the Co-ordinator and Shri S. R. Nongkynrih, Shri T. S. Rajee and Dr. Malay Dey as members. On retirement of Shri N. K. Sarkar with effect from 01-03-2005, Shri D. Mukherjee took over the charge of the Vice Principal and he was inducted as the Convener of the Golden Jubilee Core Committee. Further, for effective distribution of responsibilities, an Organising-cum-Programme Committee was constituted with the Chairperson, Convener, Coordinator and all Conveners and Joint Conveners of the various Sub-Committees, formed for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, as members.

ROLE OF DIFFERENT SUB-COMMITTEES

1. **Reception Sub-Committee:** Convener of the Sub-committee Shri B. Syiem, Joint Convener Smt. V. R. Solomon and other members of the Sub-committee looked after (i) reception of the Guests; (ii) preparation and presentation of bouquets, posies and badges; (iii) preparation and despatch of the invitation cards; (iv) arrangement of sound system and seating arrangements and (v) making of pandal, stage, decoration, lighting etc. The list of invitees included representatives from Central and State Governments, Universities, Research Institutions, Colleges, Schools, N.G.O.S, retired teachers of the College, Alumni of the College, Students Organizations and Media persons, besides members of the Teaching and non-teaching staff of the College and students. A well arranged pandal with proper furnishings and provision befitting the function was constructed on the Basketball Court of the College, where all the programmes of the first four days (17th to 20th August, 2005) of the celebrations were held. Besides, a Talent Show was organised on the 17th August, 2005 for the students showcasing the latent talents and special abilities of the students.

2. **Sports and Games Sub-Committee:** Convener of the Sub-committee Shri T. S. Rajee, Joint Convener Shri A. Khanduri and other members of the Sub-committee were entrusted with the responsibility of organising various sports activities, which included the Jubilee Marathon Run, an Exhibition Football Match and an Exhibition Cricket Match. (a) Jubilee Marathon Match was held on 18th August, 2005, at 6.00 A.M. It was inaugurated and flagged off by the Chief Guest Shri H. M. Shangpliang, Director of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, in the presence of Principal, Vice Principal, Vice Principal (Professional Courses), Judges, Officials, Teachers, distinguished Guests and participants. The Marathon Run started from Shillong College Campus down to St. Anthony's College road, via AIR, via Raj Bhavan Gate to Wards Lake Road via Polo Bazar, via Fourth Furlong road, via B. K. Bajoria School road and finished up at Shillong College. Altogether 91 participants took part in the Marathon, which also included the Vice Principal Shri D. Mukherjee and Vice Principal (Professional Courses) Dr. S. K. Gupta, who were awarded Special Prizes for their encouraging role. (b) Exhibition Football Match was played between Shillong College Students XI and Union Christian College Students XI on the 5th October, 2005, at 1.00 P.M. at Don Bosco Mini Stadium. Rev. Father P. D. Johny, Principal, St. Anthony's Higher Secondary School, Shillong

was the Chief Guest, who graced the occasion in presence of Shri D. Mukherjee, Vice Principal, Shillong, Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice Principal (Professional Courses) Shillong College and Dr. S. R. Lyndem, Principal Union Christian College, Barapani. Shri Lyndem later gave away the Trophies to the participating teams also. In the Exhibition Match, Shillong College Students XI defeated the U.C.C. Students XI by 2goals to 1 and lifted the Winners' Trophy. Later, a dinner was hosted by Shillong College at the Yalana Hotel. (c) Exhibition Cricket Match was held on the 9th December 2005 from 10.00 A.M. onwards at the St. Edmund's College Ground between Shillong College Principal's XI (represented by Non-Teaching Staff of the College) and Shillong College Staff XI (represented by Teaching Staff). Rev. Brother L. D. Lobo, former Principal, St. Edmund's College, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in presence of the Principal, Shillong College and other guests. The Staff XI won the Cricket Match and was awarded the Winner's Trophy.

3. **Cultural Programme Sub-Committee:** Convener of the Sub-committee Smt. R. Devi, Joint Convener Smt. M. Gatphoh and other members of the Sub-committee were entrusted with the responsibility of organising and presenting all the cultural events of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, which centred around the theme to promote and present the rich cultural heritage of the North Eastern Region in general and more importantly that of Meghalaya.

During the Inaugural Function on 17th August 2005, three group songs were presented by the students along with multi-cultural folk dances as a single performance.

In the Cultural Function Day on 19th August, 2005, the Students' Choir presented the opening song. This was followed by folk dances of the North Eastern Region like the Laho Dance, Shad Thma, Bamboo Dance (Mizo), Modern Garo Dance and a Bharat Natyam presentation. Group songs and solos by students, a group song by the teachers and a traditional fashion show were the other attractions of the cultural bonanza. Besides, traditional Khasi songs, modern songs and other cultural events were also presented by various Guest Artists. Dr. Donkupar Roy, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Meghalaya and Dr.(Mrs.) Helen Giri, renowned singer and cultural activist graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, respectively.

4. **Publications and Public Relations Sub-Committee:** Convener of the Sub-committee Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee, Joint Convener Dr. (Mrs.) E. Kharkongor and other members of the Sub-committee were given the responsibility of the publications and publicity in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College. All the programmes undertaken during the Celebrations were highlighted in the local as well as national press and electronic media. During the Inaugural Function, a Souvenir titled "Golden Jubilee Souvenir" was released by Dr. Mukul Sangma, the then Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister, Government of Meghalaya. The Souvenir contained Messages from a number of National and State dignitaries including the President and Prime Minister of India. A detailed history of the College since its inception was included in the Souvenir along with articles of varied nature from national and state intelligentsia in addition to reminiscences from present and former teachers and students. At present, the Sub-committee has in hand the task of publication of "Golden Jubilee Magazine" to be released during the Closing Ceremony of the year long Golden Jubilee Celebration to be held on 17th August, 2006. Moreover, the Publications and Public Relations Sub-committee and Academic Sub-committee are jointly organising a Photo Exhibition on Shillong College to be held during the final phases of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

5. **Academic Sub-Committee:** Convenor of the Sub-committee Dr.(Mrs.) A. A. Ahmed, Joint Convener Dr.(Ms.) D. L. Buam and the other members of the Sub-committee were entrusted with the responsibility of undertaking the academic activities related to the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College. The programmes organised by the Academic Sub-committee during the year 2005 are: (a) Inter-College Essay Competition, held on 26th September, 2005; (b) Inter-College Debate Competition, held on 27th September, 2005, which was conducted by Prof. N. K. Sarkar, former Vice Principal of the College as the Speaker; (c) Inter-College Extempore Speech Competition, held on 28th September, 2005; (d) Inter-College Quiz Competition, held on 30th September, 2005, which was conducted by Shri Rahul Chatterjee, who is a well known Quiz Master of Shillong,

associated with AIR and Doordarshan Kendra, Shillong and an alumnus of the College. The Prize Distribution Ceremony of the above competitions was held on 6th October, 2005, which was graced by Shri P. J. Bazeley, IAS, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, as the Chief Guest.

A National Conference on "Role of Higher Education for Social Change in India with Special Reference to North Eastern Region" was organised and hosted by Shillong College on 21-22 November, 2005, as a part of its Golden Jubilee Celebrations. The Conference was sponsored by UGC (NER), Guwahati, ICSSR (NERC), Shillong and Education Department, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong. The Conference was inaugurated on 22-11-2005 by the Chief Guest, Shri Robert G. Lyngdoh, M.L.A. and the Chairman, Meghalaya Economic Development Council. The Keynote Address was delivered by the Guest of Honour, Shri G. P. Wahlang, IAS, Principal Secretary and Commission Education etc., Government of Meghalaya. The paper presentations and deliberations on various aspects of higher education were divided into three sub-themes, taken up in three Technical Sessions, spread over 21st and 22nd November, 2005. The Technical Session III on 22-11-2005 was followed by a Panel Discussion, which was moderated by Shri Manas Choudhury, M.L.A. The Valedictory Function on 22nd November, 2005, was graced by Shri P. J. Bazeley, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, as the Chief Guest and Shri B. K. Deb Verma, Principal Secretary and Commissioner, Finance etc., Government of Meghalaya, as the Guest of Honour. The Proceedings Volume of the National Conference on Higher Education is expected to be released on 17th August, 2006, during the Closing Day Function of the Golden Jubilee. Publication of the Proceedings Volume and recommendations of the Panel Discussion is also on the agenda of the Academic Sub-committee. Arranging a Photo Exhibition of Shillong College during the second phase of Golden Jubilee Celebrations, scheduled to start from the last week of July, 2006, has also been entrusted to the Academic Sub-committee jointly with the Publication and Public Relations Sub-committee. Academic Sub-committee is also organising a One day Students' Seminar on the theme "Right to Information – Its Impact" on 11th August, 2006, as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

6. **Alumnae Sub-Committee:** Shillong College Alumni Association was formed on 22nd July, 2002, with Shri Joining Pde as the President and Dr. M. Dey, Shri R. L. Dkhar and Shri Rymbai as the three General Secretaries. The primary objective of the association was to make positive contribution towards all round development of the College. The Alumnae Sub-committee was formed for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College with Shri B. Roy as the Convener and Dr. M. Dey as the Joint Convener. During the first phase of the Golden Jubilee Celebration in 2005, the day 18th August 2005 was designated as the 'Alumni Day'. President of the Association Shri Joining Pde sponsored the expenses for erection of a Decorative Gate at the entrance of the College. The Office Bearers and members of the Association made financial contributions towards the Golden Jubilee Fund of the College. On the 18th August, 2005, cultural function was organised by the members of the Alumni Association and was graced by Shri R. G. Lyngdoh, M.L.A., the Chief Patron and member of the Alumni Association, as the Chief Guest. The function was attended by a large gathering of Alumni members, including some students of 1960s. The Welcome Address was given by the President and the Vote of Thanks was offered by Shri R. L. Dkhar, Assistant Commissioner, Income Tax Department, Government of India, Shillong. The function was followed by a Lunch Party for the Alumni members, hosted by the College.

7. **Food and Refreshment Sub-Committee:** Convener of the Sub-committee Shri N. B. Rai, Joint Convener Shri B. K. Saha and members of the Sub-committee were given the most delicate task of supplying food and refreshments during various functions of the Golden Jubilee. All the members of the Sub-committee had discharged their responsibilities with utmost sincerity and dedication. On various days of the celebrations, the dignitaries, guests, invitees and others were treated with good quality and neatly served refreshments, lunch/snacks/tea etc. which earned appreciation from one and all. Besides, they had also undertaken the responsibility of arranging and distributing food and refreshment during the Golden Jubilee Social Week of the College, held

from 26th September, 2005 to 1st October, 2005.

8. Discipline and First Aid Sub-committee: Shri K. D. Ramsiej, Convener, Dr. B. P. Tripathi, Joint Convener and other members of the Sub-committee were entrusted with a very important aspect of monitoring and maintaining discipline and ensuring safety and security of the huge gatherings of VIPs, guests, invitees and others during the various functions of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations. The sincere efforts of the members of the Sub-committee, N.C.C. Cadets, N.S.S. and Student Volunteers were highly appreciated by the outsiders and insiders of the College. They had also looked after the medical attention and First Aid Service to whomsoever it was necessary.

9. Campus Care and Improvement Sub-committee: Shri R. Rynjah, Convener, Dr.(Mrs.) D. Chattopadhyay, Joint Convener and other members of the Sub-committee handled efficiently the aspect of beautification, improvement and caring of the College campus to give the guests a feeling that the campus was well maintained, attractive looking and properly cared for. They had given their best for arrangement of proper furnishings, painting, renovating the entrance gate, widening of the approach road and cleaning of the campus with the help of N.C.C. Cadets and N.S.S. Volunteers as and when necessary.

10. Accommodation and Transport Sub-Committee: Shri T. J. Kharbhih, Convener, Shri L. Pathaw, Joint Convener, and other members of the Sub-committee undertook the responsibility of providing accommodation to outstation guests and retired teachers and arrangement of transport for the invitees, guests, participants, performers and others during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations. They had also helped in sending invitation letters to the guests and invitees. They had handled another crucial job of arranging the parking of the cars in a very effective and systematic manner with the help of N.C.C. Cadets and Students Volunteers which contributed a lot for the smooth running of the various functions of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

11. Food Festival-cum-Sale Sub-Committee: A Food Festival cum Display and Sale Exhibition Sub-committee was formed with Dr. (Mrs.) D. Chattopadhyay as the Convener, Mrs. M. Gatphoh and Dr. (Mrs.) A.A. Ahmed as Joint Conveners, who along with other members of the Sub-committee had successfully organised the Food Festival cum Display and Sale Exhibition on 20th August, 2005 in the College campus. It deserves appreciation that the Convener, with cooperation and support from all concerned could transform the idea into reality and this added a different dimension to the flavour and spirit of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College.

The Sub-committee is now busy formulating and finalizing the ways and means to organise another Food Festival sometime in the second week of August, 2006, during the second phase of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

12. Finance Sub-Committee: Shri S. R. Nongkynrih, Convener, Shri S. O. Lyngskor, Joint Convener and other members of the Sub-committee were entrusted with the most crucial job of handling of finance and maintenance of Accounts and Expenditures in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College. Receipt books were distributed to the teachers and other concerned persons for collection of subscription/donation from the public towards the Golden Jubilee Fund of the College. The Receipt Books would be valid for one year only and that before the conclusion of the Golden Jubilee they are to be returned to the Convener, Finance Sub-committee, along with the collected amount. The members of the Sub-committee have played a key role in sanctioning the budget allocation for the different Sub-committees as also for the monitoring and maintenance of the Accounts and Expenditure thereof.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

(a) Non-Teaching Staff Day: With perhaps an unique concept to earmark a day of celebration for the non-teaching Staff of the College, a Sub-committee was constituted with Shri S. K. Dam, Head Assistant as the Convener for the Celebration of Non-Teaching Staff Day on 10th September, 2005, as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration. On the day of Celebration, members of the Office Staff of D.H.T.E., Meghalaya, M.B.O.S.E., N.E.H.U. and the non-teaching staff of the Sister

Institutions were also invited along with others. President of the Governing Body Prof. (Mrs.) K. S. Lyngdoh graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in presence of some of the retired teachers of the College. The members of the non-teaching staff entertained the gathering with colourful and well-organised cultural presentations, which were appreciated by all. Later all present were invited for a lunch.

(b) Teachers' Day: Teachers' Day was observed on 5th September, 2005, as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College in presence of Principal, Vice Principal and Vice Principal (P/c), members of the non-teaching staff and students.

(c) International Year of Physics – 2005: This great occasion was celebrated in the College as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration to pay homage to the World's greatest scientist of the 20th Century – Albert Einstein. The year 2005 was also designated as the "World Year of Physics" to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Albert Einstein's "Miraculous Year" 1905, in which he published his famous papers on "Special Theory of Relativity", "Brownian Motion" and "Photo-Electric Effect". The Celebration was sponsored by Uranium Corporation of India Limited (U.C.I.L.), Jaduguda, Atomic Minerals Divisions, North Eastern Region, S.C.S.T.E., Meghalaya, D.H.T.E., Meghalaya and Shillong College. The occasion was graced by Shri R. Gupta, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, UCIL, Jaduguda, as the Chief Guest and Prof. (Mrs.) B. M. Jyrwa, Department of Physics, NEHU as the Guest of Honour. Among others, Shri S. K. Malhotra, Head, Public Awareness Division, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Mumbai was also present and Shri D. Mukherjee, Vice Principal and Head, Department of Physics was the Chairperson of the day. In this connection a Seminar on "Radiation" and "Harnessing Radio-activity" was organised. Publication of the Proceedings of the Celebration of International Year of Physics – 2005 is expected to be released during the Closing Day Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration slated on 17th August, 2006.

(d) College Anthem: A competition for composition of the College Anthem was organised amongst the degree students of the College in the year 2005. As per the recommendations of the "Committee for College Anthem" of which Smt. S. Das, Head of the Department of English was the Convener, the one composed by Shri Paul H. Shylla, a student of 3rd year B. A. (English Honours) was selected and he would be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- sponsored by Shri R. G. Lyngdoh, Hon'ble Home Minister, Government of Meghalaya and an Alumnus of the College, during the Closing Day Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration on 17th August, 2006.

(e) World Environment Day 2006: World Environment Day is celebrated every year in the College in collaboration with the Shillong College Academic Society. This year this celebration was organised as a part of Golden Jubilee Celebration and was held on 5th of June, 2006 in which number of student- oriented programmes and competitions were conducted. Chief Guest for the Inaugural function was Shri L. Roy, Commissioner, Forests and Environment, Government of Meghalaya and Shri R. D. West, Member Secretary, S.C.S.T.E., Meghalaya graced the Valedictory Function held on 14th June 2006 and distributed the prizes.

(f) Institution of Prizes for Academic Excellence:

(i) S. C. Datta Memorial Prize: In memory of the Founder Principal of the College (Late) Sudhindra Chandra Datta, three cash prizes of Rs. 1,000/- each were instituted by the College to be awarded to the three best Degree (Hons) students of Shillong College, one each from the three streams of Arts, Science and Commerce from the year 2005, which coincided with the year long Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College. In the year 2005, the three best Honours Graduates from the College Smt. Persara Mawkhiew (B. A. Khasi Honours), Shri Freestarman Syiemiong (B. Sc. Botany Honours) and Shri Gregory Thabah (B. Com. Honours) were awarded the "S. C. Datta Memorial Prize". In this connection, the contribution from the family of (Late) S. C. Data is being acknowledged herewith.

(ii) Prof. N. K. Sarkar Prize for English: This prize has been instituted by the College from the fund created out of a generous contribution of Rs. 10,000/- from the former Vice Principal Shri N. K. Sarkar and an equal amount contributed by the College, to be awarded for the best performance

by a student of Shillong College in English in Higher Secondary or Degree (Honours) level as the case may be. This prize also has been instituted from the Golden Jubilee Year 2005 and Smt. Audreylia Kharmujai, who secured the highest marks in English in XII Arts, HSSLC Examination 2005, bagged the prize.

(iii) Felicitation to the Vice Chancellor, NEHU, Prof. Promod Tandon and release of 'BOTANE': Prof. Promod Tandon, a renowned academician and scholar assumed the charge of the Vice Chancellor of North Eastern Hill University on 13th September, 2005, and he was accorded a warm felicitation from the Shillong College fraternity on 14th November, 2005. An ex-Governing Body member of the College, Prof. Tandon was associated with many developmental activities of the College. On 14th November, 2005, he also released the Annual Magazine, 'BOTANE', published by the Botanic Club, managed and run by the faculty members and students of the Botany Department, Shillong College. The function was organised as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College.

CELEBRATION OF GOLDEN JUBILEE – 2005

The year-long Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Shillong College from August 2005 to August 2006, started with lot of enthusiasm and expectations on the 17th August, 2005, at 10.30 A.M. in the College premises. The big and colourful event was inaugurated by His Excellency Shri M. M. Jacob, Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya, in presence of the Guest of Honour Dr. Mukul Sangma, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Dr.(Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh, Principal and Chairperson, Prof. (Mrs.) K. S. Lyngdoh, President, Governing Body, Shillong College and a large gathering representing different strata of the society including Government functionaries, Administrators, Eminent Scholars from University, Members of the Governing Body of the College, Principals and Teachers from Colleges and Schools of Shillong, Representatives from Social Organisations, Patrons, Sponsors, Alumni of the College, Retired Teachers, Members of Teaching and Non-Teaching Starr, Security Personals, Media persons, Students and others. The function started with hoisting of the College Flag by the Chief Guest, who was accorded a full fledged Guard of Honour, meticulously arranged by the N.C.C. Cadets of the College under the leadership of Dr. B. P. Tripathi, ANO. Welcome Address was delivered by Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice Principal (P/c) and Coordinator. The guests and invitees were enchanted with the Welcome song, other group songs and multi-cultural folk dances. Vote of thanks was offered by Shri D. Mukherjee, Vice Principal and Convener. The Jubilee Souvenir was released in the Inaugural Function.

On the next day, 18th August 2005, "Jubilee Marathon Run" was organised by the Sports and Games Sub-committee at 6.00 A.M. which was followed by the Alumni Day Function on the same day at 11.00 A.M. that witnessed the reunion of the past pupils of the College. The function was inaugurated by Shri R. G. Lyngdoh, M.L.A. and Chairman of the Meghalaya Economic Development Council and the Chief Patron and member of the Alumni Association of the College. On the next day, 19th August 2005, the main Cultural Show was organized by the Cultural Programme Sub-committee which was graced by Dr. Donkupar Roy, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Meghalaya, as Chief Guest and Dr. (Mrs.) Helen Giri, the Guest of Honour. The Students' Choir of Shillong College mesmerised the audience with the Opening Song, followed by group songs and the popular folk dances of Meghalaya and other States of the NE Region, depicting their rich cultural heritage. On the 20th August, 2005, a Food Festival-cum-Exhibition and Sale of Decorative articles and household good was organised which was enjoyed and appreciated by one and all. This was followed by various other activities during the year 2005 including Jubilee Freshers' Social and finally the celebrations for 2005 ended up with an Exhibition Cricket Match played between Shillong College Principal's XI and Shillong College Staff XI on 9th December, 2005.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

CELEBRATION OF GOLDEN JUBILEE – 2006

World Environment Day 2006 was celebrated by the College along with the Shillong College Academic Society on 5th June 2006 as a part of Golden Jubilee Celebrations. The Core Committee and the Organising-cum-Programme Committee is looking forward to the successful holding of the remaining programmes during the final phase of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in 2006, starting from 27th July, 2006, with an Exhibition Football Match to be played between the Staff XI and the Students XI of Shillong College and ending up with the grand finale on the Closing Day Function on 17th August, 2006, when the curtains will be drawn on the year long Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College. This most significant event will go down in the history of the College for ever and will be fondly cherished by the each and everyone associated with this graceful mega celebration. I, on behalf of the College and as the Convener of the Core Committee for the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College, would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to each and everyone, who are directly or indirectly associated with the celebration for their patronage, contribution, cooperation and participation in the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College from 17th August 2005 to 17th August 2006.

With sincerest thanks and warm congratulations to all of you.

THANK YOU

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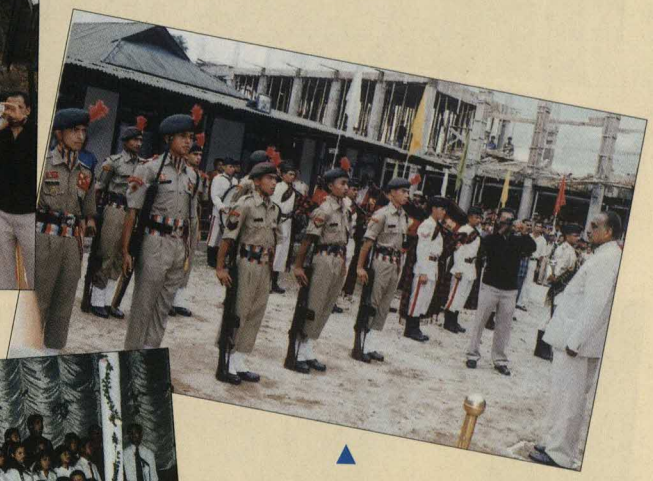
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

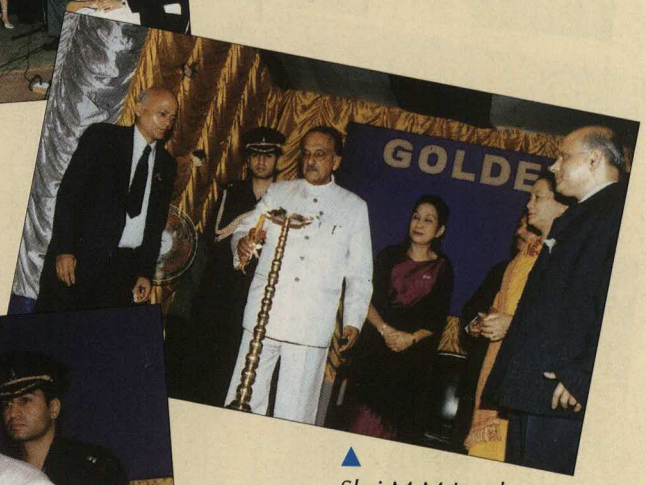
INAUGURAL FUNCTION : 17.08.2005

College Flag hoisting by Chief Guest Shri M M Jacob, Governor of Meghalaya

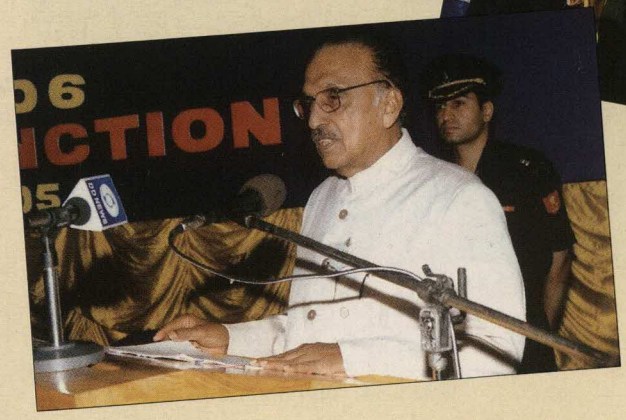


Chief Guest, Shri M M Jacob being presented Guard of Honour

Welcome song by the students



Shri M M Jacob lighting the lamp to inaugurate the Celebrations



Shri M M Jacob delivering the Inaugural Speech

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

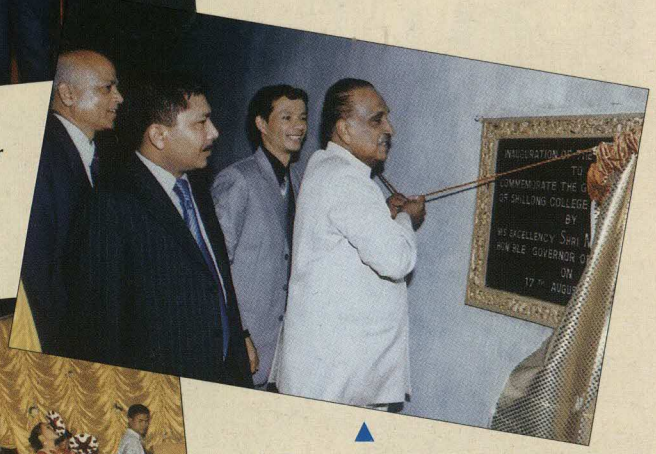
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

INAUGURAL FUNCTION : 17.08.2005

Guest of Honour, Dr. Mukul Sangma
Dy. Chief Minister, addressing the gathering

A view of the distinguished gathering

Release of Golden Jubilee Souvenir
by Dr. Mukul Sangma



Chief Guest, Shri M M Jacob
inaugurating the New Building

Shad "Pliang" (Plate Dance)
by Students

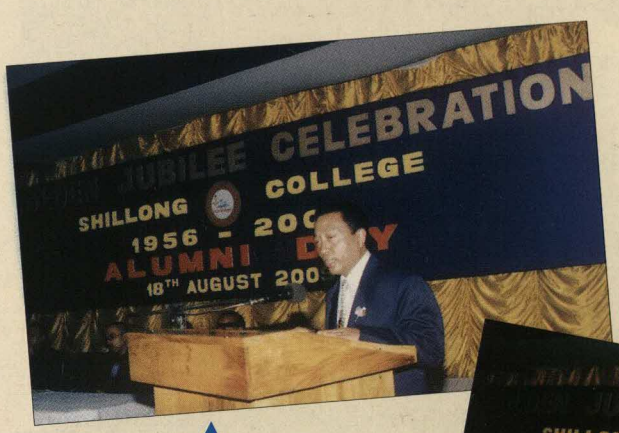
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

INAUGURAL FUNCTION : 17.08.2005

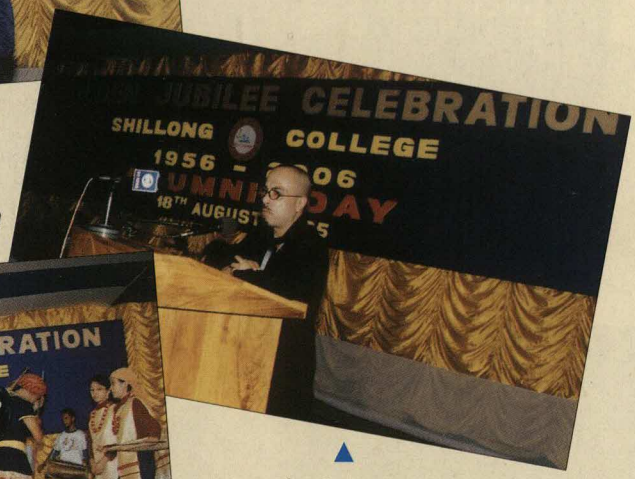
Khasi Dance

A multicultural extravaganza

ALUMNI DAY : 18.08.2005



Welcome Address by
Shri Joining Pde, President,
Shillong College Alumni Association



Chief Guest, Shri R G Lyngdoh, MLA
delivering his speech

Alumni of Shillong College
enthralls the audience with their skill

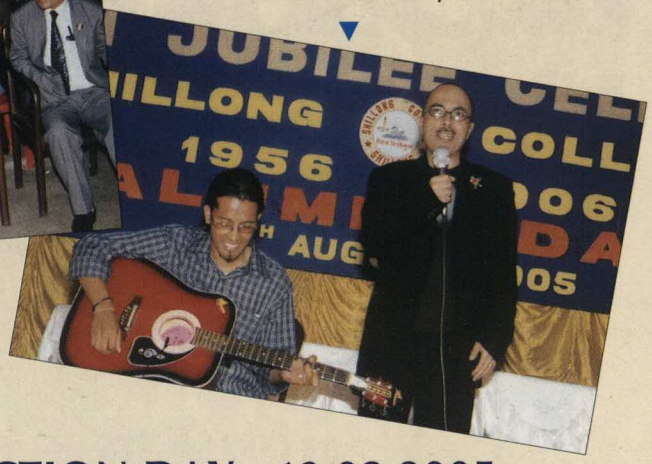
GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

ALUMNI DAY : 18.08.2005

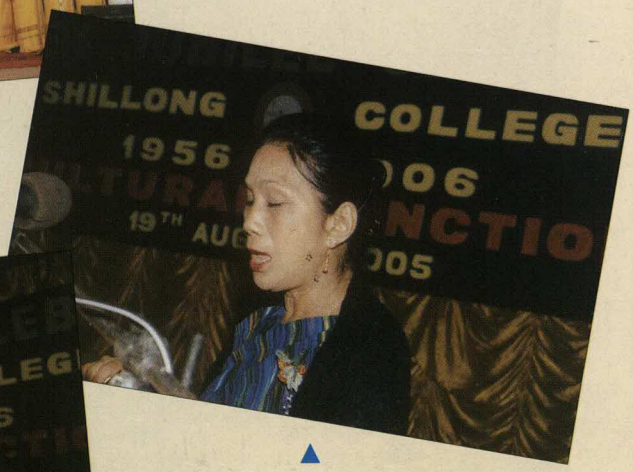
Alumni of the College with Principal in a jovial mood



Chief Guest Shri R G Lyngdoh, an alumnus of the College, could not restrain and presented a number

CULTURAL FUNCTION DAY : 19.08.2005

Students' Choir with Welcome Song

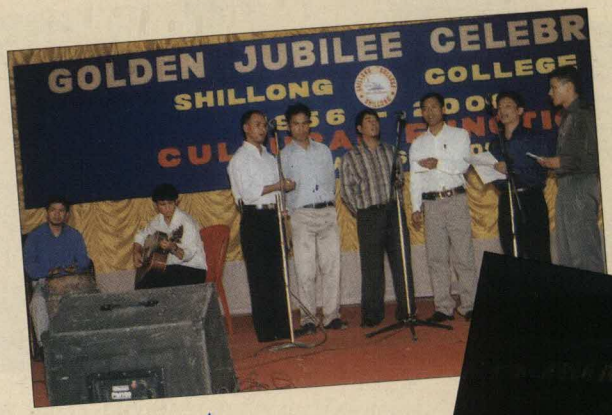


Prof. (Mrs.) K S Lyngdoh, President, Governing Body, adding flavour to the Function

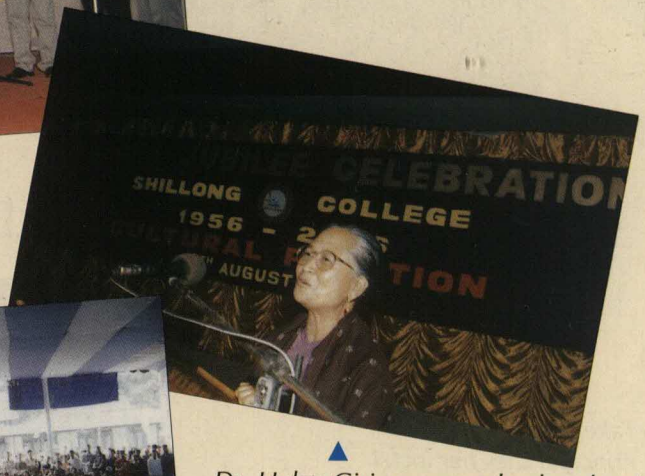
Chief Guest, Dr. Donkupar Roy, Dy. Chief Minister, addressing the gathering

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

CULTURAL FUNCTION DAY : 19.08.2005



Teachers of the College make everyone dance to their tunes



Dr. Helen Giri, renowned cultural activist, inspired everyone in her speech

A view of audience with applause

Shad "Thama" (Dance) mesmerises all

Smt. Barnali Mishra, a student, with her exquisite Bharat Natyam performance

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

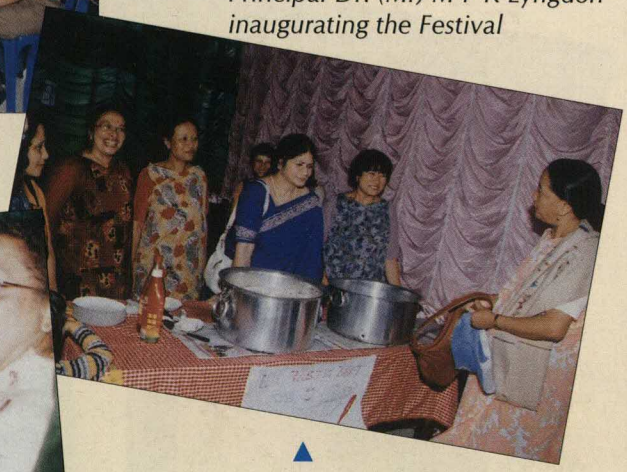
CULTURAL FUNCTION DAY : 19.08.2005

Laho Dance – an eye-catching performance

FOOD FESTIVAL & SALE : 20.08.2005

Principal Dr. (Mr) M P R Lyngdoh inaugurating the Festival

Take your breath! Principal tries her luck !



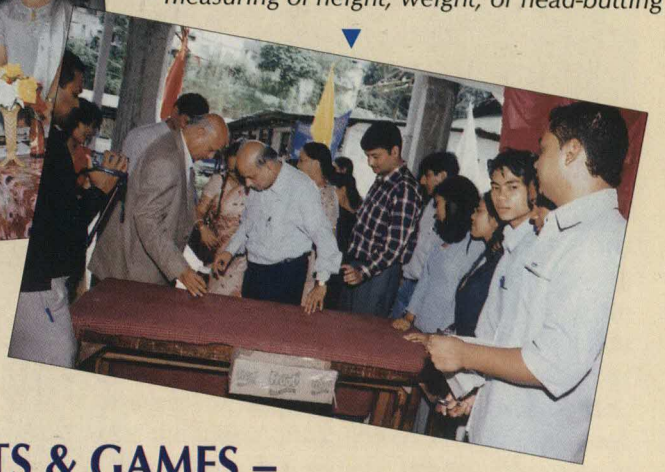
Now she is in dilemma to choose right food – delicacies prepared by teachers

Finally she makes her choice – but with help from Vice-Principal (a message indeed!)

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

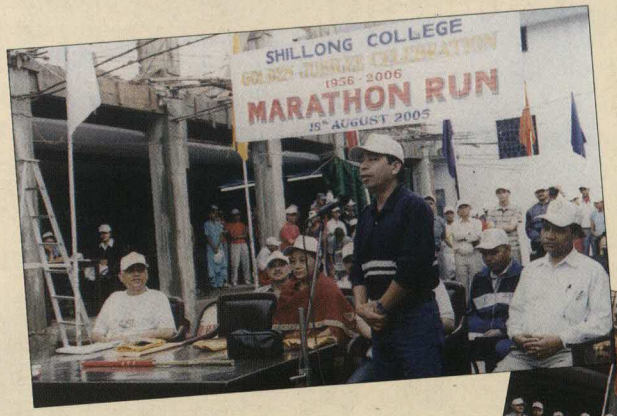
FOOD FESTIVAL & SALE : 20.08.2005

Now she is interested in decorative items – did she buy any ?



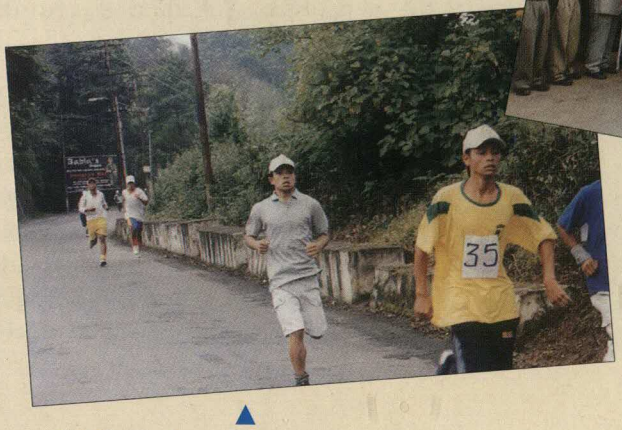
But what the two Vice Principals are doing – measuring of height, weight, or head-butting ?

SPORTS & GAMES – JUBILEE MARATHON RUN : 18.08.2005



Chief Guest, Shri H M Shangpliang, Director, Tourism speaking before flagging off the Run

Two Vice Principals, Shri D Mukherjee and Dr. S K Gupta, ready for the Run along with other participants



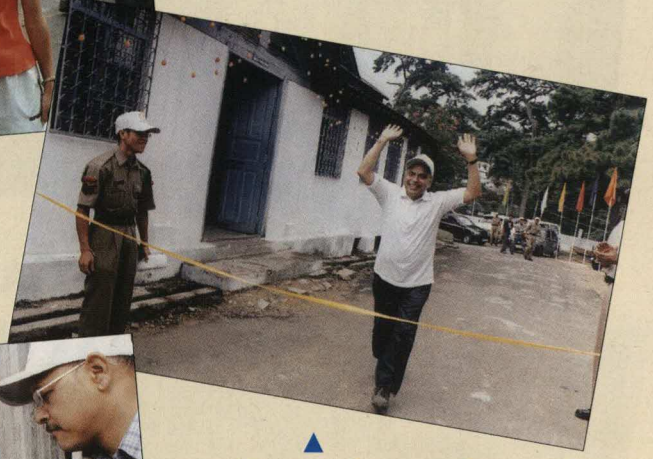
Participants making serious attempts to reach the destination

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

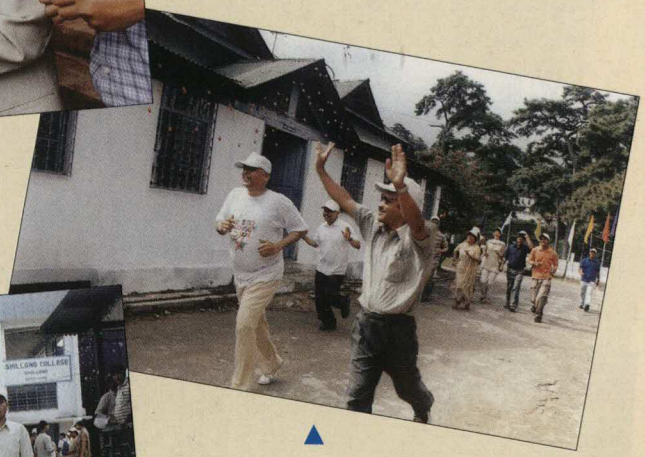
SPORTS & GAMES – JUBILEE MARATHON RUN : 18.08.2005

These girls did the job, but tired

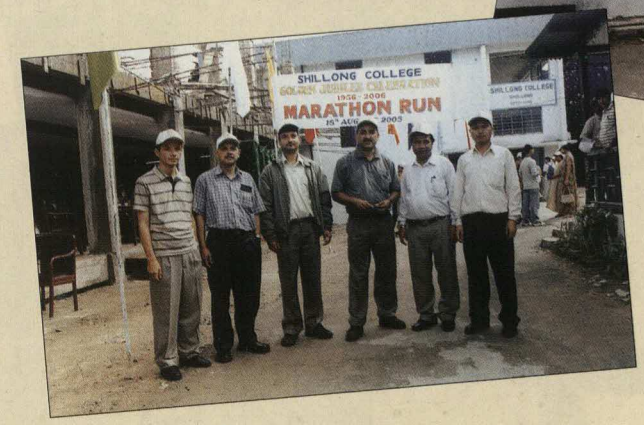


He is very happy – claims to have done it sincerely – did he ?

It is not that easy! – the official minutely examine all credentials



Dr. H langrai claiming much – but he didn't run. He is actually cheering Dr. S K Gupta who completed the Run



Some of officials, including Shri H Syiem, General Secretary, MCTA, take time off to pose

A Brief Report on the National Conference on

"Role of Higher Education for Social Change in India with Special Reference to North Eastern Region"

Dr. (Ms.) D. L. Buam
Joint Convener, Academic Sub-Committee

As we know human society had undergone phenomenal changes in every aspect of life and higher education is one factor leading to such changes. Education is known to be a powerful medium to help an individual realize his or her potentiality and grow into a truly cultured human being, so that he or she may contribute to the well being of the society as a whole. In fact higher education produces human resources, who can contribute constructively to the society. Unfortunately, our society today is inflicted with a number of serious problems of disintegration, violence, conflict, corruption etc. which are strong enough to disintegrate the fabric of a cultured society. The need of the hour is to iron out these problems and uphold the integrity of a society, Higher Education is one of the means to analyze and solve these problems.

With this objective, the Core Committee of the Golden Jubilee Programme, Shillong College felt the need to organize a Conference on Higher Education as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations and thus entrusted the matter to the Academic Sub-Committee to choose the theme of the Conference and finally this led us to put this theme, "Role of Higher Education for Social Change in India with special reference to North East Region" which was held on 21st and 22nd November 2005 which was followed by the Panel Discussion on the related theme. There were altogether three Technical Sessions under the sub-themes: (1) IT-Oriented Education & Socio-Economic Change, (2) Faculty Empowerment & Skill Up-gradation, and Teaching, and (3) Learning & Evaluation.

In the Technical Session I though only 4 papers have been presented, under the sub-theme- IT-Oriented Education & Socio-Economic Change which were enough to arouse interest among the audience and to initiate and disseminate ideas, as commented by Prof. P. K. Gupta, Head Department of Education NEHU, who successfully conducted the first Technical Session. Specialization in a subject will serve no purpose if it is not relevant to the needs of the society. Information Technology is one area where people of North East can take full advantage for our development. IT goes beyond the realm of Internet and other known applications. In fact, advanced IT can be an area that must be explored and incorporated in Higher Education. In a world where globalization and technology are the by-words, where economy and societies are knowledge driven, the role of higher education and its impact on modern societies cannot be underestimated.

The Technical Session II was chaired by Prof S. Aravamudhan, Department of Chemistry, NEHU. Under his able Chairmanship, a total number of 5 papers have been presented under the sub-theme- Faculty Empowerment & Skill Up-gradation. Social change is not a mechanical process. It is clearly a human enterprise and like all human enterprises, its outcome will depend on the skill, the quality and the attitude of the people who undertake it. The authors of the papers opined that the need of the hour is a sustained effort in restructuring and re-modifying the methods adopted in pursuing the goal of the curriculum. At the same time, they stressed upon the role of teachers in higher education to bring a change in the societal order. Co-curricular activities through NSS can also establish an interface and transform a society as these kinds of programmes can go a long way

in character building in students.

The third Technical Session has been held the next day i.e., on 22nd November morning and the session was chaired by Shri R.S. Lorit, Jt. Director, Higher and Technical Education under the sub-theme- Teaching, Learning & Evaluation. A total of 4 interesting papers were presented and it has been pointed out that higher education has not contributed much to the development of the region. So it was stressed that more and more academicians should be involved while making the policies. Higher education should involve innovative job-oriented courses. Priority should be given to train and counsel people for technical jobs. Research should be taken up in coal mining, forest etc. culture, lack of civic sense are all the result of poor education system. Education should be the medicine that solves various types of ailments (social, economic and others) or problems of the society without losing our glorious tradition. Higher education should be effectively utilized to achieve our goals. Quality and mass-based higher education should be emphasized to change the mindset of the people of North East. The teacher is the central determinant not only in the process of education but in the educational system as a whole.

Each of the three Technical sessions ended with a vote of thanks from the members of the Academic Sub Committee and then followed by a vibrant Panel Discussion on the main theme of the Conference. The Panel Discussion was effectively and efficiently moderated by the Moderator who is none other than the Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shri Manas Choudhury, and the Editor of the popular daily, The Shillong Times. There were four esteemed panelists whose names are as follows-

1. Mrs. M. Mawlong, Former Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills and Former DPI and also former Registrar, North Eastern Hill University.
2. Dr S.K. Chattopadhaya, Former Joint Director, Higher and Technical Education, Meghalaya.
3. Shri T. Mark, Former Director, Elementary and Mass Education, Govt. of Meghalaya.
4. Shri J. Mawthoh, Lecturer, Centre for Adult and Continuing Education, NEHU.

The Moderator of the Panel Discussion, Shri Manas Choudhury was successful enough in bringing about important points for the discussion among the panelists who were noted educationists. The panel discussion on the whole could enlighten the audience on the various facets of the role of education. The panelists with their long years of experience as administrators in the educational sectors of the government voiced their opinion over the issues pertaining to the impact of higher education in shaping the society for what it had been in the past to what it is now and what it will be in the future. One important point of discussion was pertaining to the need for specialized education which requires teachers trained in different trades of education. It was also asserted that the teacher is the central point in education system; the discussion was indeed a good cerebral exercise to the teachers, citizens, columnists, students who had attended it.

Shri G.P. Wahlang, Principal Secretary, Education etc, Govt. of Meghalaya in his keynote address in the Inaugural function stressed on the fact that Higher Education is a vehicle for conveying social changes, the driving force is in fact the policies of the Government. Since education falls in the Concurrent Lists of the Constitution of India, both the Union and the States can initiate policies. In our country, policies can be made, but their implementation needs money. Therefore, whoever has better financial resources makes the policies. He narrated some important features of higher education and made more stress on vocational education. According to the National Policy of Education 1986, vocationalisation of education was meant to develop a healthy attitude amongst the students towards work and life, to enhance individual employability, to reduce the mismatch, between the demands and supply of skilled manpower and to provide an alternative for those intending to pursue higher education without particular interest or purpose. Thus emphasis was on developing attitude, knowledge and skill, entrepreneurship and self-employment among students.

Unemployment of the educated youth becomes a major problem faced by the society in the State. The youths are unemployable despite their degrees and they all expect the Government to provide them the jobs, which is not always possible.

In the inaugural speech, Shri R.G. Lyngdoh, Chairman MEDC stressed on the need that the role of education is to help the students find their own slots not that they will run towards the same goal as there is likely to have some kind of friction. Unless we ourselves imbibe the culture and the mindset required to be productive human beings and which will enable us to keep the jobs once we get them. "If education can achieve that I feel it would become a very effective tool to bring about immediate and required changes in our society today", he added. Students are seeking fresh and new courses for job opportunities and also to show their knowledge, skill and creative talent to the globally competitive world.

Shri B.K. Dev Verma in his Valedictory address mentioned that students are the future leaders. Students need leadership development because leadership is no longer the province of the few, the privileged, or even the merely ambitious. Leadership development can enrich the undergraduate experience, give students a greater sense of control over their lives, and prepare them to live and work in society, and the preparation for leadership takes place in the classroom- when students see themselves as learners and teachers, work in groups or teams, and are actively involved in student organizations subject matter clubs, volunteer activities, and so on. College and university play key roles in shaping future leaders. In addition, they have the opportunity to provide leadership in their field of scholarship, in campus life, and in the larger society.

Shri P.J. Bazeley in his speech at the Valedictory function recalls about the changes that were brought in the society in the last four decades when he was a college student at that time. While comparing the increase in the number of colleges from that time till date he pointed out about what happened during the last forty years and what higher education has done in so far as our social milieu is concerned. So if one would look back at the social milieu, to his mind, the last four decades have witnessed unparallel changes in the society. The society in which we live is much more organized and if there is one thing that the country talks about is quality of urban life which perhaps is a very positive social change.

The whole gamut of deliberations during this 2-day Conference brought in the views and opinions as to how effectively the higher education could be used as a tool for social change and development in India and in particular to the North Eastern Region . More importantly is the possibility of implementing them in the education sectors and in framing and making policies in Higher Education. The need of the hour is the cooperation and network among educationists, scientists, teachers, researchers, administrators, policy makers, social workers, all stakeholders, in particular, and the public in general, to give a new dimension to the Higher Education. The Academic Sub-committee of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations is now engaged in publishing the Proceedings Volume of the Conference.

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Unemployment of the educated youth becomes a major problem faced by the society in the State. The youths are unemployable despite their degrees and they all expect the Government to provide them the jobs, which is not always possible.

In the inaugural speech, Shri R.G. Lyngdoh, Chairman MEDC stressed on the need that the role of education is to help the students find their own slots not that they will run towards the same goal as there is likely to have some kind of friction. Unless we ourselves imbibe the culture and the mindset required to be productive human beings and which will enable us to keep the jobs once we get them. "If education can achieve that I feel it would become a very effective tool to bring about immediate and required changes in our society today", he added. Students are seeking fresh and new courses for job opportunities and also to show their knowledge, skill and creative talent to the globally competitive world.

Shri B.K. Dev Verma in his Valedictory address mentioned that students are the future leaders. Students need leadership development because leadership is no longer the province of the few, the privileged, or even the merely ambitious. Leadership development can enrich the undergraduate experience, give students a greater sense of control over their lives, and prepare them to live and work in society, and the preparation for leadership takes place in the classroom- when students see themselves as learners and teachers, work in groups or teams, and are actively involved in student organizations subject matter clubs, volunteer activities, and so on. College and university play key roles in shaping future leaders. In addition, they have the opportunity to provide leadership in their field of scholarship, in campus life, and in the larger society.

Shri P.J. Bazeley in his speech at the Valedictory function recalls about the changes that were brought in the society in the last four decades when he was a college student at that time. While comparing the increase in the number of colleges from that time till date he pointed out about what happened during the last forty years and what higher education has done in so far as our social milieu is concerned. So if one would look back at the social milieu, to his mind, the last four decades have witnessed unparallel changes in the society. The society in which we live is much more organized and if there is one thing that the country talks about is quality of urban life which perhaps is a very positive social change.

The whole gamut of deliberations during this 2-day Conference brought in the views and opinions as to how effectively the higher education could be used as a tool for social change and development in India and in particular to the North Eastern Region . More importantly is the possibility of implementing them in the education sectors and in framing and making policies in Higher Education. The need of the hour is the cooperation and network among educationists, scientists, teachers, researchers, administrators, policy makers, social workers, all stakeholders, in particular, and the public in general, to give a new dimension to the Higher Education. The Academic Sub-committee of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations is now engaged in publishing the Proceedings Volume of the Conference.

SHILLONG COLLEGE

BOYCE ROAD, SHILLONG – 793 003 Phone: 2224903

E-mail:shillcoll@rediffmail.com

FIVE DECADES OF SHILLONG COLLEGE – A QUICK GLANCE:

Year	Events
1950-55 **Pre-Establishment Period**	Realising the need for more colleges to meet growing demands of higher education, some well-meaning and benevolent personalities of Shillong congregated in 1950 and formulated a scheme for starting a public college. A Steering Committee was formed with Late Rohini Kr. Choudhury as Chairman, Dr. P. K. Gupta and Prof. D. P. Chakraborty as Joint Secretaries. Other members of the Committee included: Shri A. S. Khongphai, Shri A. C. Roy, Shri K. N. Dutta, Shri A. B. Choudhury, Shri K. R. Bhattacharjee, Shri P. G. Mazumdar. Preparations went ahead to start the Ist year classes in 1951. But there came a set back and the whole plan could not be materialised for reasons beyond control.
1956-60	A public meeting held at Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Jail Road in May 1956 at the initiative of some enthusiastic persons, particularly Shri Satyen Kr. Kar and Shri Subhash Chatterjee of Lady Keane College and Shri Rajendra Nath Choudhury (Dadu), gave final shape to the plan and constituted First Managing Committee (Provisional) of the College with Shri Benode Behari Ghosh as President. Finally, inauguration of Shillong College took place on 15th August 1956 and the College functioned at Jail Road Boys' High School, Jail Road with I.A. and I. Com. Classes beginning from 16th August 1956 only in morning session. Shri Sudhindra Chandra Dutta, a lecturer in the department of Mathematics, St. Anthony's College took over as founder Principal. In 1957, both Day and Morning Session along with B.A. and B. Com. Classes started. Shillong College Students' Union was formed on 9th August 1959. Shri Mohit Kumar Das adorned the post of General Secretary and Shri Jimut Bahan Dutta (presently, Managing Director, Meghalaya Cooperative Apex Bank Limited) as the Student Editor of College Magazine. First ever Social Get-together of the College on 30th October, 1959, followed by 2 day-long Cultural function at Opera Hall, Shillong. First ever Annual Sports of the College from 31st October to 3rd November, 1959. The College team led by Prof. D. S. Rawat participated in the 7th Session of All Assam Inter College Music Conference held at Jorhat in 1960 and won as many as Six prizes. Shri B. P. Chaliha, Chief Minister of Assam visited the College and laid the foundation stone of the College Campus at the new site at Boyce Road, Shillong on 11th May, 1960.
1961-65	A Cultural Team of the College participated in the 8th Session of All Assam Inter-College Music Competition held at Guwahati in February 1961 bagging as many as 8 prizes. The College took an important step in its journey and shifted to its present campus at Boyce Road, Laitumkhrah, Shillong in 1962. Science stream started with I. Sc. Classes (P. U. Sc.) on 22-07-1963. Senior Division Boys' NCC introduced with total cadet of about 800. Arts and Commerce stream of the College came under Deficit grants-in-aid of the Government and given effect from 1st April 1962. Inspection of the College and its laboratories by Dr. H. J. Taylor, Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University on 24th April, 1964 and approval of Science section.
1966-70	Honours Courses in Mathematics started in 1966 Students of the College also joined the procession for the cause of Food scarcity in Shillong on 10th August 1966, in which Shri Shankar Purkayastha, a student of St. Edmund's College, was shot dead in Police firing. First batch of student appeared B. Sc. final examination. Shri S. Bhattacharjee, Department of History, took over as the Principal of the College on 1st September 1970 following the retirement of founder Principal Shri Sudhindra Ch. Datta

1971-75	Shri D. S. Rawat took over as the Principal of the College on 1st June 1973 following the retirement of Shri S. Bhattacharjee. Shillong College Team got championship in Hockey and Runners-up in Football and Table Tennis in the first ever Inter-College Sports Meet organised by NEHU in 1973, (Nov. 13-17). Science stream brought under Deficit Grants-in-aid by the Government of Meghalaya with effect from 1st April, 1975. N.S.S. was introduced in the College.
1976-80	The College hosted the 4th Annual General Conference of the Meghalaya College Teachers' Association (M.C.T.A.) held on 8th and 9th November 1976. NSS volunteers actively worked in the "Youth against Dirt and Diseases Camp" at Lalchand Basti, presently Nongmynsong. Honours courses in Botany and Zoology started in 1978.
1981-85	Silver Jubilee of the College celebrated with a week long programme from 24th to 30th September 1981. Celebrations were inaugurated by (Late) Dr. B. Pakem, the then Minister for Education, Government of Meghalaya. Permanent Affiliation was granted to the College by North-Eastern Hill University on 3rd April, 1982 under Section 2f of UGC Act.
1986-90	Honours courses in Chemistry and Physics started in 1986 and 1987 respectively. Shillong College Employees' Cooperative Mutual Benefit Society Limited was established and started functioning from 1989. Shri K. L. Choudhury, Head of the Department of Economics, took over as the Principal of the College on 1st November 1990 following the retirement of Shri D. S. Rawat.
1991-95	Teaching and Non-teaching Staff donate generously to the National Relief Fund towards Earthquake victims of Gujarat in 1993. Shri Tapan Moitra, Department of Economics, took over as the officiating Principal of the College on 1st April, 1995, following the retirement of Shri K. L. Choudhury.
1996-2000	Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh took over as the regular Principal of the College on 1st November, 1996, and Shri Tapan Moitra assumed the charge of regular Vice-Principal of the College. Inauguration of New Library Hall of the College (28-05-1997). An NGO, named the Shillong College Academic Society, was formed and registered in 1997. Department of Garo opened in the College in 1999. Shri Bankim Ch. Goswami took over as Vice-Principal of the College following the retirement of Shri Tapan M0itra on.31st March, 2000. Computer Application Course for the Higher Secondary Classes was introduced in the Academic Session 2000-01.
2001-06	Shillong College Alumni Association was formed on 22nd July 2002. Shillong College Employees Welfare Scheme was introduced from 2003. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore peer team headed by Prof. R. K. Mishra, former Vice-Chancellor, Gorakhpur University visited the College from 5th to 7th August 2003 and finally the College was awarded grade "B" status. Information and Career guidance Cell was opened in the College on 12th June 2003. and the Computer Science Laboratory was inaugurated on 28th August 2003. Professional Courses in B.B.A., B.C.A. and B. Sc.(Computer Sciences) were formally launched on 22nd June, 2004. Quality Advisory Committee (QAC) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) also started functioning. Opened Department of Statistics from the session 2004-2005. Pre-Independence Day Celebration was organised on 14th August, 2004, by the M.C.T.A. Unit of the College and Dr. M. P. R. Lyngdoh, Principal hoisted the National Flag. A group of B. Sc. students led by Dr. (Mrs.) A. A. Ahmed of Botany Department participated in "Techniche 2004" – a National level Technical Festival held at Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati held from 3rd to 5th September, 2004. Shri Durbadal Mukherjee took over as Vice-Principal of the College on 1st March, 2005, following the retirement of Shri N. K. Sarkar.

- Compiled by Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee, Lecturer, Department of Chemistry and Editor of the Magazine.

The Founders, Builders and Promoters

The birth, growth and development of the Shillong College is a cumulative result of the immense sacrifice, dedication, hard work and perseverance of a good number of well meaning selfless individuals as well as some prominent organisations of Shillong and also the region as a whole. Many of the founders, builders and promoters are no more in this world, some of them may have been spending their life elsewhere in the country while some are still around to share our joy, grief, achievements and failures. The Shillong College Fraternity gratefully remembers the contributions of all of them and the public, in general. Herein, we produce the names of the prominent figures who were part and parcel of the history of Shillong College but we acknowledge that there may be some omissions merely due to absence of proper records or constraints of space.

*Shri Benode Behari Ghosh (ex-Registrar, Government of Assam)
* Shri Benoy K. Dutta Roy
*Shri Sudhindra Chandra Dutta
*Shri Sunirmal Dutta
*Shri Satyen Kr. Kar
*Shri Subhash Chatterjee
*Shri Amulya Bhusan Choudhury
*Shri Anath Bandhu Dutta
*Shri Rajendra Choudhury (Dadu) – Advocate
*Shri Dharmananda Das
*Shri Maham Singh
*Shri Parsha Nath Choudhury
*Shri R. T. Rymbai
*Shri Lala B. K. Dey
*Shri K. K. Chakraborty
*Shri Rameshwar Goenka
*Shri K. C. Paul Choudhury
*Shri Akshay Bhattacharjee
*Smt. Mrinalini Paul
*Smt. Nirjharini Deb Roy
*Smt. Kanaklata Dey
*Smt. H. Khongpai
*Shri D. N. Datta
*Dr. S. C. Deb
*Shri Shyamapada Choudhury
*Shri Lal Behari Datta
*Shri B. B. Choudhury
*Shri P. G. Marbaniang
*Prof. R. S. Lyngdoh
*Shri R. P. Panigrahi,
*Shri Shyamadas Bhattacharjee
*Shri H. Syiemlieh
*Shri Kapila Chatterjee
* Shri D. P. Chakraborty
* Shri Suddhhabrata Bhattacharjee
*Shri D. S. Rawat
*Shri Bhibhu Bhusan Choudhury
*Shri Kumud Rn. Bhattacharjeee
*Shri Radha Raman Bhattacharjee
* Shri Baidyanath Mukherjee
* Shri Jitendra Nath Das, I.A.S.
*Shri R. Z. Ahmed, I.A.S.
* Shri Dharmananda Das, IAS
*Shri Amulya Bhusan Choudhury
*Shri A. Warjri, ex-M.P.
*Shri D. S. Kongdup
* Dr. C. Wolflang
*Shri B. W. Roy,IAS
*Shri C. A. Roy
*Smt. E. N. Shullai
*Dr. Mrinal Miri
and ***many others, including the people of Shillong, in general.***

We also thank all the institutions and social organisations which came forward spontaneously to help the Shillong College in its early difficult period and have been cooperating all along till today. Prominent amongst them are:

- Jail Road Boys' High School, Jail Road, Shillong.
- Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Jail Road, Shillong.
- Opera Hall, Giti Natya Samaj, Thana Road, Shillong.
- M/s Bangalakshmi Stores, Police Bazar, Shillong.
- Singhania Brothers, Police Bazar, Shillong.
- Rabindra Nriti Natya Sangha, Shillong.
- Ka Hinimon Jaid Dkhar (mother of Shri Maham Singh) and her family members.
- Assam State Electricity Board.
- Film Distributor, Nowgong, Assam.
- University Grants Commission, New Delhi.
- Government of Assam and Shri B. P. Chaliha, former Chief Minister of Assam, in particular.
- Dr. H. J. Taylor, Vice Chancellor, Gauhati University and authorities of Gauhati University, in general.
- North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong.
- Authorities of the then existing Colleges of Shillong.

MAJOR CELEBRATIONS/SEMINARS/CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS, ETC. ORGANISED BY THE COLLEGE

YEAR & DATE	TOPICS ETC.
1961	Birth Centenary of Rabindra Nath Tagore celebrated on 8th May, 1961.
1963	Birth Centenary of Swami Vivekananda celebrated.
1964	Art Exhibition and Mock Parliament.
13th August, 1969	Political Science Seminar on "The Nature of the Indian Federation."
24th -30th September, 1981	Silver Jubilee Celebration of the College.
28th May, 1997	Seminar on the "Effective use of College Library in Meghalaya" in collaboration with Meghalaya Library Association.
27th to 30th May, 1998	Four day long National Conference and Exhibition on the "Development of Science and Technology in the last Fifty years in India with Special reference to North East India", organised by the College and Shillong College Academic Society.
15th and 16th June 1999	A two-day National Conference on "Pollution, Man and Environment" was organised in collaboration with Shillong College Academic Society and was held.
1999 onwards, 5th June	Celebration of "World Environment Day" and organising of academic competitions for school and college level students
September 7 and 8, 2000	A two-day Regional Conference on "Agricultural Transition in the Hilly Areas of North Eastern Region", and also 4th Conference of North Eastern Economic Association.
Nov. 13 to Nov. 15, 2000	A three-day training programme of N.G.O.'s of North Eastern Region on "Public Participation on Environmental Management", sponsored by Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi.
12th to 21st October 2002	National Integration Camp (NIC) under the National Service Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with over 200 participants from all over India was held in the College.
November 13th to 15th 2002	Shillong College Academic Society and the College organised a National Workshop cum Seminar on "the Role of Information Technology in the development of India with special reference to N. E. Region".
May 3rd and 4th, 2005	A two day long National Conference cum Workshop on "Socio-economic Development of India with Special Reference to North-East Region" organised by the College and Shillong College Academic Society.
August 17th, 2005 to August 17th, 2006	Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College.
October 5th , 2005	Celebration of "International Year of Physics – 2005" and Seminar on "Radiation and Harnessing Radioactivity" organised by the Physics Department and the College.
21st and 22nd November 2005	National Conference on "Role of Higher Education for Social Change in India with special reference to North Eastern Region" as part of Golden Jubilee Celebration.
24th June, 2006	Prof. B. C. Jyrwa Memorial Lecture, organised by Sahitya Academy, Shillong Chapter, and Shillong College.
11th August, 2006	Students' Seminar on "Right to Information – its Impact".

> MAIN PUBLICATIONS OF THE COLLEGE <

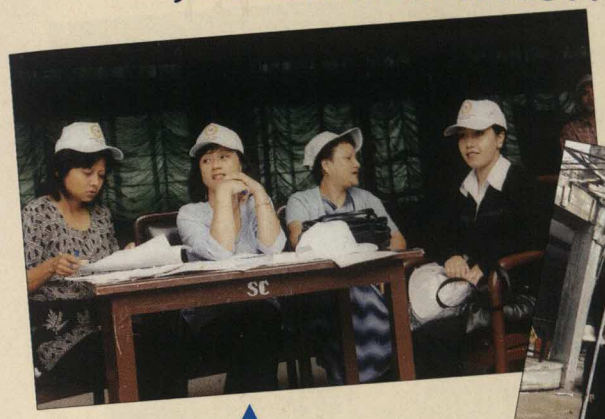
1. Annual College Magazines:

Sl. No.	Year	Name of Publication	Student Editor	Teacher-in-charge/Editor
1	1960-61	Annual Magazine	Shri Jimut Bahan Datta	Shri Bishwambhar Nanda
2	1962	Annual Magazine	Shri Jatindra Mohan Das	Shri Biraj B. Dutta
3	1966-67	Annual Magazine	Shri Bhaskar Pratim Deb	Shri Biraj B. Dutta
4	1969-70	Annual Magazine	Shri Nirmal Jyoti Paul	Shri Baidyanath Dutta & Shri R. Sarma
5	1972-73	Annual Magazine	Dipak Das Gupta	Shri R. Sharma & Shri N. K. Sarkar
6	1973-74	Annual Magazine	Shri Merest M. Rajee	Shri R. Sharma & Shri N. K. Sarkar
7	1977-78	Annual Magazine	C. Nongrum	Shri Nirmal K. Sarkar
8	1979-80	Annual Magazine	Felix N. Ranee	Shri B. C. Jyrwa
9	1981	Silver Jubilee Magazine	-	Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar
10	1982-83	Annual Magazine	Shri Snarwell Syiemlieh	Shri Ranjit Kr. Dev
11	1998	Annual Magazine	Shri Rocheston Wahlang & Shri Chamuel Khongwir	Shri Ranjit Kr. Dev
12	2000	Annual Magazine	Shri Barristerwell Marbaniang	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
13	2001	Annual Magazine	Shri Alvin Bamon	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
14	2002	Annual Magazine	Shri Cecilton L. Mawphlang	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
15	2003	Annual Magazine	Shri Banphrang M. Syiem	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
16	2004	Annual Magazine	Shri Banthom S. Sumer	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
17	2005	Golden Jubilee Souvenir	-	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee
18	2006	Golden Jubilee Magazine	Smt. Deiti Shanpru	Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee

2. **Proceedings volume** of the National Conference and Exhibition on the "Development of Science and Technology in the last Fifty years in India with Special reference to North East India" held from 27th to 30th May 1998 (1999).
3. **Proceedings volume** of the Regional Conference on "Agricultural Transformation in the Hilly Areas of North Eastern Region", and the 4th Conference of North Eastern Economic Association (2002).
4. **Proceedings volume** of the National Workshop cum Seminar on "the Role of Information Technology in the development of India with special reference to N. E. Region." (2003).
5. **Proceedings volume** of the National Conference cum Workshop on "Socio-economic Development of India with Special Reference to North-East Region" (2006).
6. **Proceedings volume** of the National Conference on "Role of Higher Education for Social Change in India with special reference to North Eastern Region" (2006).
7. **Proceedings volume** of the Celebration of "International Year of Physics 2005" (2006).

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

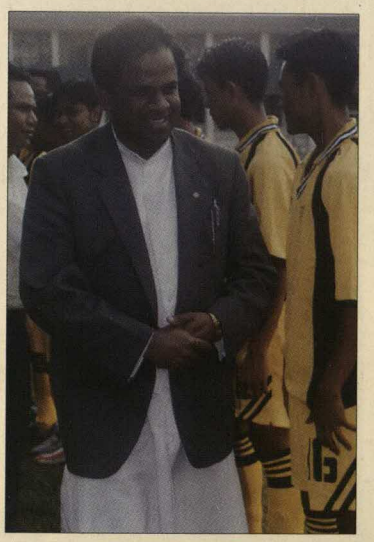
SPORTS & GAMES – JUBILEE MARATHON RUN : 18.08.2005



The Lady officials – what they are doing ?

Finally, Marathon Run is over

EXHIBITION FOOTBALL MATCH : 05.10.2005



Chief Guest, Fr. P D Johny being introduced to players

The Shillong College Students XI – Winner of the Match

The Union Christian College Students XI

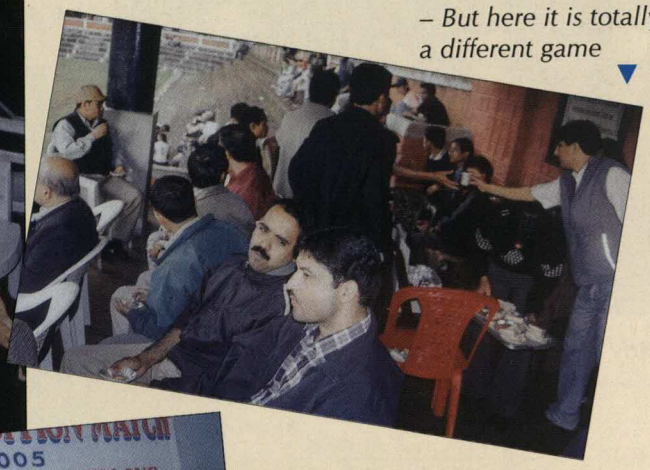
GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

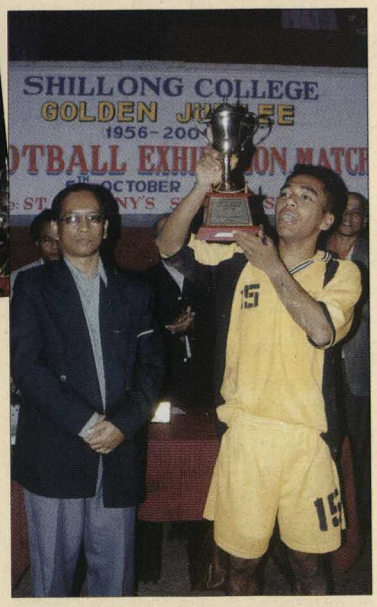
EXHIBITION FOOTBALL MATCH : 05.10.2005

They seem to enjoy the Match



– But here it is totally a different game

Chief Guest, Dr. S R Lyndem, Principal, UCC speaks at Prize Distribution Ceremony



Champion Shillong College Team Captain with Winner Trophy

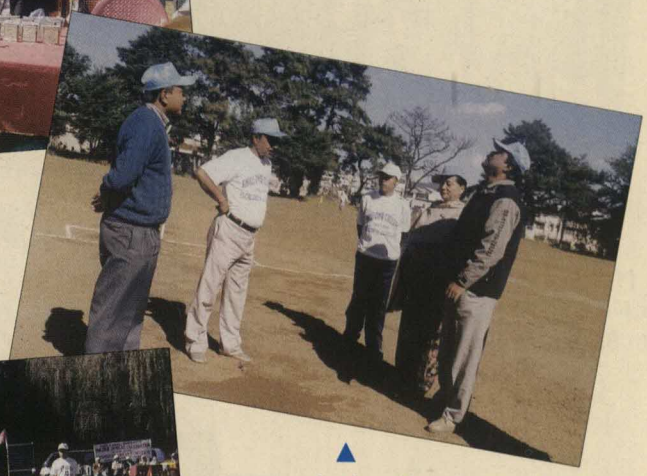
EXHIBITION CRICKET MATCH : 09.12.2005

Principal Dr. (Mrs) M P R Lyngdoh welcoming everyone at the Inaugural Ceremony at St. Edmund's College Ground

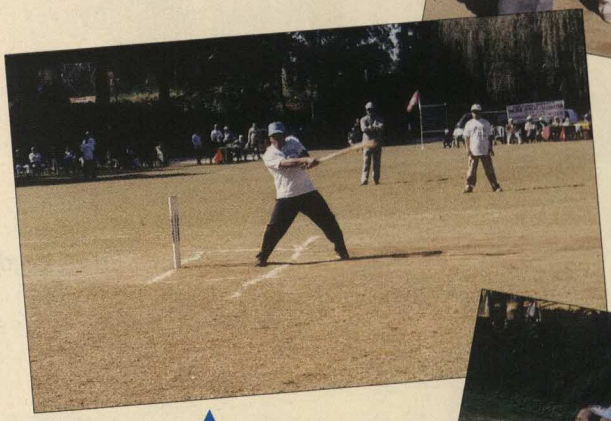
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

EXHIBITION CRICKET MATCH : 09.12.2005

Chief Guest, Br. L D Lobo, Principal, St. Edmund's College delivering Inaugural Address



Business kicks off under watchful eyes of the officials, Shri G Kharkongor and Shri M Chakraborty of St. Edmund's College



Very competitive match indeed. Is it a drive, or a cut or a glance or else ?

Third Umpire, James M Sun did not allow anyone to relax or manipulate!

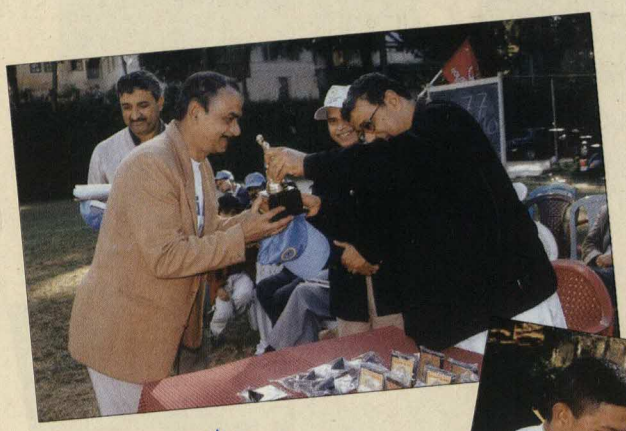
Some members of Principal's XI (Non Teaching Staff)

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

EXHIBITION CRICKET MATCH : 09-12-2005



Dr. H Dhar, Captain of Teaching Staff XI receiving Winners Trophy from Br. L D Lobo

Player of the Match – Shri B F Lyngdoh of Teachers XI. All batsmen and bowlers of World – take note of his skills

Chief Guest, Br. L D Lobo being presented Memento by Principal, Shillong College

Some Members of Golden Jubilee Committee with Principal and Vice-Principal

Row (Front)- (L-R)- Dr. (Smt.) D. Chattopadhyay, Smt. W. Dkhar, Shri T.S. Rajee, Shri D. Mukherjee (Vice Principal), Dr (Smt) M.P.R. Lyngdoh (Principal), Dr, S.K. Gupta (Vice Principal, P/C) and Smt.R.Devi

Row (Near)- (L-R)- Dr. M.N. Bhattacharjee, Shri B.K.Saha, Shri N.B. Rai, Dr. Malay Dey, Shri K.D. Ramsiej, Shri S.R. Nongkynrih and Shri B. Syiem

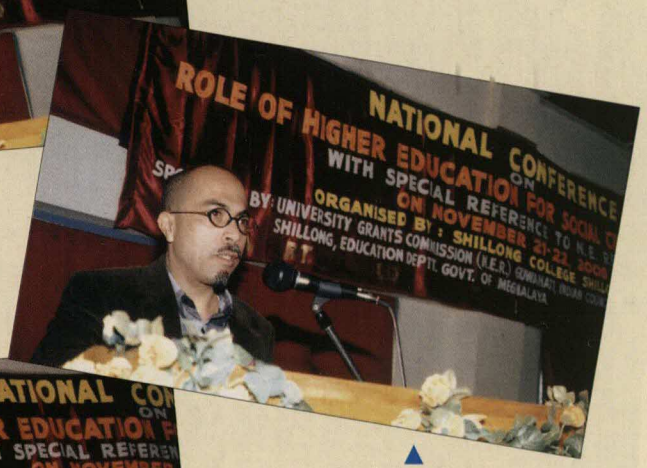
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

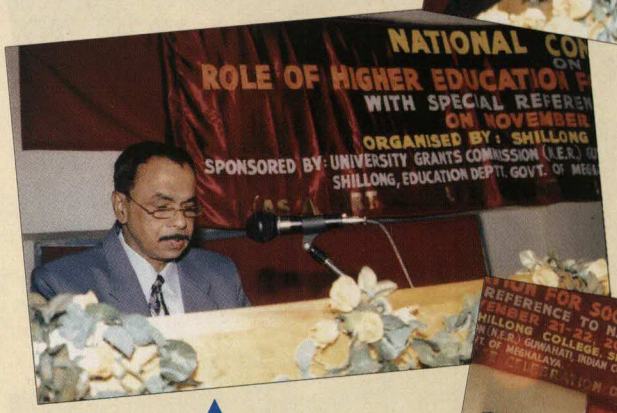
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION..."

NOVEMBER 21-22,2005

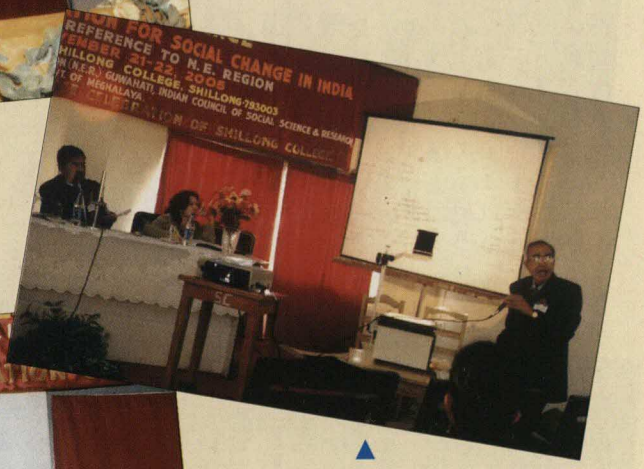
Shri G P Wahlong, IAS, Principal Secretary, Education presenting the Key-note Address



Shri R G Lyngdoh, Chairman, Meghalaya Economic Development Council, delivering the Inaugural Address



Dr. H Dhar, Member, Academic Sub-Committee, offering Vote-of-Thanks



Dr. S Aravamudhan of NEHU presenting paper in Technical Session - I

Shri R S Lorit, Jt. Director, Higher and Technical Education, Meghalaya conducting Technical Session - III

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

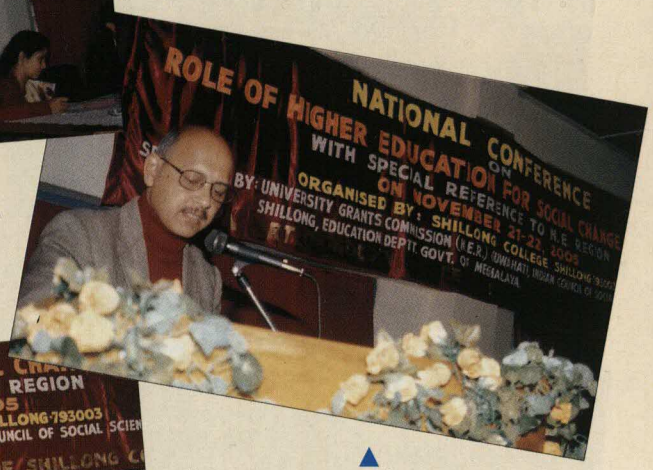
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION..."

NOVEMBER 21-22,2005

Dr. (Mrs.) E Kharkongor, Shillong College presenting her paper in Technical Session - III



Shri H Syiem, Genl. Secretary, MCTA presenting paper in Technical Session - III

Panel Discussion in Progress with Shri Manas Choudhuri, MLA as Moderator

A view of audience in the Panel Discussion

Shri B K Deb Verma, IAS, Commissioner, Finance etc., Meghalaya being felicitated by student at Valedictory Function

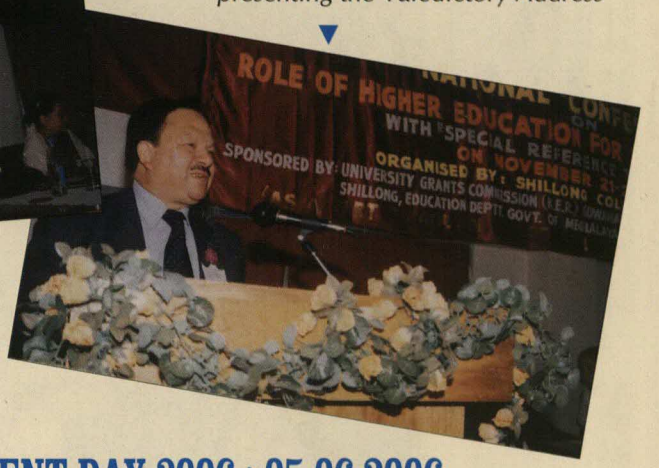
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION..."

NOVEMBER 21-22,2005

Dr. (Mrs.) A A Ahmed, Convenor, Academic Sub-Committee summing up the Proceedings of the Conference in Valedictory Function



Shri P J Bazeley, IAS, Chief Secretary of Meghalaya presenting the Valedictory Address

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2006 : 05.06.2006

Shri S Lato, Convenor, welcoming everyone at the Inaugural Function

Chief Guest, Shri L Roy, IAS, Commissioner, Forests & Environment, Government of Meghalaya delivering Inaugural Speech

A view of the gatherings at the Inaugural Function

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1956 ★ 2006

SHILLONG COLLEGE SHILLONG

GOLDEN JUBILEE

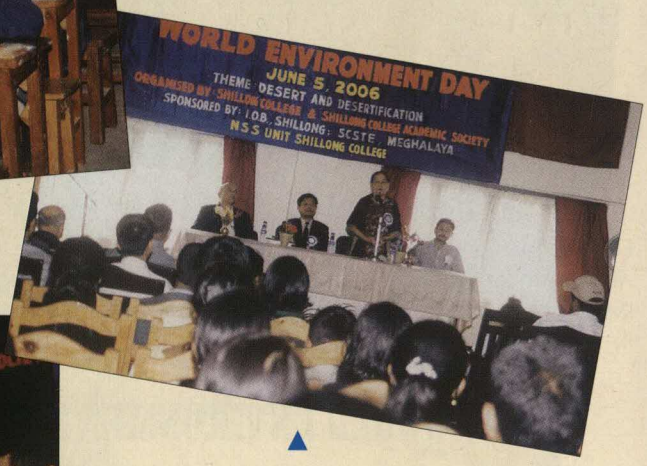
1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS : 2005-2006

ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

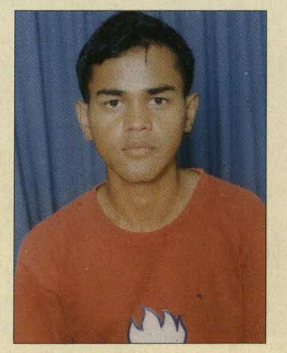
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2006 : 05.06.2006

A section of Participants in Sit-and-Draw Competition



Principal, Dr. (Mrs.) M P R Lyngdoh making Chairperson's remark in the Valedictory Function (14.06.2006)

Chief Guest, Shri R D West, Member-Secretary, SCSTE, distributing prizes



2004-05
Shri Boney Kharmalki

2005-06
Shri Khrawkupar Warjri

General Secretaries of Students' Union of the Golden Jubilee Year

AWARDS INSTITUTED BY THE COLLEGE

The Shillong College is happy to announce that to create more enthusiasm among the students to pursue higher education with zeal and vigour, a number of academic awards have been instituted by the college authorities. It is to be credit of the donors that such awards could be institutionalised with matching grants on behalf of the College. The Awards have been implemented coinciding with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College, i.e. 2005 onwards. The details of the awards are as follows:

I. Family members of our founder Principal, (Late) Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta, donated a sum of Rs. 10,000/- some years back to institute some award for the students excelling in academic field. The authorities of the College deemed it fit to institute the award by contributing a matching grant and creating a fund from which such award may be given every year. This is named as, "S. C. Datta Memorial Prize" and awarded to the students of the College obtaining the highest marks in Honours subject, one each in Arts, Commerce and Science streams. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 1,000/- and a citation. The first recipients of the award (2005) are:

- Smt. Persara Mawkhiew - IIIrd year B. A. (Khasi Honours).
- Shri Gregory Thabah - IIIrd year B. Com. (Hons).
- Shri Freestarman Syiemiong - IIIrd year B. Sc. (Botany Honours).

II. Former Vice-Principal of the College, Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar (Department of English), donated a sum of Rs. 10,000/- requesting the College authorities to institute an award for the students of the College securing highest marks in English in either Board or University examination. This unique gesture of Shri Sarkar was announced by him during the colourful 'Retirement Party', organised by the M.C.T.A. Unit of the College in March 2005, amidst the applause of all the members present on the occasion. The College, on its part, provided a matching grant and created a fund from which the award named, "N. K. Sarkar Prize in English" shall be handed over to the student securing highest marks in English every year. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 1,000/- and a citation. The first recipient of the award, implemented coinciding with the Golden Jubilee Celebration (2005) of the year, is:

> Smt. Audreylia Kharmujai - HSSLC (Class XII) Arts. (secured highest marks in English in Board Examination, 2005)

The Shillong College Community expresses its gratitude to the Family members of (Late) Shri S. C. Datta, founder Principal of the College, and Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar, former Vice-Principal of the College for their magnanimity and inspirational efforts to the benefit of the Students. It is expected that the Students will take encouragement from the award instituted in recognition of their academic excellence and strive for performing better and better in the days to come.

AWARD FOR COLLEGE ANTHEM

Shri Robert G. Lyngdoh, Honourable Home Minister, Government of Meghalaya and an alumnus of the College had sponsored an amount of Rs. 5,000/- only for a cash prize to be awarded to the winner of the competition for composition of "COLLEGE ANTHEM" during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College. For this a "Committee for College Anthem" was constituted with Smt. S. R. Das, Head, Department of English, as the Convenor and as per the decision of the Committee, Shri Paul H. Shylla, a student of IIIrd year B. A. (English Honours) was adjudged the best composer and he will be awarded the cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- during the Closing Day Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College on 17th August, 2006.

Thanks: Shri Robert G. Lyngdoh. Congratulations: Shri Paul H. Shylla

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLEGE

Ø To provide quality education to all aspiring students through meaningful academic and professional courses keeping in mind the special needs of the economically, educationally and socially disadvantaged segment of the society.

Ø To inculcate knowledge and need-based work skills so that the products of the college find themselves prepared for employment and self-employment avenues as and when required.

Ø To help students to discover and tap their fullest potential through appropriate co- and extra-curricular activities leading to integrated personality-development in order to become responsible and productive citizens of the country.

Ø To encourage and promote moral, secular, scientific and nation-building values so that the students respect, protect and nurture the rich composite culture of the country and of each of its constituent units.

Ø To create awareness, concern and care for environment by gearing various collegiate activities to sustainable environmental practices encompassing the State's land, water, flora and fauna.

SHILLONG COLLEGE ANTHEM

Composed by
Shri Paul H. Shylla
B. A. Third Year English Hons.

(1) O Arise we Shillong College
Ever zealous in our quest
For virtue, truth and knowledge
To rise above the rest.

Refrain: Light the lamp of knowledge in our hearts
Forever it will burn till we depart.

(2) For knowledge immortal is our motto dear
A guiding force to which we all adhere
Ever striving to light the lamp of glory
Here we are to make our destiny.

Refrain: Light the lamp of knowledge in our hearts
Forever it will burn till we depart.

(3) Inspired, we shall conquer
Every fear or false belief
To emerge as triumphant victors
In every field you can perceive.

Refrain: Light the lamp of knowledge in our hearts
Forever it will burn till we depart.

(4) God bless Shillong College
Make it fruitful in its quest
For virtue, truth and knowledge
We shall remain for ever the best.

Refrain: Light the lamp of knowledge in our hearts
Forever it will burn till we depart.

SHILLONG COLLEGE – GOVERNING BODY – 2006-07

1. Dr.(Smt.) K. S. Lyngdoh
   Prof. in Education, North Eastern Hill University. - President
2. Dr.(Smt.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh - Secretary & Principal
3. Shri D. Mukherjee, Vice-Principal - Member
4. Dr. S. K. Gupta, Vice-Principal, Prof. Courses - Member
5. Dr. (Smt.) V. Kharmawphlang, Principal,
   College of Teacher Training, Shillong - Member
6. Shri K. L. Tariang. Deputy Commissioner,
   West Khasi Hills District, Nongstoin. - Member
7. Shri J. War, Director, Accounts & Treasury, Meghalaya - Member
8. Shri D. B. Gurung - Member
9. Shri G. P. Kharchandy, Dy. Director, MCCL - Member
10. Shri D. C. Das Choudhury - Donor Member
11. Prof. T. B. Subba, Department of Anthropology,
    NEHU Representative - Member
12. Prof. B. Myrboh, Department of Chemistry,
    NEHU Representative - Member
13. Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee, Department of Chemistry,
    Shillong College - Teachers' Representative - Member
14. Shri B. Syiem, Department of Economics,
    Shillong College - Teachers' Representative - Member

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1956 ★ 2006

"A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties; no religious basis is necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained by fear of punishment and hope of reward after death."

--Albert Einstein

NOTABLE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS DURING LAST FIFTY YEARS – A BRIEF APPRAISAL

Our students have performed brilliantly over the past decades since the inception of the College in academic field. Whereas it may not be possible to provide all the details, a very brief account of the success story of the students in different Board/University is given below (Guwahati University up to 1971 and since 1972 under the North Eastern Hill University; HSSLC under Meghalaya Board of School Education, MBOSE) Examinations.

Year of Examination	Name of the Student	Examination passed	Rank/Position in Board/University
1960	Smt. Joy Lakshmi Devi	B. A. with distinction	1st
1961	Shri Shibdas Nandy	B. A. with distinction	2nd
1962	Smt. Srilekha Das	P. U. Arts	11th
	Smt. Mohini Kalita	B. A. with distinction	5th
1963	Shri Subir Datta	P. U. (Arts)	7th
	Shri Bijoy Madhab Bhattacharjee	P. U. (Arts)	9th
	Smt. Sunanda Dutta	B. A. with distinction	4th
1966	Shri Jiten Deb	B. A. Economics Honours	1st Class 3rd
1967	Smt. Tapati Das	P. U. Arts	2nd
	Smt. Sudeshna Bagchi	B. A. Education Honours	Ist class 1st
1968	Smt. Krishna Purkayastha	P. U. Arts	9th
	Shri Kankan Roy	- do -	11th
1971	Smt. Belinda Diengdoh	B. A. with distinction	2nd
	Smt. Aparna Das	B. Sc. with distinction	8th
1974	Shri Bhupal Dutta	P. U. Commerce	1st
	Shri Bibhupada Goswami	P. U. Com. (Old Course)	1st
1975	Shri Hulsazu Epao	B. A. Pol. Sc. Honours	1st Class 1st
1976	Shri Santanu Bhattacharjee	P. U. Commerce	2nd
	Shri Priyatosh Chakraborty	B. Sc. with distinction	1st
1977	Shri Kishore Lyngdoh	P. U. Commerce	4th
	Shri Gurupada Chakraborty	- do -	5th
1978	Shri Debashis Das Gupta	P. U. Commerce	1st
1979	Shri Madhu Singh Rawat	P. U. Commerce	1st
	Shri Paritosh Paul	- do –	3rd
	Shri Atul Kr. Mittal	- do –	4th
	Shri Arvind Singh Sehdave	P. U. Science	8th
1980	Shri Bhagawan A. Mardani	P. U. Commerce	2nd
1981	Shri Pralay Kr. Chakraborty	P. U. Commerce	1st
	Shri Hiwin Lakiang	- do –	2nd
	Shri Harijoy Pant	- do –	3rd
	Shri Malay Dey	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 1st
1982	Shri Reynold H. Rynjah	P. U. Commerce	2nd
	Shri Palash Kumar Mazumdar	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 4th
	Shri Bhagwan A. Mordani	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Shri Subh Karan Jain	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 4th
	Shri Mahendra Chandok	B. Com. Pass	1st Class with distinction
1983	Smt. Anita Pradhan Jyrwa	P. U. Commerce	3rd
1984	Shri Binod Bhujel	P. U. Commerce	3rd
	Smt. Joyshree Paul	P. U. Commerce	5th
	Shri Bhupesh Hajong	B. A. English Honours	1st Class 2nd
1985	Smt. Jaya Bhattacharjee	P. U. Com.	2nd
	Shri Susanta Kr. Roy	P. U. Com.	5th

	Shri Gauri Shankar Shah	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Shri Winifred Lyngwa	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 5th
	Shri Biplab Dey	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 5th
1986	Shri Razaul Hasan Laskar	P. U. Commerce	3rd
	Emily Christine Rozario Brisohbar	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Smt. Ibanri Hynniewta	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 4th
1987	Smt. Joyshree Paul	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Smt. Jaya Bhattacharjee	B. Com. Pass	1st Class 2nd
1988	Smt. Jaya Bhattacharjee	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 1st
	Sashi Sharma	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 4th
1989	Mousumi Bhattacharjee	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Mousumi Paul	B. Sc. Chemistry Honours	1st Class 5th
1990	Smt. Mithua Bhattacharjee	B. Sc. Chemistry Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Smt. Mandira Bhowmik	B. Sc. Chemistry Honours	1st Class 6th
	Shri Fredrick A. Lamare	B. Sc. II year Pass	1st Class 6th
1991	Chung Fu Sen	P. U. Commerce	2nd
	Smt. Seema Rani Prasad	B. Sc. Chemistry Honours	1st Class 1st
	Shri Fredrick A. Lamare	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 1st
	Banani Nandi	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Gopa Sarma	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Barnali Purkayastha	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 6th
	Mandira Paul	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 10th
	Shri Monojit Sen	B. Com. (Pass)	1st
1992	Shri Bhaskar Bhattacharjee	P. U. Commerce	2nd
	Smt. Sanhita Bhattacharjee	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Smt. Debashree Dam	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 4th
	Smt. Manisha Deb	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 5th
	Shri Swapan Kr. Sinha	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Shri Kulbir Bhujel	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Smt. Phuhlin Mukhim	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 8th
	Smt. Tanushree Biswas	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 10th
1993	Smt. Minakshi Choudhury	P. U. Com.	2nd
	Smt. Lucy Mary Malngiang	B. A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 1st
	Shri Subho Das	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Shri Jaydeep Paul	B. Sc. Mathematics Hons.	1st Class 4th
	Md. Salauddin Monsouri	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Shri Ricky Andrew Jones Syngkon	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Shri Jasobanto Bhattacharjee	B, Sc. (Pass)	1st Class 5th
1994	Smt. Anamika Gupta	B. Sc. Zoology Honours	1st Class 1st
1995	Smt. Deepa Dutta	P. U. Commerce	1st
	Smt. Ritu Jain	P. U. Commerce	2nd
	Smt. Phalguni Bhattacharjee	P. U. Commerce	3rd
	Shri George Das Gupta	P. U. Commerce	6th
	Smt. Saru Narula	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 1st
	Shri Bhaskar Bhattacharjee	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 2nd
	Shri Jon Jobhias-G Momin	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 3rd
1996	Smt. Lucy Mary Malngiang	B.A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 1st
	Shri Larry Blah	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 1st
	Smt. Anju Kumari Rawat	B. Sc. Botany Honours	1st Class 8th
1997	Smt. Nitu Goenka	B. Com. Honours	1st Class 1st
1999	Shri Regenelson Kharwanlang	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 1st
2001	Ruma Bhowmik	HSSLC Com.	5th
	Hari Om Sharma	HSSLC Com.	9th
	G. Bilmatita K. Umlong	B. A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 8th

2002	Shri Sainkupar L. Mawiong	B. Sc. Mathematics Hons.	1st Class 1st
	Smt. Bilnalita Kharumlong	B.A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 8th
	Shri Dominic Nongsiej	- do –	1st Class 10th
	Shri Albansius John Buhphang	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 6th
	Shri Tisharlin S. Mawdoh	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 7th
2003	Shri Barometer Nongbri	HSSLC (Arts)	5th
	Smt. Ibasisha Kharhujon	HSSLC (Commerce)	5th
	Shri Pynjopthian Nongrum	B. A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 1st
	Shri Resfullda Kharwanniang	B.A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 5th
	Smt. Ragini G. Shadap	B. Com. with distinction	1st Class 1st
	Shri Mebantip Thabah	B. Sc. Physics Honours	1st Class 5th
2004	Smt. Darish Nongsteng	HSSLC (Commerce)	10th
	Smt. Pdiang Arti Rynjah	- do –	10th
	Shri Nirmal Pandit	B. Com. with distinction	1st
	C. Vanlalveni	B. Sc. (Botany Honours)	1st Class 4th
	Larisuk B. Lynser	B. Sc. (Botany Honours)	1st Class 5th
2005	Audreylia Kharmujai	HSSLC (Arts)	Highest Marks in English (86) in Board Exam.
2006	Nita Rymal	HSSLC (Commerce)	10th & Highest Marks in Economics (85).
	Shri Barometer Nongbri	B. A. Mathematics Hons.	1st Class 1st
	Lalnunmawii	B. A. Philosophy Honours	1st Class 3rd
	Smt. Pascaline Thabah	B. A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 7th

A Brief Survey of H.S.S.L.C. (Class XII) Results of the College

Year	Class/Stream	Students appeared	Students Passed	College Pass percentage	Board Pass percentage
2000	XII Arts	294	161	54.76%	-
	XII Com.	104	121	85.95%	-
	XII Sc.	99	73	73.74%	-
2001	XII Arts	300	233	77.67%	-
	XII Com.	89	78	87.64%	70.17%
	XII Sc.	97	75	77.32%	74.84%
2002	XII Arts	252	224	88.89%	-
	XII Com.	105	95	90.47%	-
	XII Sc.	93	82	88.17%	-
2003	XII Arts	241	226	92.5%	53.74%
	XII Com.	88	79	89.77%	71.25%
	XII Sc.	96	76	79.17%	71.32%
2004	XII Arts	218	173	79.36%	49.05%
	XII Com.	84	71	82.55%	74.50%
	XII Sc.	119	93	78.15%	76.30%
2005	XII Arts	286	254	88.81%	60.74%
	XII Com.	88	82	93.18%	79.19%
	XII Sc.	98	70	71.43%	71.41%
2006	XII Arts	272	236	86.76%	60.83%
	XII Com.	75	65	86.67%	79.44%
	XII Sc.	125	75	60%	64.23%

GOVERNING BODY PRESIDENTS & SECRETARIES OF SHILLONG COLLEGE

Sl. No.	Name	Position Held	Tenure (approx.)	Short Profile
1	Late Shri Benode Behari Ghosh -Provisional Committee	President	1956-58	A resident of Jail Road, Shillong, held the post of Registrar of Assam Secretariat, was a devoted social worker
2	Late Dharmananda Das, I.A.S.	President	1958-60	Former Chief Secretary, Government of Assam. He is held in high esteem for his intellect and benevolent activities.
3	Late Amulya Bhusan Choudhury	President	1960-66	An educationist and social worker to the core, was instrumental in promoting many educational institutions and philanthropic organisations.
4	Late Baidyanath Mukherjee(ex-Minister)	President	1966-	Formerly a Minister of Government of Assam, was well known for his benevolent activities.
5	Late Jitendra Nath Das, I.A.S.	President		Born on 02-01-1912, was a reputed administrator. Expired on 29-03-1994.
6	Late Rashidur Zaman Ahmed, IAS	President		Educationist to the core, served in the Taxation Department, Assam at Shillong for 35 years. Founder President of Shillong Commerce College. Died on 04-02-1977
7	Late R.T. Rymbai, I.A.S.	President	1972-78, 1986-95	A reputed administrator and educationist, was an exponent in Khasi-Jaintia culture and tradition and well-known leader of Seng Khasi Community.
8	Shri Alexander Warjri, ex-M.P.	President	1978-81	Formerly M.L.A. and Rajya Sabha M.P. from Meghalaya, held many prominent positions. Now Staying at Malki, Shillong. Served also teacher in Khasi for many years in Shillong College.
9	Late Dewi Singh Khangdup	President		Born on 28-01-1921, served in a number of Government Departments and also as Secretary, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly. Expired on 6th April, 2003.
10	Late B. W. Roy, I.A.S	President		First IAS officer from Khasi Community was an efficient administrator.
11	Late Romesh Kharpor	President	1995-2003	Formerly a teacher in K.N.G. College, Jowai, retired as Jt. D.P.I., Government of Meghalaya. Expired on 26-06-2003
12	**Smt. K. S. Lyngdoh (present President)**	President	2003 till date	Professor of Education, North Eastern Hill University. Also held the post of Pro-Vice Chancellor of NEHU.
13	Late Shri Sunirmal Datta-Provisional Committee	Secretary	1956-58	A noted public man with broad cosmopolitan attitude.
14	Late Shri Maham Singh	Secretary	1958-1970	A prominent educationist and politician of Meghalaya held the post of cabinet minister in the then Government of Assam and also Government of Meghalaya
15	Late Dr. C. Wolflang	Secretary	1978-81	A lecturer in Lady Keane College later held the post of Director, SCERT, Meghalaya and then Jt. D.P.I., Government of Meghalaya.
16	Since 1988, Principal held the post of Secretary of the Governing Body			

SOME REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS (ACADEMIC & EXTRA-CURRICULAR) OF OUR STUDENTS & STAFF DURING THE SESSIONS 2004-05 AND 2005-06

I. Notable Academic performances of 2006

Nita Rymal	HSSLC (Commerce)	10th & Highest Marks in Economics (85%).
Shri Barometer Nongbri	B. A. Mathematics Hons.	1st Class 1st
Lalnunmawii	B. A. Philosophy Honours	1st Class 3rd
Smt. Pascaline Thabah	B. A. Khasi Honours	1st Class 7th

II. Shri Wandonbok Jyrwa, of Ist year B. Com.(Day Section: 2004-05) secured the First position in Khasi Debate, organised by the Khasi Authors' Society, during the Silver Jubilee Celebration 2004 of the Society. Shri Raynald Nelson Dkhar also performed creditably and awarded certificate of proficiency.

III. N.S.S. volunteer Shri Joshua Skhembor Nongrum participated in the All India N.S.S. Republic Day Parade Camp, New Delhi from 1st to 31st January, 2005.

IV. Shri Bankerlang Mawthoh bagged the First Prize in Men's below 63 kg in the XXIX National Arm Wrestling Championships held at Mirik in November, 2005, under the auspices of Indian Arm Wrestling Federation.

V. Ianly B. Nongrum of XII (Arts) earned the Best participant award in 'Slogan on AIDS' competition, organised by Indian Red Cross Society on 1st December, 2004.

VI. Veronica L. Nonglait and Lurshai Nongkynrih secured the 2nd and 3rd rank in the Poster Competition on AIDS, organised by Indian Red Cross Society on 1st December, 2004.

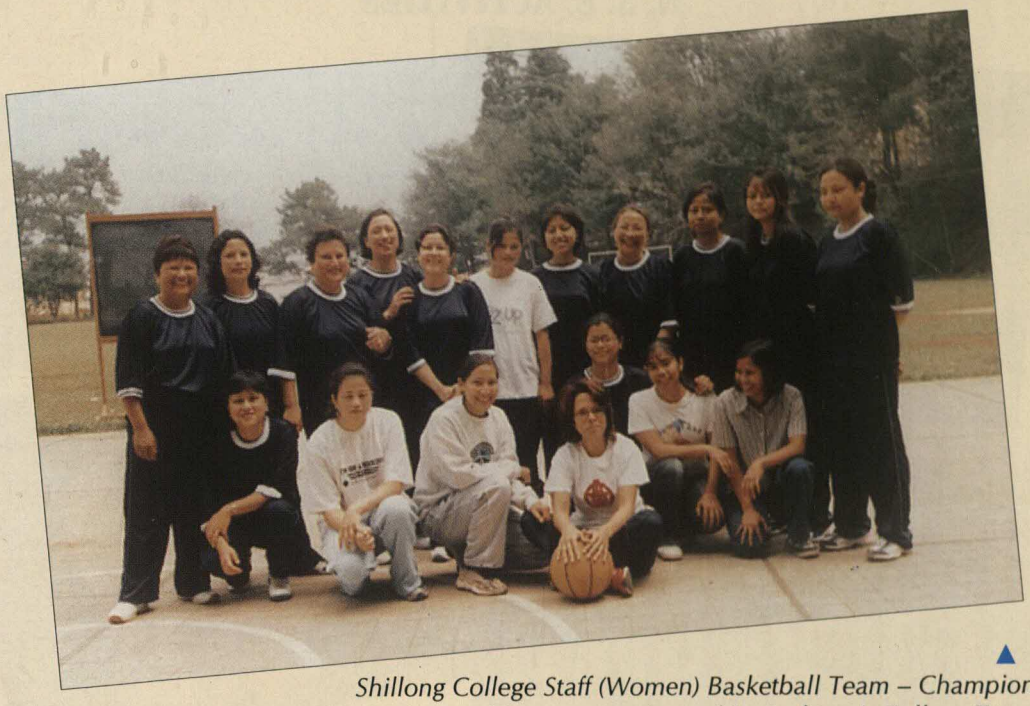
VII. Shillong College Students' Football Team won the Championship award for three consecutive years. In 2005, the College defeated by K. N. Government College, Jowai in the Inter-College Football Tournament, 2005, organised by North-Eastern Hill University to make it three in a row.

VIII. Shillong College Staff (Women) Basketball Team won the Championship award and lifted the First ever Dr. M. L. Kar Memorial Inter-College Staff (Women) Basketball Tournament, held during May, 2005, and organised by Meghalaya College Teachers' Association (M.C.T.A.). In the final match, the Shillong College Team defeated St. Anthony's College Team by a good margin. Smt. Ailynti Nongbri, Lecturer in the Department of Khasi, was awarded the Player of Tournament Trophy by the Organiser for her skilful performances.

"The pursuit of truth and beauty is a sphere of activity in which we are permitted to remain children all our lives."

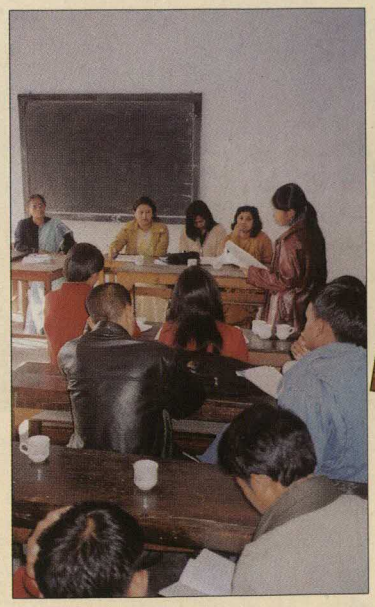
--Albert Einstein

GLIMPSES OF OTHER SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING 2005 AND 2006

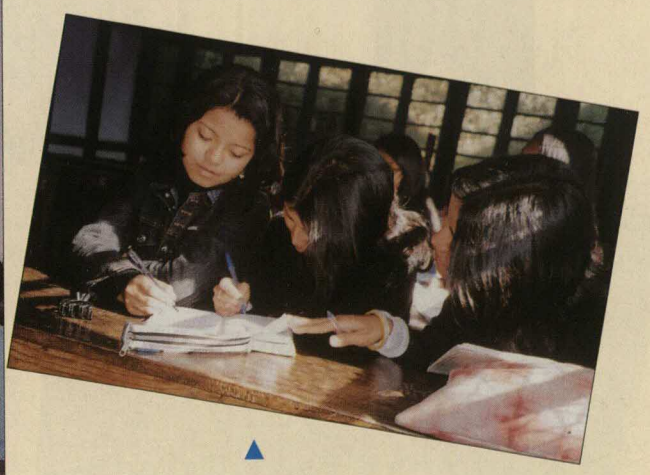


Shillong College Staff (Women) Basketball Team – Champion with some members of St. Anthony's College Team Dr. M. L. Kar Memorial Inter-College Staff (Women) Basketball Tournament, 2006 – M.C.T.A. (19.05.2006)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT – PAPER PRESENTATION BY STUDENTS



Students presenting papers while faculty members take note of their participation (13.12.2005)



English Honours Students busy in preparation (13-12-2005)

GLIMPSES OF OTHER SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING 2005 AND 2006

N. S. S. ACTIVITIES

◄ *Champion NSS Shillong College Team in Inter-College Football Competition 2005 organised by UNODC and Indian Red Cross Society*

▲ *Participants at Pre-Republic Day Camp, Gangtok*

▲ *Participant J. Nongrum with his certificate awarded, at Republic Day Parade, New Delhi, 2005*

▲ *N.I.C. 6-12 October 2005*

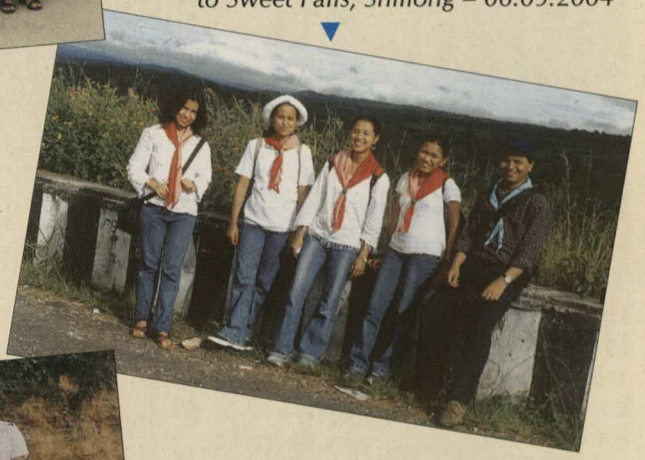
◄ *College NSS Team with others during their services in Mawhbah village (3-7-06)*

GLIMPSES OF OTHER SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING 2005 AND 2006

RANGERS AND ROVERS : SHILLONG COLLEGE

Shillong College Ranger Team – First Recruitment Ceremony (17.10.2003) – seen with Principal, Vice-Principal and Teachers-in-charge

A Trekking Programme by the Rangers to Sweet Falls, Shillong – 06.09.2004



First Recruitment Ceremony – 29.10.2005 – Shillong College Rovers Team – with Teachers Smt. R. Pyngrope, Smt. D. Chattopadhyay and Smt. I. Kharkongor

National Integration Day observed by the Rovers and Rangers on 31st October 2005 at College Campus – seen with Principal, Vice Principal and Smt. Q. Rynjah

GOLDEN JUBILEE

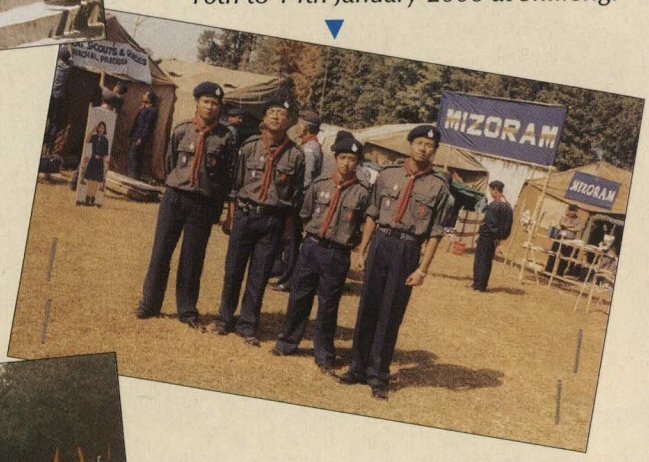
1956 ★ 2006

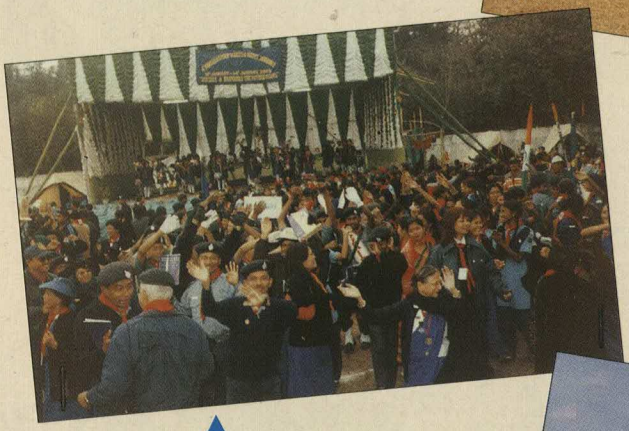
GLIMPSES OF OTHER SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING 2005 AND 2006

RANGERS AND ROVERS : SHILLONG COLLEGE

Shillong College Ranger Team with His Excellency Shri M. M. Jacob, Governor of Meghalaya at Raj Bhavan – participating in the Rajya Puraskar Rally on 07.11.2005

Four Rovers of Shillong College Team at 4th North Eastern Regional Jamboree – 10th to 14th January 2006 at Shillong.





A scene from Meghalaya Bharat Scouts and Guides 4th North Eastern Regional Jamboree held at State Headquarters, Shillong – 10th to 14th January 2006

New Developments, New Constructions..... College is marching ahead....

Department of English

The English department of Shillong College was started in 1956, obviously the same year the College took its birth. Late Shri Rajendra Lal Choudhury, a veteran advocate and an educationist of the town, and Shri Subhash Chatterjee of Lady Keane College were the first teachers of English in the College. They also played a pioneering role in the establishment of the College as well. A galaxy of celebrated teachers of English then came forward to make the foundation rock-solid, and this included Prof. G. G. Swell, Prof. Kapila Chatterjee, Prof. S. B. Bhattacharjee, Shri C. P. Sinha and many others. Prof. B. N. Nanda, M.A., LL.B, joined the college as the first full time lecturer in 1958, later to be followed by Shri Natarajan, Shri Sambhu Banerjee and Shri B. K. Gupta Bhaya. With the expansion in academic activities and the opening of Science Section, more teachers joined the department and Smt. Dipali Chakraborty (retired), Shri Jagadish Purkayastha (a Shakespearean scholar, now retired) and Dr. Subir Sen Gupta (who did Ph. D. on 'Romanticism in Unromantic Shaw', now retired) went on to illuminate the department. Smt. Mamata Bordoloi (retired) joined the department in 1967 and later Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar in 1969 (retired as Vice Principal). The department presently consists of a seven member team of teachers and they are: Smt. Smritirekha Das (Head), Dr.(Mrs.) Dhira Bhowmik, Smt. Bobbina Wanniang, Smt. I. S. Warjri, Shri L. M. Pariat, Smt. Amanda Basaiawmoit and Smt. G. Janet Dkhar. Smt. S. Das is a creative writer and poet and contributes to anthologies of national and international repute and Dr. D. Bhowmik with a lot of research publications is an enthusiastic academician. Smt. B. Wanniang ably accompanies her pianist colleague Smt. I. S. Warjri. Sincere to the core, both of them have impressed upon the minds of the learners as successful teachers. Shri Pariat finds time to remain engaged with extra-curricular activities in addition to his literary assignments, while our new colleagues Smt. Basaiawmoit and Smt. Dkhar are showing a lot of enthusiasm in the field of academics, sports and cultural activities besides proving their worth as effective teachers. English is taught in the College at all three streams of Science, Arts and Commerce along with the Honours courses which were started in the year 1968. The English department holds regular class-room discussions, group discussions as well as paper presentations as a measure to improve students' power of perception and communication skill and the result of these efforts as obvious in good performances by our students in the Board/University examinations and other competitions organised by different organisations from time to time. All the seven members of the department make concerted efforts to improve students' perceptive level, linguistic skills and integrated personality development to enable them to grow into successful persons by blending intellectual efficacy and noble human virtues.

Department of Khasi

The Khasi department has the distinction of starting at the establishment stage of the College in 1956. Manned by only Part-time teachers then, the committed effort is clearly projected as they drawn from subjects other than literature as there were no Post-graduate facilities for studies in Khasi language. Thus the department takes pride in being associated with luminaries like: Prof. (late) R. S. Lyngdoh, Shri F. M. Pugh, Shri H. Syiemlieh, M. Alexander Warjri (former M.P.) and few others who gave the department a sound foundation. It

is an unique occasion to pay tribute to all of them for their ceaseless endeavour to realise a ideal vision. In 1969, Prof. Alexander Campbell War joined the department as the first full time teacher and with his exemplary dedication and untiring efforts he gave shape to the effective teaching and study of Khasi literature in the College. But cruel hand of malignancy ended his life before he could realise his goal completely. The department had the benefit of the service from noted poet and novelist Shri (Late) B. C. Jyrwa and then Shri H. S. Nongbri (retired). At present the department has a strength of 6 (six) teachers and they are: Smt. M. Gatphoh (Head), Shri T. S. Rajee, Shri H. Marwein, Dr. (Smt.) D. Mawroh, Smt. Ailynti Nongbri and Shri W. Lawai. Besides teaching Khasi to Degree students of Arts, Commerce and Khasi (Honours, teachers also remain engaged in teaching Class XI and XII (Day & Morning Sections) students in Khasi (MIL) and Khasi (Elective). Academic achievements of the students are quite encouraging with Smt. Lucy Mary Malngiang securing 1st Class 1st position in 1996 and Shri Pynjopthiaw Nongrum repeating the feat in 2003, in addition to similar results over the preceding years.

Department of Bengali

Bengali department of the college is as old as the college itself and has witnessed the services of several dedicated and well-known educationists as its lecturers, particularly in early years, with some of them rendering honorary services like Shri B. Bhattacharjee and others part-time services such as Shri Sudhangshu Bhusan Dey, Shri B. M. Chatterjee etc. The first regular teacher in the department was Shri Dibyendu Kishore Guha, an eminent cultural activist, who later left the job to join All India Radio as Deputy Director and was replaced by Shri (Late) Kshirode Behari Das and Shri B. N. Dutta (retired) following him some years later. Shri K. B. Das expired on 24th April 1982. Dr.(Smt.) Gauri Sen who joined in seventies became the Head of the Department. Smt. Chandana Dhar rendered her services as part-time teacher for several years till she joined as regular teacher in 1991. Following the retirement of Smt. Gouri Sen in 2002 and in view of general decline in student enrolment in languages, the department has been converted to a single teacher department. Thus, Smt. C. Dhar is solely responsible for the affairs of the department who is actively engaged in extra-curricular activities such as music and literary excellence. She is a good guitarist herself and is also an active member of the North East India Council for Social Science Research. Over the past fifty years, the students of this department have brought laurels to the college by obtaining highest marks in the subject in examinations conducted by MBOSE and NEHU.

Department of Hindi

The department of Hindi was established in 1966 in the College. The first lecturer in the department was Shri Ratan Palit (a lecturer in Lady Keane College) who taught Hindi as a part-time teacher. Hindi was taught in Pre-University and Degree level. In the early seventies, Shri J. P. Khanduri (lecturer in St. Anthony's College) taught Hindi as a part-time teacher. In 1975, Shri Ajit Kr. Gurung joined the department as the first permanent teacher, after a brief stint as part-time teacher. After his death in 2000, while in service, Ms. Khairun Nisha taught in the department for a year. In 2001, Dr. (Mrs.) Shruti Pandey joined the department as a regular lecturer. At present, Dr. Pandey is the only lecturer teaching in the department. She has published two books and many articles and participates frequently in Radio and Television programmes.

Department of Nepali

Teaching of Nepali language as one of the Major Indian Languages in the College started right from

the1st year of the establishment of the College in 1956 and is continuing till now. Initially the subject was taught on voluntary basis by Shri B. N. Gurung and Shri D. S. Rawat. Shri Rawat later joined as lecturer in the faculty of Commerce but continued to teach Nepali also as a part-time teacher till 31st May 1973 when he was appointed as actg. Principal of the College. Subsequently on 1st June 1973, Shri Nar Bahadur Rai joined the College as part-time teacher and continued till 27th February 1975 when the Government of Meghalaya accorded sanction to the post of lecturer in Nepali realising the increasing demands of the students and college to go ahead with a full-fledged Nepali department. Henceforth, till date the department is being managed singularly by Shri N. B. Rai as a one-man department, quite satisfactorily. As the years passed by, the number of students offering Nepali (MIL) has reduced much as compared to the yester years. The performance of the students in Nepali (MIL) right from the days of Shri (Late) D. S. Rawat has been consistently good with records of securing highest and letter marks in various Board and University examinations.

Department of Garo

With the widening of the scope of education and opening of new vistas in higher education, the authorities of Shillong College felt it wise to open the opportunities for studies in Garo language for the students and accordingly, the Garo Department of Shillong College was formally opened on the 14th of September, 1999. Smt. Lorinda D. Marak joined the department as its first lecturer on that date and since then she has been singularly managing the department. Her singular dedicated efforts have started yielding results. One student of Class XII Science got letter marks in Garo MIL in 2001 HSSLC examination and another student of B. Com. also got letter marks in Garo MIL in examination conducted by NEHU in 2001. The vision of the department for the coming years is to start Honours courses in Garo and also to offer Garo as Second Language for the students for which, of course, the staff strength needs to be increased suitably.

Department of Assamese

Assamese department of Shillong College started its journey since the inception of the College and was initially managed by some dedicated part-time teachers till Shri Mohini Kumar Saikia joined the department as the first regular teacher. However, Shri Saikia later left the job and joined as Principal, D. R. College, Golaghat, Assam. Some part-time teachers who served the college included Shri Narayan Ch. Das, Smt. J. Hazarika, Shri Probin Das, and many others. Shri (Late) Romesh Ch. Sharma joined the department after Shri Saikia left the same and was later joined by Shri Chandra Dhar Baruah. Shri Sharma expired while in service on 28th July 1983, and Dr. Kasim Ali Ahmed joined in his post. After the retirement of Shri Baruah in early nineties, Dr. Ahmed singularly manned the department till October 2005 when he also left the college (on lien) to join as Principal, Krishnai College in Assam. The department does not have any regular teacher at present and its existence will be under the scanner of interests and demands of students in such language subjects in the State.

Department of Mizo

This department of Mizo is now non-existent but it had a creditable record with yeomen service to the students opting for Lushai(erstwhile)/Mizo as MIL. Shri K. Zadeng of St. Anthony's College

started teaching Mizo language in Shillong College from 03-09-1963 as a part-time teacher till Shri P. Lalthmingthanga joined the department in 1972 as the first regular full time teacher. After he left the job, Shri T. T. Pachunga joined the department on 1st March, 1975. Shri Pachunga was a keen sportsman and took lot of interest in extra-curricular activities of the College. Since his retirement on 31-08-2004, the department got abolished with the post being transferred to some other department. The Shillong College family will ever remember the immense contributions of the Mizo Department and its members towards growth of the college to its present status.

Department of Sanskrit

The mother of all classical Indian languages, Sanskrit, had its creditable existence in Shillong College since late fifties with Shri Kshitish Chandra Paul, Shri Benode B. Kavyatirtha and Shri Kanku Charan Kar managing the classes untiringly till 1963 when Smt. Bani Baruah joined as the first and only full time regular teacher on 1st April, 1963. Later, many other part-time teachers also came forward to help Smt. Baruah in meeting the increasing needs of the students and they include Shri Nikhil Chandra Dev, Shri Ratnakar Bhagawati, Smt. Pratima Choudhury and few others. However, with the decline in students' interests in the subject in the late eighties the Management of the College had to take the most painful decision to do away with department when Smt. B. Baruah retired from her services with effect from 01-12-1989 and the post was transferred to some other department. The Department of Sanskrit was a matter of academic pride of the College but the circumstances were otherwise in this part of the Country. The Shillong College fraternity acknowledges the services and the contribution of the dedicated teachers of the department with gratitude, and its members are now a part of the glorious history of the College.

Department of Mathematics

Mathematics department of the College came into existence at the time of inception of the College in 1956 with the founder Principal (Late) Shri Sudhindra Ch. Datta, an eminent mathematician and author of popular book on Mathematics, managing affairs of the department in addition to his administrative work along with some part-time teachers like Shri Prithwis Dutta, Shri A. Chakraborty and others. Shri Bankim Chandra Goswami joined the department on 29th March, 1963 and then Shri Kalyan Kr. Choudhury on 15th July 1965 to be followed by Smt. Subhra Dhar in 1969. Dr. Hrishikesh Dhar joined in 1972 and the group of four teachers managed the department for several years till Dr. Bipul Shyam Purkayastha joined the department in 1987. But he soon left the job to join an assignment in Assam University, Silchar. Some other teachers also joined in the intervening period but left for their own career advancement and hence the department had to take the help of part-time teachers for many years. Shri Goswami retired from his services in 2001 (as Vice-Principal), followed by Shri K. K. Chaudhury in 2003 and finally Smt. S. Dhar in 2005 and therefore, the department is now a combination of five teachers of various age group and they are: Dr. H. Dhar (Head), Shri Dikes Shadap, Shri Mardor W. Synrem, Shri Spainborlang Kharchandy and Shri Borringstill R. Diengdoh. Honours courses in Mathematics were started in the year 1966. Overall performance of the students in Mathematics is satisfactory and sincere efforts are being made to upgrade the standard of performance to higher level. In the past, there were some outstanding results and in recent time, Shri Sainkupar Mawlong earned the 1st Class 1st position in B. Sc. (Mathematics Hons.) Examinations, NEHU (2002).

Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy started with pass course since the inception of the college in the year 1956. The honours courses in Philosophy in the College started in mid sixties. Shri Satyen Kar, a pioneer in establishment of the College, was the first teacher in the department. "A small young man with a great personality" served the department as one of the founder teachers with utmost care and dedication. Shri Bidit Das joined the College and helped the department profusely in its formative years along with Late Shri Haran Chandra Bhattacharjee (a student of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, former President of India), an employee in the erstwhile NEFA and Shri Amal Kr. Sen. Shri Biraj Bhusan Dutta, Dr. Subir Bijoy Sen Gupta and Shri Ranjit Kumar Deb served the department effectively for long years. Shri Dutta retired in 1985 as the Head of the Department and sadly, expired last year (October 2005). In 1983, Dr. S. B. Sengupta was transferred to the Department of English. Shri R. K. Deb was a popular Tabla player of Shillong besides an effective teacher of Philosophy and Education and he retired on 31st July, 2000 as Head of the Department. The present department of Philosophy consists of four members: Dr. (Mrs.) Dipali Chattopadhyay, Shri K. D. Ramsiej, Dr. (Mrs.) Jayanti Biswas and Dr. B. P. Tripathi. All the teachers in the department have proficiency in research activities and have a number of publications (research papers, articles and guide books) to their credit while Dr. Biswas is a gifted classical singer. Teachers-students interaction in the department is very intimate, and consequently the performances of the students in the various examinations of Board and University are consistently good.

Department of Economics

The Department of Economics, Shillong College, had its beginning along with the establishment of the College, i.e. in the year 1956, with Prof. Khitin Ch. Choudhury singularly managing the department till 1959-60. Shri Kanai Lal Choudhury joined as a regular teacher 12th August 1961 after two months of part-time service and the team of teachers later increased to three with Shri Tapan Moitra and Shri Ramkrishna Bhattacharjee joining on 4th March 1963 and 1st July 1965, respectively. Shri K. L. Chaudhury was the Head of the Department since he joined as regular teacher and later he became Principal of the College and retired in 1995 after putting 39 years of dedicated service. Shri T. Moitra became the Head of the Department in the year 1991 and retired in 1999. Shri Moitra also served as officiating Principal of the College during 1995-1996 and then the first formal Vice-Principal of the College since 1st of November 1996 till his retirement. Shri Ramkrishna Bhattacharjee and Shri Saradindu Bhattacharjee retired during early nineties. Smt. Rakhee Bhattacharjee served the College during late eighties and then resigned to opt for other assignments. Smt. L. Kharkrang joined in 1987 but met with tragic death in 1990. At present, the department has six teachers and they are: Shri B. Syiem (Head), Dr. (Ms.) Natalie West, Shri L. Pathaw, Dr. (Mrs.) Eva Kharkongor, Smt. Iva Kharkongor and Shri Sumarlang O. Lyngskor. In the initial years, the department has been offering only general (pass) courses at the

degree level. The Honours course was introduced only in 1963 and has been continuing till date with intake capacity of about 25. In 2001, the Department in collaboration with the North Eastern Economic Association (NEEA) organised the Fourth Conference of NEEA on the theme "Agricultural Transition in the Hill Areas of the North Eastern Region" and the proceeding volume of the same was also published. Academic performance of the students in Economics has been steadily improving and the pass percentage of the honours students has always remained well above 70% during the last three years.

Department of Education

The Education Department of the College started its journey a few years after the establishment of the College with part-time teachers like Shri P. Gupta, Shri S. Mazumdar and some others managing the department till Shri (Late) Nani Gopal Goswami joined the department as the first regular teacher on 9th August, 1961. Shri (Late) Baidyanath Bhattacharjee joined the department in 1961 and later in 1964 Dr.(Mrs.) Biloris Lyndem Laso also followed suit. Shri Goswami expired while in service and Shri B. N. Bhattacharjee retired from services in early eighties. Dr. Lyndem left the department to join an assignment in North Eastern Hill University and at present she is the Chairperson, State Women Cell, Meghalaya. The department has been catering to the needs of the students with respect to the course contents of the Degree Courses in Education (General and Honours courses) as prescribed by the University as well as Higher Secondary courses of the Meghalaya Board of School Education. The department of the College has plans to conduct survey and research pertaining to the problems of school drop-outs, rural illiteracy, more socially relevant course content and overall improvement of the teaching learning of the subject at the different levels. Presently, the department comprises of following four lecturers: Smt. Odelia Kharkongor (Head), Dr.(Ms.) Ruby Dkhar, Dr. Hiesemaiah Iangrai and Smt. Hiramon Diengdoh. The overall performance of the department has been very satisfactory, considering the low entry level percentage of the students (only 45% marks for Honours), but as the teachers take extra interest to meet the requirements of the students the academic environment is quite homely making it comfortable to the students.

Department of History

History department of the College has the distinction that two of the lecturers of the department adorned the post of Principal of the College, including the present Principal. The Department started in 1956 when some stalwart figures of the town such as (Late), Shri Radhan Singh Lyngdoh (formerly Speaker, Meghalaya Legislatively Assembly), Shri D. H. Goswami, Shri (Late) Kapila Chatterjee, Shri Shyamadas Bhattacharjee and many others served the department as part time teachers in the early days and even later when exigencies arose. Shri (Late) Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee was the first full time teachers in the department who later in 1970 became the Principal of the College and served till his retirement in 1973. Smt. Chitra Choudhury, who was a keen cultural activist, joined in July 1967 to be followed by Shri D. Mukhopadhyay. Shri Mukhopadhyay later left the job to join an assignment in Kolkata. Meanwhile, Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh joined in the year 1973 and she took over as head of the department after the premature death of Smt. Choudhury on 08-02-1982. In 1996, Smt.

Lyngdoh took over as the Principal and Shri Rudyson Rynjah became the head of the department. The department has now four lecturers and they are: Shri R. Rynjah (Head), Smt. Nubha Lytand, Smt. Jaya Choudhury and Smt. V. C. S. Dkhar. The department has always contributed significantly in the growth of the College and the students of the department have performed creditably over the years.

Department of Political Science

A full-fledged Department of Political Science came into existence in the College in 1962 with the bifurcation of the Economics Department with (Late) Shri Sudhangshu Ranjan Bhattacharjee as the Head of the Department. Dr. Soumen Sen joined the department in 1963 soon to be followed by Shri Ahi Bhusan Das. Meanwhile, some noted personalities like Shri Sarat Kr. Chakraborty and others also served as part time teachers. In early eighties, Dr. Sen left the College to join an assignment in North Eastern Hill University and Shri A. B. Das retired from the services. During eighties, Dr.(Mrs.) Nalini Sinha, Smt. L. P. Shadap and Smt. Vinery R. Solomon joined the department. After the untimely demise of Shri S. R. Bhattacharjee in April 1989, Smt. Sinha took over as the Head of the Department. The rich legacy and the healthy tradition of the department are being carried forward, and are further strengthened by a team of committed and qualified teachers of the department despite all the constraints. The members of the department are actively engaged in the academic and co-curricular activities of the College. The department will continue to strive forward and richly contribute to the healthy and positive growth of academic environment, not only of the college, but of the society and the Nation as a whole. The teaching faculty of the department, at present, include: Dr.(Mrs.) N. Sinha (Head), Smt. L. P. Shadap, Smt. V. R. Solomon and Smt. R. Pyngrope.

Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce of Shillong College came into being in the month of August 1956 with the inception of the college to cater to the need of higher education in the field of Commerce in the North- Eastern region.

It's faculty included (Late) Shri Dhruba Singh Rawat, who eventually became the Principal of Shillong College, Shri Sanat Kumar Roy, who eventually became a full time practicing lawyer, Late S. K. Acharya, founder Principal of Shillong Commerce College, Shri Ananda Mohan Pal, Late Bidhan Chandra Roy, Shri Bikash Roy. The present faculty includes:- Shri S.R. Nongkynrih (Head), Shri K. Dutta Roy, Shri A.Khanduri, Shri B.K. Saha, Shri S. Sarma, Shri B.F. Lyngdoh, Smt. W.C. K. Sohilya, Smt P. Khonglah.

The last two persons are looking after the Management wing (B.B.A.) which started in the year 2004.

The department teaches Class XI & XII (higher secondary level) having around 100 students in each class & B. Com (Pass & Honours) undergraduate degree with strength of approximately 175 students & B.B.A. (Honours) undergraduate degree with a strength of approximately 40 students. Commerce stream of the College has always been one of the main academic centres of the town and many hundreds of students have graduated in commerce from this College. The results of the

students in both Pre-University (or Class XII) and B. Com. Examinations conducted by the Board and University, over the years, have been consistently good securing the 1st Class 1st and other high ranks repeatedly in such examinations. The members of the Department pledge to continue with good work and perform even better in the coming days.

Department of Botany

The Department of Botany came into being in the year 1963 with commencement of Pre-University classes under Gauhati University with Miss K. Dutta managing the department as a part-time teacher. She along with Shri R. Bhattacharjee as demonstrator managed it till July, 1964 when Shri Umesh Chandra Kakati joined the department as the first full time lecturer in July 1964. Shri Kakati nurtured the department and developed it to make it ready for degree classes and then to start the Honours courses along with Smt. Anjali Dutta who joined in 1965. Shri Kakati retired in 2001 as the Vice-Principal of the College while Smt. Dutta in the late nineties. Dr. (Mrs.) Ayesha Ashraf Ahmed who taught in the College for nearly twenty years since 1985, has recently resigned from the services due to personal reasons. At present, the department has four full-time regular teachers with varying length of service and experience and they are: Smt. Rama Sarkar (Head), Shri Swapan Kr. Roy, Smt. Darina Kharshandi and Smt. Miriam V. Marwein, while the vacant post of Smt. Ahmed likely to be filled in soon. The department has a well-equipped laboratory with all necessary facilities for degree courses (Pass and Honours) and has a library with good collection of books and literature. Shri Donkupar R. Kharmujai, Laboratory Assistant, is the sincere personality in the department who helps in maintaining the laboratory up to the mark. To groom up the students to face today's competitive world, the department has started a club called "Botanic Club" since 3rd of December, 2003. Botanic Club organises students' seminar and discussions from time to time in addition to bringing out a magazine called 'Botane' with articles mainly from the student members of the department.

Department of Chemistry

Department of Chemistry was established, along with all other science departments, on 22nd July 1963 under the supervision of the founder Principal, (Late) Shri S. C. Datta. In its infancy, the department had a modest beginning when Dr. P. V. R. Rao (Lecturer, Lady Keane College) was looking after the department as a part-time teacher who was later joined by Shri Kalipada Nath as the Demonstrator. The department got its impetus when Shri Puroshottam Deb joined in March 1964 and shaped the department with his innovative style till his death in 1989. A good number of renowned teachers served the college as part-time teacher during the early days and they included Shri H. N. Paul, Dr. A. Hom Choudhury, Shri S. Guha Thakurta and many others. During this period, Shri H. P. Roy Chowdhury, Shri T. K. Sen and Shri Nilmoni Chowdhury also served the college as regular teachers but left the job for own reasons by 1967-68. In 1969, Dr. Sudhir Kr. Gupta joined the department and later rendered his services as Head of the Department after the demise of Shri P. Deb till his retirement in January

2006. Shri R. C. Das joined the department in 1970 but left after few years to continue with his higher studies in USA. Meanwhile, Shri Ramananda Bhattacharjee joined the department as Demonstrator and served till his retirement in 2000. Shri Evans R. Solomon also served the department in 1980 before he proceeded for IES, Government of India. At present, the department of Chemistry has five full time teachers, and they are: Shri Teibim Jala Kharbhih (Head), Dr. Manabendra Nath Bhattacharjee, Dr.(Ms.) Deborah L. Buam, Shri Kenneth Umdor and Shri Cheerful Masharing. Apart from their normal routine duties, the lecturers in the department are also involved in other extra-curricular activities in the College. The Department has a well-equipped laboratory with a capacity of about 50 students, and Shri Remilang Kharkongor and Smt. Klistina Warjri remain engaged in keeping the laboratory tidy to the satisfaction of the students and teachers. The department started Honours courses in Chemistry in 1986 and the results of the students have been encouraging all through the past twenty years with Smt. Seema Rani Prasad securing 1st Class 1st position in 1991 in the University Examination. In 1990, the pass percentage in B. Sc. (Hons) was 100%, four out of five students securing first class. The members of the department fondly remember the services all the former colleagues, particularly the departed soul in Late Shri P. Deb and Late Shri Chabilal Sharma, the laboratory attendant. The teachers of the department are dedicated and hard working for the benefit of the student community. Apart from the normal routine duty, they are also involved in other extra-curricular activities like organizing seminars, conferences, etc. Dr. (Ms.) D. L. Buam has completed one research project under the UGC Minor Research Project Scheme and a computer has been installed in the department under the said scheme.

Department of Physics

Department of Physics was established in the year 1963 under the guidance and inspiration of the founder Principal (Late) Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta to cater to the needs of the students willing to pursue collegiate education in the science stream. Shri B. Goswami served the department at the beginning as part-time teacher. Shri Abdul Matin was appointed as a full time lecturer on 4.8.1964 to man the department when one year P.U. course under the Gauhati University was in force, but he left the college in 1964. Dr. P. Bhattacharjee, part-time teacher, and Shri S. R. Paul (Demonstrator) then looked after the department but Shri Paul left the job soon. In the later part of 1964, Shri Rajat Kanti Das joined as demonstrator (retired in 2005) and then Shri Ranjit Kumar Dutta joined as lecturer who remained the Head of the Department till his retirement (as Vice-Principal of the College) in 2003. Dr. Udayan Ghosh joined in 1966 (retired in 2003) and Shri Durbadal Mukherjee joined in 1969 as full time lecturers. B. Sc. (Honours) in Physics was started in 1989. Smt. Elarina Noris Dkhar joined the department as lecturer in 1994. At present there are five full time lecturers in the department and they are: Shri D. Mukherjee (Head and Vice-Principal of the College), Smt. E. N. Dkhar, Shri Snarmon Lato, Shri Mebanjopson Rynjah and Shri Aiborlang Dkhar. The academic performance of the department had been more than encouraging and the department had produced quite a good number of first class (honours) graduates over the span of last 15 years and it achieved the height with Shri Regenelson Kharwanlang securing 1st class 1st position in 1999. The arrangements and maintenance of laboratory equipments are supervised by the members of the teaching faculty of the department with sincere assistance from the Laboratory Bearer Shri Kumar Rai who is working in the department since 1995 after the retirement of Shri Padamlal Sharma. Recently, the department has organised the celebration of the "International Year of Physics-2005" on 4th October 2005, as a part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the College, under the Chairmanship of Shri D. Mukherjee, and a Seminar on "Radiation and Harnessing Radioactivity" was organised on the occasion. The seminar was sponsored by UCIL, Government

of India, Atomic Mineral Division, Government of India, SCSTE, Meghalaya and DHTE, Meghalaya.

Department of Zoology

Shri H. Banerjee started taking Zoology classes on 22-07-1963 as a part-time teacher but left in August in the same when Shri Dhiresh Chandra Dhar of St. Edmund's College continued with the job to be followed by Shri Monoranjan Burman of Lady Keane College till Shri (Late) Kamalaksha Dutta joined as first full time lecturer on 1st October 1964 and also Shri J. J. Rao as demonstrator. Shri Dutta continued to serve as Head of the Department till his retirement but Shri Rao left the job in 1965. Shri Parimal Chakraborty (1966-72), Dr. Pranab Mukherjee (1966-68), Shri Jahnabi Kr. Chattaraj (1968-72) served the department with all odds but soon left with better opportunities. Dr. Samarendra Nath Dutta joined in 1969 and retired in 2003 as the Head of the Department. Meanwhile, many teachers served the college as part-time teacher also. Smt. Rekha Devi joined in early seventies and then Dr. Malay Dey in July, 1985. Smt. Suparna Choudhury joined as demonstrator in seventies and still engaged in managing the higher secondary practical classes.

Smt. D. N. Shabong joined during nineties to be followed by Smt. Jennifer Lyngdoh. Smt. Lyngdoh left the job in 2005 to be replaced by Smt. E. M. Pala. The department has now a strength of five teachers and they are: Smt. Rekha Devi (Head), Dr. Malay Dey, Smt. D. N. Shabong, Smt. E. M. Pala and Smt. Suparna Choudhury. The laboratory of the department is well equipped with lot of collections of species and suitable infrastructure and Shri Ethelbert Pyrtuh, the laboratory attendant taking care of the every material most meticulously. Over the years since its inception, the department has produced some excellent results and the few to be remembered include: Dr. Malay Dey (presently lecturer in the College) ranking 1st Class 1st in Zoology Honours in 1981 and Shri F. A. Lamare (presently lecturer in St. Anthony's College) and Smt. Anamika Gupta repeating the same feat in 1991 and 1994 respectively. Likewise the students in Zoology have the credit of bringing high percentage of distinctive examination results in various levels from higher secondary up to the degree standard. The teachers of Zoology department have credit of as many as four Science projects conducted with the cooperation and active participation of the students and financed by the State unit of the Department of Science and Technology. Former Head of the Department, Shri (Late) K. Datta, conducted a research project entitled "A, B, O. Blood Group in Khasi and Jaintia People in Meghalaya" in spite of the limited facilities available. Smt. R. Devi, Dr. S. N. Datta and Dr. M. Dey successfully completed three different research projects in the department, entitled: "Chromosome Analysis and Distribution of Some Spiders of Meghalaya", "Study of Role of Mitotic Activity in the Early Chick Embryo (Local Breed of Meghalaya)", and "Electrophoretic Survey of L.D.H. Banding Pattern in the Frog Species of the Genus Rana from Khasi Hills, Meghalaya".

Students of the Department have started a student activity club, 'The Zoonic Circle' from the current year (2006) under the guidance of the faculty members. The aim and objective of the club is to involve all the students in various academic activities like seminars, scientific workshop, etc, and also other supporting social and cultural activities of the college.

Department of Statistics

Shillong College is now 50 years old and celebrating Golden Jubilee with different attracting programs. As an undergraduate institution this college is imparting education in different areas of Science, Arts and Commerce. But as the education scenario is expanding towards different specialized directions, to cope up with new changes this college is implementing different ideas in education

structure. As a result many new disciplines/departments were opened since last three years and Department of Statistics is one of them. As Statistics is now being used in almost all the areas of business and research activities so looking at its importance the college authority has opened Department of Statistics in the year 2004 by appointing one teacher, Mr. S. Goswami, and taking Class XI students. In the year 2005, the department has started undergraduate program also. One more teacher, Ms. Pushpita Das, was appointed and students were allowed to take statistics as a general paper in B.A./ B.Sc. 1st year with combinations (a) Statistics, Physics and Mathematics and (b) Statistics, Economics and Mathematics. Now the department is thinking to offer one more combination viz. Statistics, Computer Sc. and Mathematics. So right now Statistics is taught in Class XI, XII and B.A./B.Sc. course. Demand of Statistics in the job market is on the rise as all the Business Organizations (both domestic and international) are in need of statisticians for analytical purpose. Looking at this the department is planning to hold some workshops also so that students can participate and acquaint themselves with the rising trend and coverage of statistics.

Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology is being started from this year (2006) and the Governing Body of the College has decided to appoint only one regular teacher and one part-time teacher in the department, at present, which will later be strengthened in a need based manner. Smt. Sharalyne Khyriemujat has joined as regular teacher on 01-07-2006, while Smt. Suzanne R. J. Khongwar also joined on the same day as part-time teacher.

Department of Computer Sciences and B.C.A.

"Information Technology/IT" – the term is a direct indicator of development. In today's world IT has become something, which no properly functioning body or organization can do without. IT has been utilized effectively in varied fields such as scientific research, commerce, education, to name a few. Thus IT has emerged as a separate field and as a consequence there is a increasing need for people equipped with professional knowledge in this field. This in turn led to the emergence of setting up such Institutes in the State and Shillong College is one the few Institutes catering to this. Department of Computer Sciences in the College started its journey in the year 2000 with Computer Application classes being managed by Aptech. From 2003, the College started to manage the department on its own with the appointment of regular teachers and separate Computer Science Laboratory was opened on 28th August, 2003. From academic session 2004-2005, the department started Bachelor of Computer Applications (B.C.A.) and Bachelor of Science (Computer Science) under the management of Professional Courses. The computers in the laboratory including the infrastructure in it were funded by the North Eastern Council and it has now quite a good number of computers with all included facilities. Shri P. Hadem and Shri G. K. Nongkynrih were the first two regular teachers of the department but both

of them subsequently joined other organisations for better opportunities. The department has now following staff: Smt., Aiom Mitri (Head), Shri Wilford Thangkhiew, Shri Banetilang Mukhim, Shri Geoffrey M. Shadap, Smt. Ivansharai Marbaniang, Shri Sharad Chettri and Shri Challenge S. G. Kharjana (part-time). In addition to routine teaching activities, the highlights of other activities of the department are:

Ø Formation of a departmental students'club, the "Techies Club" with an objective to allow students to expand their activities beyond the normal classroom interactions and sessions. The students are the office bearers of the Club with the teachers acting only as advisers. Activities of the club include holding of seminars, paper presentations, Fresher's meet, etc.

Ø One event that concluded recently was a week long seminar, 8th May – 13th May, 2006, presented by the 2nd year and 3rd year degree students on the topic "Linux Distros". The students took part with enthusiasm and the result was benefit not only for the students but for the teachers as well.

Ø The Department is solely responsible for maintaining the College Network and Internet facility.

Ø The Department conducts short term courses for the teaching staff as well as the non-teaching staff of the college in basic computer applications, as and when necessary.

Ø Future endeavours of the Department include the development, uploading and maintenance of the Shillong College Website and also holding of Seminars based on the latest and current technological trends such as Nanotechnology, Uses of the Internet for the Common man and the like.

Department of B.B.A.

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) course was started in the college under the Professional Courses from the Academic session 2004-05 with Shri Bikash Roy (formerly Head, Commerce Deptt.) as the In-charge and Dr. S. K. Gupta as the Vice-Principal (Professional Courses). A good number of teachers from other department of the college is lending their help in managing department. However, it has two now regular teachers in Smt. W. C. K. Sohliya and Smt. P. Khonglah who are being ably supported by two part-time teachers Smt. Aibadalin Deingdoh, Shri S. Phanwar and other teachers from Economics and Statistics department. Shri S. R. Nongkynrih, Head, Department of Commerce, is presently looking after the affairs of the B.B.A. as Teacher In-charge after Shri Bikash Roy relinquished the job with effect from 1st June 2006. The results of the department, so far, have been very encouraging and new methodologies are constantly being evolved to attract more students in the department.

National Cadet Corps (N.C.C.)

In this College, NCC was introduced in 1963. The then Head of the Department of Commerce, Capt. D. S. Rawat (who was an avid sportsman), was the Associated NCC Officer in the beginning. Later Major U.C. Kakati, Head, Department of Botany, took over the charge and soon, the Girls' senior division was also formed. For sometime, Major Kakati looked after both SD boys and SD girls' wings. Later Smt. Rama Sarkar took over the charge for the Girls' wing and at present Smt. A. Nongbri, CTO, is the in-charge of the wing. The NCC boys' wing is being looked after by Lt. (Dr.) B. P. Tripathi. The NCC cadets,

both boys and girls, of this college have been participating in the various competitions held in camps, such as All India Advance Leadership Training Course, Army Attachment, mountaineering, All India Summer Training Course, para-jumping, etc. and they brought many laurels to the college. The cadets who excelled in different events include are SUO Khelovi Sema, SUO Muhiram Saikia, SUO Basant Kr. Chettri, SUO Arun Bora, SUO Prem Kumar Joshi, SUO Sanjib Barua, SUO Francis M. Sangma, SUO Joy Sen, SUO Alvin Bamon, SUO Paul H. Shylla, SUO J. S. Marak, SUO Gopal Kharkongor, SUO Wendy V. Sohtun, SUO Margaret T. Pathaw, SUO Gayatri Khongwir, SUO Mary Candila Sawian, SUO Diana Mawrie, SUO Cherrylyne N. Sangma and many others. Some recent achievements of the cadets are as follows: Best Rank Climber (2000), Best Boys' Cadet, Meghalaya (2001, 2002, 2003), Representation from NER to P.M.'s Relief Team (2001), Best Disciplined Girls Cadet (2001), Best Cadet Girls, Meghalaya (2004,2005), participation of both boys and girls cadets in Republic Day Camps, New Delhi and many other achievements in the Annual Training Camps, CATC and National Integration Camps.

National Service Scheme (N.S.S.)

Shillong College is one amongst the four Colleges in the region to have formally started National Service Scheme (NSS) as early as in 1974. It started with a Orientation programme held in the same year in St. Edmund's College that was followed by holding of the first special camp in Laitumkhrah in February 1974 by the NSS Unit, Shillong College. Shri Bikash Roy of Commerce Department was the first P.O. of N.S.S., Shillong College while (Late) Shri P. Deb of Chemistry Department, Shri Dipu Mukhopadhyay of History Department and (Late) Shri A. K. Gurung rendered valuable assistance. During late eighties Shri T. S. Rajee and Shri A. Khanduri continued the work as Programme Officers. Since 1996, Shri K. D. Ramsiej of Philosophy Department and Shri H. Iangrai of Education Department took over as the Programme officers and have been providing commendable services. Some of the important activities of the NSS Unit of the College are: (1) Cleaning drive and drive against alcoholism and drug abuse as early as in 1974 in Laitumkhrah.; (2) Cleaning drive and similar work in Nongmynsong and adjoining areas in 1976; (3) Presently, the Unit has Mawphlong and Nongpathaw as the two adopted villages; (4) Levelling and Construction of Basketball Ground of the College in 2002-2003.with assistance from NSS Cell, NEHU; (5) Three GTA programmes in 1996, 2002 and 2004; (6) Health programmes such as AIDS awareness, Blood donation and others along with the Directorate of Health Services, Meghalaya, etc.; (7) The unit works in collaboration with the Nehru Yavak Kendra and remarkable Mega Camp was held in 2001 in Mawngap; (8) National Integration Camp during October 2002 where more than 200 volunteers from all over India attended. A similar camp was attended by the volunteers of Shillong College, held at New Delhi in 2005; (9) Inter-State Youth Exchange programme in Bhubaneswar and Bangalore in 2005 in which 15 volunteers from Shillong College participated and presented cultural items; (10) Active participation in the programmes along with Red Cross Society of India. In addition, the NSS Unit of Shillong College organises various other programmes like workshop, cleaning drive, World Environment Day, etc. in the from College time to time and will continue to do so and more in the coming days with active encouragement of the Principal and Management of the College.

Information and Career Guidance Cell

The Information and Career Guidance Cell (ICGC) of the College was set up in 2003 in response to the need for student support services, particularly in catering to the need for career planning. In the context of today's highly competitive world, the best job goes to the best informed and the

best prepared, and hence the need for ICGC which provides guidance to the students towards career planning. Apart from individual counselling and guidance, ICGC also conducts various programmes such as workshops, seminars, awareness programmes etc. for the benefit of the students. The following are the important programmes organised by the Cell:

1. One day Seminar on 'Career Planning, Opportunities and Strategies' on the day of the inauguration of the Cell on 12th June, 2003.
2. A Career Awareness programme on 'Medical and Para-Medical Fields' on 23rd October 2003 that was addressed by Dr. S. Kharmalki, Asst. Director of Health Services, Meghalaya and Ms. B. Ryngad, Dy. Director of Health Services, Meghalaya
3. Two motivational cum career awareness programmes in the field of Defence, Tourism and Hospitality Management in 2003.
4. Seminar on 'Elementary Automobile Knowledge and Careers in Automobile Sectors' in June 2005.
5. Seminar on 'Opportunities in Accounts' by the Institute of Computer Accountants on 15th July, 2005.
6. Seminar on 'What Beyond Graduation' from the Adept Institute of Management Studies, Dharwad on 8th July, 2005.
7. An Awareness programme on 'Hospitality Management' by the Advanced Information & Management Studies, West Bengal on 20th July, 2005.
8. A training programme in 'Flower Making and Arranging' for the students from 29th July to 3rd August, 2005.
9. A 'Career Awareness Programme on Management' by the ICFAI, Kolkata in 2005.
10. A talk on 'Global Opportunities' by Ralph Budelman, Managing Director, Stylus Systems, Bangalore on 7th November, 2005.

Shri B. Syiem, Head, Department of Economics is the In-charge of the ICGC, while he is ably assisted by Dr.(Ms.) D. L. Buam, Dr.(Ms.) N. West, Dr. Ruby Dkhar and other lecturers of the College.

LIBRARY

A library is a collection of books and non-book materials. The Shillong College Library was established soon after the inception of the college but was managed by non-professional clerical staff till 1996. Smt. W. Dkhar joined as the first professional librarian of the college in 1996 and on the 28th of May, 1997, a new library hall was inaugurated. A Seminar on "Effectiveness of College Libraries in Meghalaya", sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Shillong, was also organised on the same day. The college library has the objective to collect, organize, retrieve and disseminate information effectively and efficiently. It has staff strength of 4 comprising of one librarian, one professional assistant, one peon, and one cleaner and it includes, Smt W. Dkhar (Librarian), Smt. Wankorlin Mawthoh Shri Tulshi Ram Fullel, and Smt. Jureen M. Lyngdoh. The library is equipped with 2 computers (Server and Client machine) and the complete computerization of the library resources and services is in progress. The College uses e-Granthalaya Version 2 software, developed by National Informatics Center, New Delhi. The College Library now has over 17,000 books, more than 55 journals, 8 project reports, 3 Conference Proceedings and 4-5 Daily Newspapers.

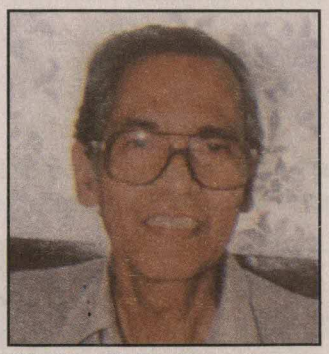
remains open from 8.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. and the teaching and non-teaching staff and students are main users of the facilities of the library with visitors also often being granted the permission to take the benefit of the facilities. There is a Library Advisory Committee consisting of Principal, Vice-Principal, Teachers from different streams and the Librarian and the Committee supervises the infra-structure and upgradation of library facilities. Thus the library provides to the students the following services in general: (1) Circulation; (2) Reference Books; (3) Clipping Services; (4) Photostat; and (5) Internet.

They are active and contributing now also

Shri M.A. Warjri former President, Governing Body

Shri B.C. Goswami former Vice Principal

Shri U.C. Kakati former Vice Principal



Shri Ranjit Kr. Datta former Vice Principal

Shri N.K. Sarkar former Vice Principal

Shri Kalyan K.Chaudhuri former Head Department

Shri H.S. Nongbri former Head, Khasi Department

Shri S. N. Datta former Head, Zoology Department

Shri Ranjit Deb former Head, Philosophy Department

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

NAMES OF THE STAFF OF SHILLONG COLLEGE SINCE ITS INCEPTION

The following is a list of the all the Teaching and Non-teaching Staff of Shillong College since the College was founded on 15th of August 1956; Attempt has been made to make the list comprehensive. Errors in the list, if any, are absolutely unintentional or due to the absence of proper records in the College files/register.

OUR PRINCIPALS

Serial No	Name	Department	Period: as Principal	Presently
1	Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta	Mathematics	Founder Principal served up to 31st August 1970	Shifted to Kolkata after retirement Expired on 20th June 1986
2	Shri Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee	History	1st September 1970 to 31st May 1973	Shifted to home place after retirement Since expired
3	Shri Dhruba S. Rawat	Commerce	1st June 1973 to 31st October 1990	Expired on 27-01-1993
4	Shri Kanai Lal Choudhury	Economics	1st November 1990 to 31st March 1995	Expired on 16-02-2003
5	Shri Tapan Moitra	Economics	1st April 1995 to 31st October 1996	Expired on 01-07-2006
6	Dr (Mrs) Mary Pristilla Rina Lyngdoh	History	1st November 1996 till date.	Our serving Principal

- Shri Biraj B Datta, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy (since retired and expired in October 2005) has also served as officiating Principal for a few months during late 1960s due to some exigency situation

OUR VICE PRINCIPALS

The post of regular Vice-Principal of the College was created with effect from 01-11-1996 and the post of Vice-Principal for Profession Courses with effect from 01-06-2004.

Sl. No.	Name	Department	Period as Vice Principal	Presently
1	Shri Tapan Moitra	Economics	01-11-1996 to 31-03-2000	Expired on 1st July, 2006
2	Shri Bankim Ch. Goswami	Mathematics	01-04-2000 to 28-02-2001	Retired, staying in Kolkata
3	Shri Umesh Ch. Kakati	Botany	01-03-2001 to 31-08-2001	Retired, staying in Guwahati
4	Shri Ranjit Kr. Datta	Physics	01-09-2001 to 31-08-2003	Retired, staying in Kolkata
5	Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar	English	01-09-2003 to 28-02-2005	Retired, staying in Shillong
6	Shri Durbadal Mukherjee	Physics	01-03-2005 to till date	Serving
7	Dr. Sudhir Kr. Gupta	Chemistry	01-06-2004 to till date	Serving as V.P. – Professional Courses

TEACHING STAFF OF THE COLLEGE (REGULAR)

Sl. No	Name	Department	Period of Service	Presently
1	Shri Sudhindra Chandra Datta	Mathematics	15-08-1956 to 31-08-1970	Shifted to Kolkata, expired on 20-06-1986.
2	Shri Bankim Ch. Goswami	Mathematics	29-03-1963 to 28-02-2001	Now spending retired life at Kolkata
3	Shri Kalyan Kr Choudhury	Mathematics	15-07-1965 to 31-08-2003	Retired, staying at Shillong
4	Smt. Suvra Dhar	Mathematics	16-07-1969 to 31-12-2005	Retired, staying at Shillong
5	Dr. Hrishikesh Dhar	Mathematics	Joined 01-09-1973	Serving
6	Smt. Sanchali Ghosh	Mathematics	08-07-1985 to 31-12-1985	Resigned
7	Smt Krishna Das	Mathematics	09-07-1985 to 31-12-1985	Resigned
8	Smt. Nivedita Roy Chowdhury	Mathematics	20-07-1985 to 30-11-1985 (resigned)	Serving in St. Mary's College
9	Dr. Bipul Shyam Purkayastha	Mathematics	5-8-1987 to 18-08-1997	Serving in Assam Univ., Silchar
10	Shri Dikes Shadap	Mathematics	Joined 09-11-2000	Serving
11	Shri Mardor Wanri Synrem	Mathematics	Joined 01-09-2003	Serving
12	Shri Spainborlang Kharchandy	Mathematics	Joined 01-09-2003	Serving
13	Shri Borringstill R. Diengdoh	Mathematics	Joined 01-07-2006	Serving
14	Shri Satyen Kar	Philosophy	15-08-1956 to 15-03-1961	Shifted to Kolkata
15	Shri Bidit Das	Philosophy	1956-1961	
16	Shri Biraj B. Datta	Philosophy	06-03-1961 to 01-10-1992	Expired 10/2005
17	Shri Amal Kr Sen	Philosophy	21-08-1961 to	
18	Dr. Subir Bijoy Sengupta	Philosophy	04-09-1965 (transferred to English Dept. /83)	Retired, staying at Shillong
19	Shri Ranjit Kr. Deb	Philosophy	11-09-1963 to 31-08-2000	Retired, staying at Kolkata
20	Shri G K Datta	Philosophy	08-07-1965 to	?
21	Shri Bishonbro L. Buam	Philosophy	06-12-1982 to 31-7-1983	Presently DIG, Meghalaya Police
22	Dr. (Mrs.) Dipali Chattopadhyay	Philosophy	Joined 19-02-1983	Serving
23	Dr. (Mrs.) Alpana Chakraborty	Philosophy	13-8-1987 to 30-6-1989 (resigned)	Presently, Lecturer, St Anthony's College
24	Shri K. D. Ramsiej	Philosophy	Joined 01-08-1987	Serving
25	Dr.(Mrs.) Jayanti Biswas	Philosophy	Joined 11-03-1995	Serving
26	Dr. Bachcha Prasad Tripathi	Philosophy	Joined 13-11-2000	Serving
27	Shri Khitin C. Chaudhuri	Economics	15-08-1956 to 31-05-1961	?
28	Shri Kanai Lal Chaudhuri	Economics	18-00-1961 to 01-04-1995	Retired, expired on 16-02-2003
29	Shri Saradindu Bhattacharjee	Economics	16-06-1966 to 31-03-1986	Retired, expired in 2005
30	Shri Tapan Moitra	Economics	04-3-1963 to 31-	Expired on 1st July, 2006

			03-2000 (retired)	
31	Shri Ramkrishna Bhattacharjee	Economics	01-07-1965 to 31-03-1993	Retired, staying at Kolkata
32	Smt. Lashngain Kharkrang	Economics	1-8-1987 to 17-02-1990	Expired on 17-02-1990
33	Smt Rakhee Bhattacharjee	Economics	01-08-1987 to September, 1999.	Staying at Kolkata
34	Shri Badondor Syiem	Economics	Joined 29-10-1991	Serving
35	Dr. (Mrs.) Natalie West	Economics	Joined 29-10-1991	Serving
36	Shri L. Pathaw	Economics	Joined 6-9-94	Serving
37	Dr. (Mrs.) Eva Kharkongor	Economics	Joined 4-10-94	Serving
38	Shri S. O. Lyngskor	Economics	Joined 01-12-2000	Serving
39	Smt. Iva Kharkongor	Economics	Joined 9-11-2000	Serving
40	Shri Suddhabrata Bhattacharjee	History	15-08-1956 to 31-05-1973	Since expired
41	Shri D. H. Goswami	History	01-07-1961	?
42	Smt. Chitra Choudhury	History	10-07-1967 to 08-02-1982	Expired on 08-02-1982
43	Shri Dipu Mukhopadhyay	History	21-07-1969 to	Resigned, serving at Kolkata
44	Dr (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh	History	03-03-1975 to till date	Presently, Principal
45	Shri Sudhir K. Singh	History	15-12-1982 to 01-06-1984 (resigned)	?
46	Shri Rudyson Rynjah	History	Joined 06-12-1982	Serving
47	Smt. Jaya Choudhury	History	Joined 04-07-1985	Serving
48	Smt. Nubha Lytand	History	Joined 05-07-1985	Serving
49	Smt. V. C. S. Dkhar	History	Joined 01-8-97	Serving
50	Shri Sudhangshu Ranjan Bhattacharjee	Pol. Science	29-07-1959 to 04-04-1989	Expired on 04-04-1989
51	Dr. Soumen Sen	Pol. Science	28-02-1963 to 31-08-1985	Joined NEHU, now (retd.) in Kolkata.
52	Shri Ahi Bhusan Das	Pol. Science	12-07-1966 to 01-11-1982	Retired, staying at Shillong.
53	Dr. (Mrs.) Nalini Sinha	Pol. Science	Joined 26-10-1984	Serving
54	Smt. Lana Phika Shadap	Pol. Science	Joined 01-11-1984	Serving
55	Smt. Vinery R. Solomon	Pol. Science	Joined 01-08-1987	Serving
56	Smt. R. Pyngrope	Pol. Science	Joined 10-12-91	Serving
57	Shri Nani Gopal Goswami	Education	09-08-1961 to 08-08-1993	Expired on 08-08-1993
58	Shri Baidyanath Bhattacharjee	Education	09-11-1962 to 01-11-1978	?
59	Dr. (Mrs.) Biloris Laso	Education	09-07-1965 to 30-06-1987	Presently, Chairperson, State Women Commission
60	Smt. Odelia Kharkongor	Education	Joined 21-01-1983	Serving
61	Dr. (Ms.) Ruby Dkhar	Education	Joined 05-07-1987	Serving
62	Shri Hiesemaiah Iangrai	Education	Joined 29-10-1991	Serving
63	Smt. Hiramon Diengdoh	Education	Joined 09-09-1994	Serving
64	Shri Rajendra Nath Choudhury	English	1956 to 1963	Since expired
65	Shri Subhash Chatterjee	English	1956-61	?
66	Shri Sambhu N. Banerjee	English	?	?
67	Shri Bishwambhar Nanda	English	01-05-1959 to 01-11-1982	Since expired
68	Shri Biman Kanti Gupta Bhaya	English	03-09-1963 up to	Joined Staff Training

			30-09-1966	Center, SBI, Hyderabad.
69	Smt. Dipali Sengupta (Chakraborty)	English	Up to 30-09-1994	Retired, staying at Kolkata
70	Shri Subir Bijoy Sengupta	English	Retired on 31-08-1991	Retired, staying in Shillong
71	Shri Jagadish Purkayastha	English	Up to 28-02-1994	Retired, staying in Shillong
72	Smt. Mamata Bordoloi	English	04-07-1967 31-07-2005	Retired, staying in Shillong
73	Shri Nirmal Kr. Sarkar	English	21-07-1969 to 28-02-2005	Retired as V.P., now staying in Shillong
74	Smt. Smritirekha Das	English	Joined 19-08-1985	Serving
75	Smt Dhira Bhowmik	English	Joined 04-07-1996	Serving
76	Smt. Bobina Wanniang	English	Joined 20-08-1996	Serving
77	Smt. Indasien S. Warjri	English	Joined 02-08-1997	Serving
78	Shri L. M. Pariat	English	Joined 31-07-1999	Serving
79	Smt. Amanda B. Basaiawmoit	English	Joined 01-08-2005	Serving
80	Smt. Geeta Janet Dkhar	English	Joined 01-08-2005	Serving
81	Shri Kshitish Chandra Paul	Sanskrit	1959-1960	?
82	Smt. Bani Baruah	Sanskrit	01-4-1963 to 01-12-1989	Retired, staying at Guwahati
83	Dr. Mohini Kumar Saikia	Assamese	Up to 19-07-1969	Joined as Principal, D.M. College, Golaghat
84	Shri Romesh Ch. Sarma	Assamese	06-3-1963 to 23-07-1983	Expired on 23-07-1983
85	Shri Chandra Dhar Baruah	Assamese	01-08-1969 to 31-08-1993	Retired, staying in Shillong
86	Dr. Kasim Ali Ahmed	Assamese	11-06-1985 to 22-11-2005	On lien
87	Shri Dibyendu Kishore Guha	Bengali	Upto 12-06-1961	?
88	Shri Kshirode Behari Das	Bengali	06-08-1961 to 31-01-1978	Since expired
89	Shri Birendra Nath Dutta	Bengali	28-02-1963 to 16-08-1970	Retired, shifted to Krishnanagar, West Bengal.
90	Dr. (Mrs.) Gouri Sen	Bengali	30-08-1972 to 31-02-2003	Retired, staying in Kolkata
91	Shri Sekhar Kr. Samaddar	Bengali	07-05-1984 to 27-06-1985 (resigned)	Staying at Laskarpur (Garia), West Bengal
92	Smt. Chandana Dhar	Bengali	Joined 14-02-1991	Serving
93	Shri Alexander C. War	Khasi	14-07-1969 to 25-03-1992	Expired on 25-03-1992
94	Shri B. C Jyrwa	Khasi	01-03-1975 to 31-01-1996 (retired)	Expired on 25th June, 2001.
95	Shri H. S. Nongbri	Khasi	06-06-1983 to 31-02-2000	Retired, staying in Shillong
96	Smt. M Gatphoh	Khasi	Joined 03-04-1986	Serving
97	Shri T S Rajee	Khasi	Joined 01-09-1987	Serving
98	Dr.(Mrs.) Dakamon Mawroh	Khasi	Joined 01-09-1994	Serving
99	Shri Hectorius Marwein	Khasi	Joined 13-07-1996	Serving
100	Smt. Ailynti Nongbri	Khasi	Joined 26-07-1999	Serving
101	Shri Wanpynbiang Lawai	Khasi	Joined 09-11-2000	Serving
102	Smt. Lorinda D. Marak	Garo	Joined 14-09-1999	Serving
103	Shri Ajit Kr. Gurung	Hindi	27-02-1977 to 11-	Expired on 11-08-2000

			08-2000	
104	Dr. (Mrs.) Shruti Pandey	Hindi	Joined 07-07-2001	Serving
105	Shri Nar Bahadur Rai	Nepali	Joined 27-02-1975	Serving
106	Shri P Lalthmingthanga	Lushai/Mizo	21-02-1972 to	?
107	Shri T. T. Pachunga	Mizo	01-03-1975 to 31-08-2004	Retired, staying in Shillong
108	Shri S. Dutta	Commerce		?
109	Shri Salil Krishna Acharya	Commerce	Resigned	Founded Shillong Commerce College (since expired)
110	Shri A. K. Sengupta	Commerce	05-06-1963 to 20-09-1967	Resigned
111	Shri D. S. Rawat	Commerce	Up to 31-10-1990	Since expired
112	Shri Sanat Kr. Roy	Commerce	03-07-1961 to 01-03-1981	Retired
113	Shri Kumud Rn. Das	Commerce	Up to Aug./1970	Joined Commerce College, Shillong
114	Shri Ananda Mohan Paul	Commerce	04-08-1965 to 30-09-1995	Retired, staying in Kolkata
115	Shri Bikash Roy	Commerce	27-08-1970 to 31-05-2004	Retired, staying in Shillong
116	Shri Bidhan Chandra Roy	Commerce	28-02-1975 to 31-03-1993	Since expired
117	Shri Shining Roy Nongkynrih	Commerce	Joined 15-03-1978	Serving
118	Shri Kallol Dutta Roy	Commerce	Joined 25-08-1987	Serving
119	Shri Anurag Khanduri	Commerce	Joined 01-11-1991	Serving
120	Shri Barun Kr. Saha	Commerce	Joined 15-09-1994	Serving
121	Shri Sankar Sharma	Commerce	Joined 05-07-1996	Serving
122	Shri Benjamin F. Lyngdoh	Commerce	Joined 01-06-2004	Serving
123	Shri Umesh Chandra Kakati	Botany	03-04-1964 to 31-08-2001	Retired as V.P., staying at Guwahati
124	Shri S. R. Das (D)	Botany	16-07-1963 to Sept/1963	?
125	Shri Rajat Kanti Bhattacharjee (D)	Botany	16-08-1963 to 13-08-1964	?
126	Smt. Joyce Mehra	Botany	07-07-1965 to 17-07-1965	Proceeded to Malaur, Central Asia
127	Smt. Anjali Dutta	Botany	04-08-1965 to Aug./1989	Retired, staying in Guwahati
128	Smt. Rama Sarkar	Botany	Joined 24-02-1975	Serving
129	Dr.(Smt.) Ayesha Ashraf Ahmed	Botany	04-07-1985 to 15-05-2006	Resigned
130	Shri Swapan Kr. Roy	Botany	Joined 2-11-1993	Serving
131	Smt. Darina Kharchandy	Botany	Joined 18-04-2002	Serving
132	Smt. M.V.T. Marwein	Botany	Joined 20-01-2003	Serving
133	Shri Kalipada Nath (D)	Chemistry	01-10-1963 to 14-09-1971	Joined NEHU, Aizawl Campus.
134	Shri Purushottam Deb	Chemistry	01-03-1964 to 21-07-1988	Expired on 21-07-1988.
135	Shri Prashanta Sharma	Chemistry	03-07-1964 to 15-09-1964	?
136	Shri S. Guha Thakurta	Chemistry	23-09-1964 to 28-02-1965	?
137	Shri Haripada Roy Choudhury	Chemistry	07-07-1965 to	Resigned, joined Cotton

			1967	College, Guwahati.
138	Dr. Sudhir Kr. Gupta	Chemistry	04-09-1969 to 31-01-2006	Vice Principal, Prof. Courses, Shillong College
139	Dr. Rathindra Ch. Das	Chemistry	01-07-1970 to 31-07-1975	Resigned, Now serving in USA.
140	Shri Ramananda Bhattacharjee (D)	Chemistry	01-3-1975 to 05-04-2000	Retired (vol.), staying at Kolkata.
141	Shri Evans Rynjah Solomon	Chemistry	01-09-1980 to 31-12-1980 (resigned)	Principal Director, Commercial Audit, Delhi
142	Shri Teibim Jala Kharbhih	Chemistry	Joined 08-12-1982	Serving
143	Dr Manabendra Nath Bhattacharjee	Chemistry	Joined 29-07-1985	Serving
144	Dr. (Ms) Deborah L. Buam	Chemistry	Joined 29-10-1991	Serving
145	Shri Kenneth Umdor	Chemistry	Joined 01-09-2003	Serving
146	Shri Cheerfulman Masharing	Chemistry	Joined 01-07-2006	Serving
147	Shri Nalini Kanta Dey (D)	Physics	24-07-1963 to	?
148	Shri Abdul Mateen	Physics	04-08-1964 to	?
149	Shri S. R. Paul (D)	Physics	19-09-1964 to 04-12-1964	?
150	Shri Mridul Baran Paul	Physics	15-07-1965 to 23-07-1965	?
151	Shri Ranjit Kr. Datta	Physics	15-10-1965 to 31-08-2003	Retired as V.P., staying at Kolkata
152	Shri Udayan Ghose	Physics	21-09-1966 to 31-08-2003	Retired, staying at Kolkata
153	Shri Rajat Kanti Das (D)	Physics	10-12-1964 to 28-02-2005	Retired, staying at Shillong
154	Shri Durbadal Mukherjee	Physics	Joined 01-08-1969	Presently, Vice Principal
155	Smt. Nilima Das (Deb)	Physics	15-07-1985 to 30-06-89	Resigned
156	Smt. Elarina Noris Dkhar	Physics	Joined 01-09-1994	Serving
157	Shri Snarmon Lato	Physics	Joined 01-09-2003	Serving
158	Shri Mebanjopson Rynjah	Physics	Joined 14-08-2004	Serving
160	Shri Aiborlang Dkhar	Physics	Joined 02-07-2005	Serving
161	Shri J. J. Rao (D)	Zoology	14-08-1964 to 23-09-1965	?
162	Shri Kamalaksha Dutta	Zoology	01-10-1964 to 31-12-1991	Since expired.
163	Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee	Zoology	Up to 31-07-1967	Joined S. N. Banerjee College, Kolkata
164	Shri Parimal Chakraborty (D)	Zoology	Up to 22-03-1973 (resigned)	Joined LIC as Deveopment Officer
165	Shri Jahnabi Kumar Chattoraj	Zoology	24-08-1968 to 19-11-1970 (resigned)	Joined Bankura Christian College, West Bengal
166	Shri A. Roy (D)	Biology	26-02-1973	?
167	Dr. Samarendra Nath Datta	Zoology	01-08-1969 to 30-06-2003	Retired, staying at Shillong
168	Smt. Rekha Devi	Zoology	Joined 30-08-1972	Serving
169	Smt. Suparna Choudhury (Purkayastha) (D)	Zoology	Joined 11-03-1974	Serving
170	Dr. Malay Dey	Zoology	Joined 08-07-1985	Serving
171	Smt. Deisa Nora Shabong	Zoology	Joined 01-09-1994	Serving
172	Smt. Jennifer Lyngdoh	Zoology	01-08-2003 to 17-01-2005 (resigned)	Presently, Scientist, ZSI, Shillong

173	Smt. Evadahun M. Pala	Zoology	Joined 05-07-2005	Serving
174	Shri Sankar Goswami	Statistics	Joined 03-09-2004	Serving
175	Smt. Pushpita Das	Statistics	Joined 03-07-2006	Serving
176	Shri Pynbianglut Hadem	Computer	01-08-2003 to 09/2005	Resigned, Serving at NIIT
177	Shri Gordon K. Nongkynrih	Computer	01-08-2003 to 02-07-2005	Joined NIC, on lien.
178	Smt. Aiom M Mitri	Computer	Joined 02-08-04	Serving
179	Shri Geoffrey M. Shadap	Computer	Joined 01-06-2006	Serving
180	Shri Banteilang Mukhim	Computer	Joined 13-07-2005	Serving
181	Shri Willford Thangkhiew	Computer	Joined 01-06-2006	Serving
182	Smt. Ibansharai Marbaniang	Computer	Joined 04-07-2006	Serving
183	Shri Sharad Chettri	Computer	Joined 04-07-2006	Serving
184	Smt. W. C. K. Sohliya	B.B.A.	Joined 04-07-2004	Serving
185	Smt. Piarlincy Khonglah	B.B.A.	Joined 01-06-2004	Serving
186	Smt. Sharalyne Khyriemujat	Sociology	Joined 01-07-2006	Serving
187	Smt. W. Dkhar	Librarian	Joined 16-06-1996	Serving

Abbreviation: D = Demonstrator

PART TIME TEACHERS

Sl. No.	Name	Department	Originally serving at	Period of Service (approx.)
1	Shri Haran Chandra Bhattacharjee	Philosophy	NEFA Secretariat, Shillong	22nd July 1959 to June 1960
2	Shri B Dutta	Philosophy		1961
3	Shri R Panigrahi	Philosophy	Lady Keane College	1961
4	Shri S. R Bhattacharjee	Philosophy		1963
5	Shri Bidhu Bhusan Das	Philosophy		July/1960
6	Shri B. Dutta	Philosophy		March/1961
7	Miss Sabita Das	Philosophy		1967,1968,1969
8	Smt. Anju Joshi	Philosophy		1980
9	Shri Jashabanta Roy	Philosophy		1982
10	Smt. Alpana Chakraborty	Philosophy		1985
11	Shri Nitish Pandit	Philosophy		1986
12	Smt. Jayanti Paul	Philosophy		1993-1995
13	Smt. Sumitra Mazumdar	Philosophy		1993
14	Bilmaris Mary Syndor	Philosophy		2000
15	Sandorlang Ramsiej	Philosophy		2000
16	Shri Prithwis Ch. Dutta	Mathematics	St Edmund's College	1961-1969
17	Shri A Chakraborti	Mathematics	Lady Keane College	1961, 1967
18	Shri Arun K. Bhattacharya	Mathematics		September/1961
19	Shri Arun K. Biswas	Mathematics	St Edmund's College	1968,
20	Shri Shibo Prasanna Bhattacharjee	Maths/Stats.	St Anthony's College	1983
21	Shri Sibnath Bose	Mathematics	St Edmund's College	1985
22	Shri B. J. Reddy	Mathematics		1985
23	Shri Ajit Mishra	Mathematics		1985
24	Smt. Krishna Das	Mathematics		1986
25	Smt. Sonali Sen Gupta	Mathematics		1998-2000
26	Virgilius Nongbri	Mathematics		2001
27	Shri M. W. Synrem	Mathematics		2001-2003
28	Smt. Anindita Bhowal	Mathematics		1997
29	Shri B. N. Gurung	Commerce & Nepali		1959-60
30	Shri D S. Rawat (Honorary)	Commerce & Nepali		Sepember1959
31	Shri P N Dutta	History		August/1959
32	Shri R Singh Lyngdoh	History		July/1959
33	Shri Kapila Chatterjee	History	Lady Keane College	1963-1970
34	Shri S. D. Bhattacharjee	History	Lady Keane College	1967
35	Shri Sushil Chandra Dutta	History		
36	Shri K. K. Bhattacharjee	History	St Edmund's College	1970-1977
37	Dr. Makhan Lal Kar	History	St Edmund's College	1977
38	Shri Romen Das	History	Lady Keane College	1982
39	Shri A. Kharkongor	History		1984
40	Shri S. Bhattacharjee	History		1985
41	J. J. Kharmawphlang	History		1988
42	Smt. Alicia Gatphoh	History	Raid Laban College	1988
43	G. Sumar	History		1988
44	Fariana Ryntathiang	History		1999
45	Ibettin Kharumnuid	History		1997
46	Smt. Dianghunmor Rynjah	History		2005

47	Shri Kanai Lal Choudhury	Economics		19-06-61 to 11-08-61
48	Shri Pabitra Bhusan Deb	Economics		August/1960
49	Shri S. Das	Economics		September/1962
50	Shri K. Bora	Economics		17/8/64 to Feb/68
51	Shri S. D. Nandi	Economics	Lady Keane College	1968-1970
52	Shri Abani Mohan Pal	Economics		July 1969
53	Smt. Champa Choudhury	Economics		8-7-70 to 20-12-1970.
54	Shri D. K. Sen	Economics		8-7-70 to 20-12-1970
55	Shri Lohit Rn. Das	Economics	Lawyer	1973-1983
56	Smt. Rakhee Bhattacharjee	Economics		1986
57	Smt. M. Das Gupta	Economics		1993
58	S. D. Tynsong	Economics		1995
59	Shri Badondor Syiem	Economics		1990-1992
60	Shri Ashutosh Dey	Economics	Ri Bhoi College	1998
61	Smt. I. S. Kharkongor	Economics		1999-2000
62	Shri S. O. Lynskor	Economics		1999-2000
63	C. N. Nongrum	Economics		2000
64	W. Tariang	Economics		2000
65	N. C. Khonglam	Economics		2000
66	Shri P. Gupta	Education		
67	Smt. Chandana Sarma	Education		March 1961
68	Shri S. Mazumdar	Education		September/1962
69	Smt. Madhumita Dutta	Education		8/7/68 to 21/9/68
70	Smt. Krishna Das	Education		1982
71	Shri R. Bhattacharjee	Education		1982
72	Shri G. K. Das Talukdar	Education	P.G.T. College	1982,1983
73	Smt. Bharati Chetia	Education		1982
74	A. Das Gupta	Education		1987
75	Smt. K. D. Lyngwa	Education		1993
76	J. S. Pyngrope	Education		1995
77	H. Iangrai	Education		1990-1991
78	Calferia Allya	Education		1990
79	Shri Kamal Kumar Bhattacharjee	Pol. Science		July/1965
80	Shri Sarat Kr. Chakraborty	Pol. Science		1967
81	Shri Tuhin Chakraborty	Pol. Science		4/7/67
82	Shri S. K. Chaubey	Pol. Science		25/7/67
83	Shri D. W. Warjri	Pol. Science		1971
84	Shri K. L. Sadhu	Pol. Science	St Anthony's College	1983
85	Shri S. K. Chakraborty	Pol. Science		1980-1982
86	Shri S. Shyam	Pol. Science	Lawyer	1971
87	Shri U. S. Bhattacharjee	Pol. Science	Lady Keane College	1971,1982,1983
88	Shri G. Chakraborty	Pol. Science		1984
89	Shri P. S. Dkhar	Pol. Science	Lady Keane College	1985
90	D. Rynjah	Pol. Science		2001-2004
91	B. L. Nonglait	Pol. Science		2005
92	Smt. Deigratiamon Rynjah	Pol. Science		2005
93	Shri C. .P. Sinha	English		1959
94	Shri N. Nalarajan	English	St Edmund's College	September/1960
95	Shri S. P. Roy	English	St Edmund's College	March/1963
96	Shri G. S. Banerjee	English		1967.1968-1979

97	Shri P. K. Nandi	English		1967-1969
98	Shri S. Bhattacharjee	English		1969-1970
99	Shri S. Sen Gupta	English		1970
100	Shri M. Maitra	English		1970
101	Smt. Shila Das	English		1971
102	Shri R. Das	English		9/79 to 11/79
103	Shri A. A. Sinha	English	St Anthony's College	1980-81,1989-92, 2005-06
104	Shri Anthony Jala	English	St Anthony's College	1980, 1988
105	Shri Trimothi Subbha	English	St Anthony's College	1990-1993
106	Dr. Julian Laloo	English	Sandardev College	1993
107	Shimanta Bhattacharya	English		1993-94
108	Smt. Mandakini Basu	English	St Anthony's College	1993-95
109	Shri L. M. Pariat	English	TSM College, Mairang	1993-95
110	Shri Monotosh Chakraborty	English	St Edmund's College	1994
111	Smt. Enol Nichol	English	St Anthony's College	1994
112	Shri T. J. Joseph	English	St Edmund's College	1994-98
113	Shri A. M. Lyngwa	English		1994
114	S. Khongwir	English		1995
115	Smt. Bharati Joshi	English		1995-96
116	Shri Chandrajit Bose	English		1995
117	Shri Abhijit Sharma	English		1995
118	Smt. Bobina Wanniang	English		1995-96
119	V. L. Dutta	English		1995
120	R. Phukan	English		1995
121	E. C. Benny	English		1995
122	Shri Andrew Simon	English		1995-2003
123	M. M. B. Tariang	English		1992
124	Ibanbet Syiem	English		1999
125	Miss Laldinsangi Sailo	English		2000
126	Smt. Deigratiamon Rynjah	English		1999-02
127	Smt. L. Kharshing	English		1997,98
128	Athrongla Sanglian	English		1998
129	Amy Zomliapuii Pachuau	English		1998
130	Smt. G. Janet Dkhar	English		2005
131	A. J. Buhphang	English		2005
132	Shri F M Pugh	Khasi		June/1964
133	Shri H Bareh	Khasi		09/62 to 06/1963
134	Shri H. Syiemlieh	Khasi		1/7/63 to
135	Shri Alexander M. Warjri	Khasi		17/08/63 to 1970
136	S. G. Tham	Khasi		05/09/63
137	Miss S. Dkhar	Khasi		August/1967 to July/1969
138	Shri E. M. Reade	Khasi		1968 to 13-07-1969
139	A. Kharkongor	Khasi		1972, 1973
140	S. Marbaniang	Khasi		1973-76
141	Shri Drimsibon Kharkongor	Khasi		1980-1982
142	Smt. M. Gatphoh	Khasi		1985,1986
143	Shri H. Marwein	Khasi		1992-96
144	Shri W. Lawai	Khasi		1999

145	B. M. Wolflang	Khasi		1998
146	O. Warjri	Khasi		1998
147	Smt. Bakhiamon Rynjah	Khasi		2000-04
148	Shri K. Zadeng	Lushai/Mizo		1963-1970
149	Shri B Bhattacharjee (Honorary)	Bengali		1959- PT from Nov 1962.
150	Shri Sudhangshu Bhusan Dey	Bengali		August/1960
151	Shri B. M. Chatterjee	Bengali		April/1961
152	Shri B. N. Rakshit	Bengali		1970-1976
153	Shri R. N. Bhattacharjee	Bengali		1970-1971
154	Smt. Gouri Sen	Bengali		August/1971
155	Smt. A. Bhattacharjee	Bengali		1972
156	Dr. Dilip Kr. Lahiri	Bengali	St Edmund's College	1976
157	Shri M. Bhattacharjee	Bengali		1/7/77 to 30/9/77
158	Shri Shyamadas Bhattacharjee	Bengali	Lady Keane College	1973 -1984, 1992
159	Shri Prodyut Kr. Deb	Bengali	St Anthony's College	1977-1980
160	Smt. Mahua Sarkar	Bengali	Lady Keane College	1981, 1993
161	Smt. Krishna Purkayastha	Bengali		1981
162	Smt. Chandana Dhar	Bengali		1983-91
163	Smt. Bhaswati Lahiri	Bengali	Lady Keane College	1999
164	Shri R. K. Palit	Hindi	Lady Keane College	1968-1973
165	Shri Janardhan Prasad Khanduri	Hindi	St Anthony's College	1969-1973
166	Shri A. K. Gurung	Hindi		3-9-73
167	Smt. Khairum Nisha	Hindi		2000
168	Smt. Shruti Pandey	Hindi		2001
169	Shri Nar Bahadur Rai	Nepali		1-6-1973
170	Shri Binode Kavyatirtha	Sanskrit		August/1959
171	Shri Kanku Charan Kar	Sanskrit		April/1960
172	Shri Nikhil Chandra Dev	Sanskrit		22/7/67
173	Shri Ratnakar Bhagawati	Sanskrit		1968-1970
174	Smt. Pratima Chowdhury	Sanskrit		October/1969 to 1973.
175	Shri R Hazarika	Assamese		July/1959
176	Shri Narayan Ch. Das	Assamese		July/1961
177	Miss J. Hazarika	Assamese		September/1962
178	Shri Prabin Das	Assamese		1973-1977
179	Shri B. N. Talukdar	Assamese		1983
180	Shri Jyotish Bhagawati	Assamese	St Edmund's College	1985
181	Smt. Meena Sharma	Assamese	Women's College	1994.1995

182	Shri N. Das	Commerce		July/1959
183	Shri A Chaudhuri	Commerce		June/1960
184	Shri S Dutta (Honorary)	Commerce		June/1960
185	Shri J Purkayastha	Commerce		July/1960
186	Shri S. K. Roy	Commerce		July/1961
187	Shri Subodh Chandra Das	Commerce		July/1961
188	Shri N. K. Deb Roy	Commerce		1964-1970
189	Shri Dilip Kr. Roy	Commerce		July/1965
190	Shri G. P. Patra	Commerce		1967,1968
191	Shri Bikash Roy	Commerce		1-8-70 to 26-8-70
192	Shri D. Chakraborty	Commerce		1973
193	Shri Leaderwell Pohsngap	Commerce		26/08/1974
194	Shri P. Das Gupta	Commerce		08/08/1977

195	Shri D. Kharlukhi	Commerce		Only Aug/1977
196	Shri H. Mawrie	Commerce		06/09/1977
197	Shri Biplab Das	Commerce		Dec/1991 only
198	Shri Shankar Sarma	Commerce		1995-96
199	Shri Tara Pada Upadhyay	Commerce		1995
200	A. N. Shankar	Commerce		1997

201	Miss K Dutta	Botany		22-07-1963 to 03/1964
202	Smt. Rama Bhattacharjee	Botany		1-8-1969 to
203	Shri A. Roy (D)	Botany		Dec./1972
204	Dr. N. I. Singh	Botany		1979,1980
205	Dr. Bhaskar Neogi	Botany	St Edmund's College	1988-1990
206	Shri A. B. Dutta	Botany	St Anthony's College	1989
207	Shri R. B. Chettri	Botany		1990
208	F. S. Khonglah	Botany		1991
209	Shri Swapan Kr. Roy	Botany	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1991-93
210	Shri S. Myrthong	Botany	St Edmund's College	1993-94
211	Shri Subhashis Das Gupta	Botany		1994
212	Abha Sarma	Botany		1995
213	Shri R. B. Chettri	Botany		1990
214	Shri Makhan Ch. Paul	Botany	St Edmund's College	1990-92
215	Shri Atanu Kr. Das	Botany	St Anthony's College	1996-2003
216	M. B. Hynniewta	Botany		2001-02
217	J. P. Marak	Botany		2001
218	Dr. P. V. R. Rao	Chemistry	Lady Keane College	22-07-1964 to April/1964, 1987
219	Shri B. K. Roy Chowdhury	Chemistry	St. Anthony's College	1967,1968,1975
220	Dr. Amalendu Hom Choudhury	Chemistry	St Edmund's College	1967-1968
221	Shri H. N. Paul	Chemistry	St Edmund's College	1-8-69 to 30-11-69
222	Shri R. C. Das	Chemistry		1-12-1969 to 30-0-1970
223	Shri Tushar Kanti Sen	Chemistry		Up to July 1969
224	Dr. Makhan Lal Purkayastha	Chemistry	St Edmund's College	1976 to 1981
225	Shri Monoranjan Kalita	Chemistry	St Edmund's College	1977
226	Dr. Abhijit Debroy	Chemistry	St Edmund's College	1988
227	Shri S. C. Sinha	Chemistry	St Anthony's College	1988
228	Shri Parag Dhar Baruah	Chemistry	Lady Keane College	1989
229	Shri R. Decruze	Chemistry	Lady Keane College	1989
230	Dr.(Mrs.) Paramita Das	Chemistry	Research Scholar, NEHU	1990
231	Shri Ratan Lal Gupta	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1990
232	Shri Jayatosh De	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1991
233	Smt. D. L. Buam	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1991
234	Smt. Amrita Roy	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1993-94, 1998
235	Shri Biswajit Roy	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1995
236	Smt. Jayati Sen Gupta	Chemistry		1995
237	K. R. Reddy	Chemistry		1996
238	Dr. (Mrs.) Paromita Das	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1990
239	Smt. Sushmita Dutta	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1997-99

240	Smt. Julareen Manih	Chemistry		1999-2000
241	Shri Peter Glen Stone Dkhar	Chemistry	Research Scholar, NEHU	16-06-2000 to 30-11-2000
242	Shri P. M. Singh	Chemistry		2000
243	Shri Teibor Mukhim	Chemistry		2001
244	Shri Kenneth Umdor	Chemistry		2002-03
245	Shri Cheerful Marsharing	Chemistry	Res. Scholar, NEHU	2005

246	Shri B. Goswami	Physics		22-07-1963 to 1965
249	Dr. Purnendu Bhattacharjee	Physics	St Edmund's College	March/1965
250	Shri D. K. Nandi	Physics		August/1965
251	Shri N. K. Arjun	Physics		1982
252	Shri G. P. Pai	Physics		1983
253	Shri G. C. Paul	Physics		1984
252	Dr. B. J. Bhattacharjee--	Physics	St Anthony's College	1990-92
253	Smt. Sudipta Dey	Physics		1990
254	Shri Ratan Chakraborty	Physics	Res. Scholar, NEHU	1988
255	Smt. Supriya Choudhury (Bhattacharjee)	Physics		1988
256	A. Sarma	Physics		1989
257	B. K. Purkayastha	Physics		1991
258	A.K. Das	Physics		1991
259	Shri Monkhmer Lyngdoh Kynshi	Physics		
260	Smt. Elarina Noris Dkhar	Physics		1993-94
261	Smt. Sudipta Dey	Physics		1990
262	B. Nongrum	Physics		1998
263	K. R. Son	Physics		2001
264	Shri R. S. Kharwanlang	Physics		2002
265	I. Kharkongor	Physics		2002
266	Smt. Sharmila Bhattacharjee	Physics		2002
267	Smt. Cheerfulness Lyngdoh	Physics		2002
268	Shri Aiborlang Dkhar	Physics		2003
269	Simanta Chutia	Physics		2004
270	B. Lyngdoh Giri	Physics		2004
271	Shri M. Haque	Physics		2004
272	I. B. R. Dkhar	Physics		2005
273	Shri Donbor Rapsang	Physics		2005

274	Shri Himangshu Banerjee	Zoology		22-07-1963 to August/1963
275	Shri Dhiresh Ch. Dhar	Zoology	St. Edmund's College	17-09-1963 to September/1964
276	Shri Monoranjan Barman	Zoology	Lady Keane College	July/1964
277	Shri S. K. Aditya	Zoology	Lady Keane College	1967,1968
278	Shri Amitabha Maitra	Zoology	Lady Keane College	1967
279	Shri Amal Kanti Chakraborty	Zoology		Leave vacancy, 1 month Aug./1968
280	K. K. Dutta	Zoology		1992
281	Dr. Bidhan Bhattacharjee	Zoology	St Anthony's College	1993-94
282	Smt. Pushpita Das	Statistics		2005-06
283	Shri David Cooper Kharpuri	Computer		15-10-2003
284	Shri P. Kharmawphlang	Computer		15-10-2003

285	Shri S. Wahlang	Computer		20-10-2003
286	Shri Shanborlang Warjri	Computer		2004
287	J. Wahlang	Computer		2004
288	Smt. W. C. Kharkongor	Computer		2004
289	Shri Hardy Nelson Diengdoh	Computer		2005
290	Shri Ksan Kupar Swer	Computer		2005
291	Smt. Parisha T. Rapsang	Computer		2005
292	Shri Challenge S. G. Kharjana	Computer		Serving since 7-7-05
293	Smt. Tina Singh	B.B.A		2004
294	Smt. Aibadalin Deingdoh	Eco./BBA		Serving
295	Shri Joshua. Phanwar	B.B.A.		Serving since July/2006

NON-TEACHING STAFF

Serial No	Name of the Staff	Designation	Period of service (Approx.)	Presently
1	Shri R. M. Choudhury	Library Asst	Upto Sept./1964	?
2	Shri Nadiya Benode Goswami	Office Assistant	Up to 31/03/1963	?
3	Shri P. Chakraborty	Office Asst.	20/11/59 to 19/12/59	?
4	Shri Gopesh R. Brahmachari	Office Asst	April 1960 to Nov./1969 and 1972	?
5	Shri R K Bhattacharjee	Office Asst	1/4/1963 to ?	?
6	Shri Anil Chakraborty	Office Asst	11/9/1964	?
7	Shri Gopal Krishna Dhar Senapati	Office Asst	18/09/1964	?
8	Shri Nipendra Nath Purkayastha	Office Asst	1/7/1965	?
9	Shri Jyotirmoy Bhattacharjee	Office Asst	8/9/65	Staying at Shillong
10	Shri Amulya Rn. Paul	Office Asst.	9/9/1965	
11	Shri Nerode Behari Deb	Office Asst	1967 to 14-3-72	
12	Shri D. Bhattacharjee	Office Asst. & Lib. Asst	Up to 10-04-1968	
13	Shri N. B. Dutta	Office Asst	1/5/67 to 15/11/67	
14	Shri R. G. Phankon	Typist	1st to 15th May/67	
15	Shri D. N. Sen	Accountant	8/1967 to 11/1969	
16	Shri Sailesh Ch. Palit	Office Asst.	16/11/67 to Nov./1969	
17	Shri Ambica C. Roy	Office Asst	30/12/1967 to 04/01/1968	
18	Shri Sushil Kr. Purkayastha	Lib. Asst	10/04/1968 to November 1969	Resigned
19	Shri Sitangshu S. Choudhury	Accountant	1-12-69 to 28-2-70	
20	Shri Sajal Kr. Kar	Off. Asst. (temp)	1971	
21	Shri Sitesh Ch. Sorcar	Accountant/Head Assistant	14-07-1970 to 24-12-2002	Expired on 24-12-2002
22	Shri Monleyton Phanowar		1-12-1969 to March, 1971	Resigned
23	Smt. Rina Das Chowdhury (Debroy)	LDA/UDA	6-7-70 to 31-07-1981	Staying in Arunachal

				Pradesh
24	Shri Sudarshan K. Dam	UDA	22-3-1971 to 31-07-06	Expired on 31-07-06
25	Shri S. R. Chowdhury	LDA	19-04-1971 to 31-08-1971	Resigned
26	Smt. Kalyani Das (Sorcar)	LDA	Joined 30-08-1971	Serving
27	Smt. Suvra Goswami	LDA	8-9-1971 to 9-2-1972	Resigned
28	Shri N. K. Nath	UDA	5-1-72 to 29-2-72	
29	Shri R. L. Das	LDA	15/3/1972 to December 1972	
30	Shri Tulshi Upadhyay	Grade IV	10-1-72 to 10/72	
31	Shri Debobrata Bhattacharjee	LDA	Joined 25/7/72	Serving
32	Shri H. M. Nath	Lib. Assistant	2-9-72 to 12-9-72	
33	Shri A. Kakati	Lib. Assistant	13-9-72 to	
34	Shri Nikhil Paul	LDA	Joined 18/09/1973	Serving
35	Shri A. Chowdhury	LDA	1-11-73 to 7/2/78	
36	Shri Pranob Kr. Dey	LDA		Expired on 02-12-2000
37	Shri Bimal Kr. Sangma	LDA	17-09-1977 to May/1987	Resigned
38	Smt. Rosaline Kharkongor	LDA	Joined 18-12-1987	Serving
39	Shri Subodh Ch. Chakraborty	OSD	01-03-1993 to 31-05-1995	
40	Smt. Josephine Myrten		01-06-1994 to 30-06-2005	Resigned
41	Shri C. J. Kharshing	LDA	25-08-2001 to 21-06-2006	Resigned
42	Shri Anthony D. Jyrwa	LDA	Joined 06-08-1998	Serving
43	Smt. Wankorlin Mawthoh	Library Assistant	Joined 01-05-2005	Serving
44	Shri Rimanlang Kharumnuid	Off. Asst. (Prof. Courses)	2006	Serving
1	Shri G. B. Singh	Grade IV	Up to 11/09/1960	
2	Shri R. N. Panda	Grade IV	Up to Aug./1962	
3	Shri Devendra Kr. Das	Grade IV	Nov/1959	
4	Shri Bidyadhar Singh	Grade IV	08/1960 to 08/1961	Resigned
5	Shri Lokenath Upadhyay	Grade IV	August/1961	
6	Shri Homen Singh	Grade IV	August/1962	
7	Shri Churamoni Sarma	Grade IV	08//1962 to 09/1962	
8	Shri Balaram Sarma	Grade IV	19/9/1962 to 31-03-2000	Retired.
9	Shri Tanka Prasad Sarma	Grade IV	8/7/1964 to October 1969	
10	Shri Arjun Singh	Grade IV	10/1964- for one month	
11	Smt. Jaysree Roy	Grade IV	5/3/1965	
12	Shri Gorib Singh	Grade IV	1/7/1965	
13	Shri Bholanath Joshi	Grade IV	25-09-1966 to 24-02-1981	
14	Shri Bishnu Prasad Sarma	Grade IV		
15	Shri Ajib Sing	Grade IV		
16	Shri Mitralal Sarma	Grade IV	5/5/67 to 30-04-2002	Retired
17	Shri Chabilal Sarma	Grade IV	1/7/67 to 01-03-1999	Expired on 01-

				03-1999
18	Shri Ramgati Roy	Grade IV	22/7/67	
19	Shri Hemlal Sarma	Grade IV	1/10/1967 to 5-5-69	
20	Shri Rajendra Roy	Grade IV	1/9/1968	
21	Shri Karnail Singh	Grade IV	Leave vacancy: 11/68	
22	Shri Bhimraj Pokhrel (Sarma)	Grade IV	Up to 3/8/1976	
23	Shri Bhabani Joshi (Sarma)	Grade IV	Up to 31-08-2001	Retired
24	Shri Ram Prasad Sarma	Grade IV	Up to 6/8/1976	
25	Abinash Bhattacharjee	Grade IV	6-9-1972 to 8/7/1976	Resigned
26	Shri Matilal Sharma	Grade IV	3-6-69	
27	Shri Mon Bahadur Thapa	Grade IV	1-7-69	
28	Shri Bhimraj Sarma	Grade IV	1-8-69	
29	Shri Gurumukh Singh	Grade IV	April & May 1970	
30	Shri Thana Singh	Grade IV	June-Aug. 1970	
31	Shri Jowel Suiting	Grade IV	6-9-1972 to 04-03-2003	Expired on 04-03-2003
33	Shri Rajendra Singh	Grade IV	Up to 31/01/1977	
34	Shri Swaran Singh	Grade IV	July 1972 to 11/3/1974	Resigned
35	Shri Meghnath Sarma	Grade IV	10/1972	Resigned
36	Shri B. Kharbuli	Grade IV	7/7/1973 to 10/9/1974	Resigned
37	Shri Probin Das	Grade IV	12/9/1973	
38	Shri Chandramani Upadhyay	Grade IV	18-03-1973 to 31-03-1981	Resigned
39	Shri Gurmukh Singh	Grade IV	13/3/1974 to 31/01/1977	Resigned
40	Shri Dal Bahadur Thapa	Grade IV	14/11/1974 to	
41	Shri Suk Bahadur Swer	Grade IV	03/01/1975	
42	Shri Dulan Kr. Das	Grade IV	Joined 01/05/1976	Serving
43	Shri Birendra Kr. Dev	Grade IV	07/08/1976	Resigned
44	Shri Padamlal Sarma	Grade IV	06/08/1976 to 31-08-2002	Retired
45	Shri Rajkishore Rai	Grade IV	Joined 01/02/1977	Serving
46	Shri Ajit Singh	Grade IV	05/02/1977	Resigned
47	Shri Salugram Thapa	Grade IV	March/1977 only	
48	Shri Pradeep Rawat	Grade IV	17/08/1977 31-08-1981	Resigned
49	Shri Salek Bahadur		10/01/1978 to 31/01/1978	
50	Shri Budhiram Sharma	Grade IV	02/1978 –31-10-1990	
51	Shri Salik Ram Thapa	Grade IV	23/06/1979 to 25-08-2000	Expired on 25-08-2000
52	Shri Salimoth Masi	Grade IV	1/9/1979	
53	Shri Sukdev Singh	Grade IV	09/03/1981	
54	Shri Prem Sharma	Grade IV	Joined 07/11/1983	Serving
55	Shri Buddhi Raj Khanal	Grade IV	June/1984	
56	Shri Remilan Kharkongor	Grade IV	Joined 09/07/1985	Serving
57	Smt. Florida Kharkongor	Grade IV	Joined 06/07/1985	Serving
58	Shri Mohinder Kore	Grade IV		
59	Shri Tulshi Ram Fullel	Grade IV	November/1985	Serving
60	Shri Anil Kumar Khannal	Grade IV	Joined 27-9-95	Serving
61	Smt. Sukwante Kaur	Grade IV	9/1996 to 3/1997	Resigned
62	Smt. Alfonsa Rymbai	Grade IV	Joined 6-6-86	Serving

63	Sirian Rymbai	Grade IV	Joined 10-6-86	Serving
64	Shri B. B. Limbo	Grade IV	1986-June/1993	Resigned
65	Smt Phangmon Syngai	Grade IV	Joined 01-04-98	Serving
66	Dakerlyne Kharlukhi	Grade IV	Joined 01-04-98	Serving
67	Cornel Stone Kharnari	Grade IV	Joined 7-4-97	Serving
68	Smt. K. Warjri	Grade IV	Joined 8-9-98	Serving
69	Smt. J. Myrten	Grade IV	Joined 08/98	Resigned
70	Shri Augustine Khyriam	Grade IV	Joined 5-12-2000	Serving
71	Shri S. K. Wahlang	Grade IV	Joined 5-12-2000	Serving
72	W. Basaiwmoit	Grade IV	Joined 9-6-97	Serving
73	Shri Danny Osmond Wahlang	Grade IV	Joined 12-11-02	Serving
74	D. R. Kharmujai	Grade IV	Joined 01-04-03	Serving
75	Shri E. Pyrtuh	Grade IV	Joined 01-08-03	Serving
76	Shri Kumar Rai	Grade IV	Joined 1986	Serving
77	Smt. Jureen M. Lyngdoh	Grade IV	Joined 12-11-99	Serving
78	Smt. Angeline Khongwir	Grade IV	Joined 01-07-02	Serving
79	Shri Augustine Lyngdoh	Grade IV	Joined 19-07-02	Serving
80	V. J. Nongbri	Grade IV	Joined 4/2004	Resigned
81	A. Kurbah	Grade IV	Joined 01-09-04	Serving
82	Shri Gana Shyam Marasine	Grade IV	1999	Resigned
83	Shri Alfred F. K. Sawian	Computer Lab.	Joined 02-08-2004	Serving
84	Shri Donhoklang Marbaniang		Joined July/2006	Serving

Obituary

As we were going to the press, the Shillong College Family was deeply shocked to learn the sad news of untimely demise of:

1. Shri Tapan Moitra, former Vice Principal and Head of the Department of Economics who died on 1st July 2006 at Kolkata after a protracted illness. Prof. Moitra served the college since 1963 up to February 2000.

2. Shri Sudarshan Kr. Dam, Head Assistant, expired on 31st July 2006 at Shillong following a brief illness. Late Shri Dam served the College since 1971 till his death.

We pay our respectful homage to the memory our departed colleagues.

First Shillong College Students' Union – Executive Committee

G O L D E N J U B I L E E 1956 ★ 2006

The first election of the Students' Union of the College was held on 9th August, 1959, which formed the first ever Executive Committee of S.C.S.U. (1959-60):

1. President (ex-officio)	- Shri S. C. Dutta, Principal
2. Vice-President (ex-officio)	- Shri S. Bhattacharjee, Lecturer, History Department.
3. General Secretary	- Shri Mohit Kumar Das.
4. Joint General Secretary	– Shrimati Achala Chakravorty.
5. Secretary, Social Functions & Debates	– Shri Benumadhab Goswami.
6. Joint Secretary, Social Functions & Debates	– Shrimati Uma Paul Choudhuri.
7. Joint Secretary, Cultural Functions & Music	– Shri Asoke Bijoy Roy Choudhuri.
8. Joint Secretary, Cultural Functions & Music	– Shrimati Pratima Dutta.
9. Secretary, Sports	- Shri Arun Kumar Roy Choudhuri.
10. Joint Secretary, Sports	- Shrimati Mayna Sohliya.
11. Editor, College Magazine	- Shri Jimut Bahan Dutta.
12. Joint Editor, College Magazine	- Shrimati Nandita Kar.

FEW WORDS FROM THE FIRST COLLEGE MAGAZINE ABOUT SCSU & ITS ACTIVITIES

Social Functions & Debate Secretary wrote: College life sows the seed of true citizenship by breeding fraternity, fellow-feeling and broadness of outlook. Freshers' Social is the first step towards an endeavour to bring students of different communities of an institution closer to one another and instil a spirit of tolerance and understanding. On this occasion students of Second and Fourth year Classes formally receive those of the First and Third year Classes in their fold with warm feelings of affection.....

Sports Secretary wrote: True sports beget rivalry that has no malice. Sportsmanship in a figurative sense is therefore rightly identified with magnanimity of the soul. If the aim of true education is to bring out the latent qualities of a student, no scheme of education can be perfect without facilities for sports. We, the students of Shillong college, therefore, readily availed of the opportunities afforded to us with the limitations of a new institution which has yet to have a building of its own.....

Editor commented: .....An offspring of our maiden attempt as it is, we cannot expect the magazine to attain the hall-mark of perfection. One with a critical bent of mind will find short-comings – some too glaring to be treated with compassion. But I do hope that a sensible reader will accept the merits and reject the blemishes.....

Finally General Secretary made bold statement: .....In this context inauguration of Shillong College on the 15th August, 1956 under happy auspices filled up a real void in the field of education of this capital city of Assam. The progress achieved by the College in course of a short period is remarkable. If this pace of progress is maintained, this national institution is destined to occupy a place of pride in the educational firmament of Assam.....

And then our Founder Principal, Shri S. C. Datta, in his article "Problems of Collegiate Education" observed: .....The problem at the bottom is, therefore, social and moral. Reorientation of the syllabus, though necessary is not the panacea of all the evils. Efforts should be directed to cut down the holidays of educational institutions, and remove the economic disabilities of the teacher and student. In this materialistic world a teacher cannot be fed on platitudes alone. He will have the necessary incentive to take to his avocation seriously, if he is kept above financial worries and assured of a position in the society in keeping with the status he holds. The real remedy lies in creating a proper atmosphere for the teacher and the student to pursue their respective avocations of imparting and receiving education with robust optimism about their future.....

SHILLONG COLLEGE STUDENTS' UNION: 2004-2005

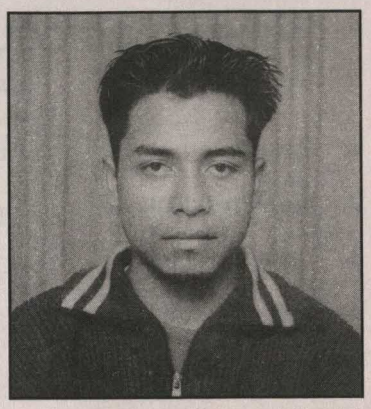
1. President:	Dr. (Smt.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh, Principal, Shillong College	
2. Vice-President:	Shri Walter M. Marbaniang	- IIIrd Year B. Sc.
3. General Secretary:	Shri Boney Kharmalki	- Ist Year B. A. (Day)
4. Asst. General Secretary:	Smt. Bethlehem J. Nongrum	- IIIrd Year B. A. (Day)
5. Music Secretary:	Shri Allan C. Laloo	- IIIrd Year B. Com.(Day)
6. Asst. Music Secretary:	Smt. Venessa Mukhim	- IInd Year B. A. (Morning)
7. Sports Secretary	Shri Khrawkupar Warjri	- Ist Year B. A. (Morning)
8. Asst. Sports Secretary:	Shri Sunny Massar	- Ist Year B. Com. (Day)
9. Debate Secretary:	Shri Noverwell K. Iangrai	- IInd Year B. Sc.
10. Discipline Secretary (Boys):	Shri Wanlambok Kharsati	- Ist Year B. Sc.
11. Discipline Secretary (Girls):	Smt. Emidaka Iakai	- IIIrd Year B. Sc.
12. Asst. Discipline Secretary:	Shri Pynskehembor Myllemngap	- Ist Year B.C.A.
13. Secy., Boys' Common Room:	Shri Trairistar D. War	- IInd Year B. A. (M)
14. Secy., Girls' Common Room:	Smt. Milkywane Diengdoh	- Ist Year B. Sc. (Comp.)
15. Editor, College Magazine:	Shri Mebanshembha Lawai	- Ist Year B. Sc. (Comp.)
16. Member, Editorial Board:	Smt. Deiti Shanpru	- Class XI Arts (Day)
17. Member, Editorial Board:	Shri Ianly Bernard Nongrum	- XII Arts (Day)
18. Member, Editorial Board:	Shri Shandrowell Sangriang	- Ist Year, B. Sc. (Comp.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

General Report of the S.C.S.U. on the activities of the Union during the year

Shri Sunny Massar
Asst. Sports Secretary, S.C.S.U.



Shri Khraw Kupar Warjri
Sports Secretary, S.C.S.U.

On behalf of the Annual Shillong College Sports and Cultural Meet 2004, we the sports secretaries, first and foremost, would like to express out heartfelt gratitude to all the teachers, students, non-teaching staff and to all the members of the Union for their contribution and cooperation. Your presence was almost a life giving process for us to make this one a "SUCCESS'. This year, the Sports meet included events like Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Athletics, Badminton, Arm-wrestling, Table Tennis, Chess and Carom competitions and it started with Basketball held at the College campus. It was fun to watch all the students coming together and competing with each other in the same field and finding time for some extra-curricular activities apart from studies. And then we moved on to Volleyball which was played at the Manipuri Ground, and Football at Malki Ground while the Indoor Games were played at N.S.C.A. Stadium. However the participation of Girls in the Sports events war far below our expectations whereas the Boys participated in quite good number with enthusiasm and zeal. On the whole the Sports meet as well the Annual College Week was a grand success and conducted in a congenial atmosphere.

We would also like to thank the Principal and the Teachers-in-charge who have been with us all the time – talking and sharing their thoughts, guiding us at every stage. The volunteers also did a great job and we express our gratitude to them. Lastly, we would like to apologize for all the short-comings during the conduct of the events which might have occurred.

THANK YOU & LONG LIVE S.C.S.U.

SOME VISIONARIES AND ACTIVISTS WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE


Late Benode Behari Ghosh


Late Dharmananda Das, IAS


Late Amulya Bhusan Choudhury


Late Baidyanath Mukherjee


Late J. N. Das, IAS


Late R. T. Rymbai


Late R. Z. Ahmed, IAS


Late D. S. Khongdup


Late B. W. Roy, IAS


Late Romesh Kharpor


Late Maham Singh


Late Dr. C. Wolflang


Late P. G. Marbaniang


Late Smt. Mrinalini Paul


Late S. C. Datta


Late S. Bhattacharjee


Late D. S. Rawat


Late K. L. Choudhuri


Late Tapan Maitra


Late S. R. Bhattacharjee


Late Purushottam Dab


Late A. K. Gurung


Late Smt. L. Kharkrang


Late A. C. War


Late B. C. Jyrwa

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

SHILLONG COLLEGE

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES

Late B B Ghosh (Sitting third from left), President, Provisional College Committee, Shri Benoy K Datta Roy (Sitting next), Principal S C Datta (Sitting fifth from left), Prof. S K Kar (Sitting last from left) and Prof. Subhas Chatterjee (Standing 1st from left) were some of the founders of the College seen here with others (1956-57)

Principal, S C Datta, Staff and Students at Jail Road premises in late fifties

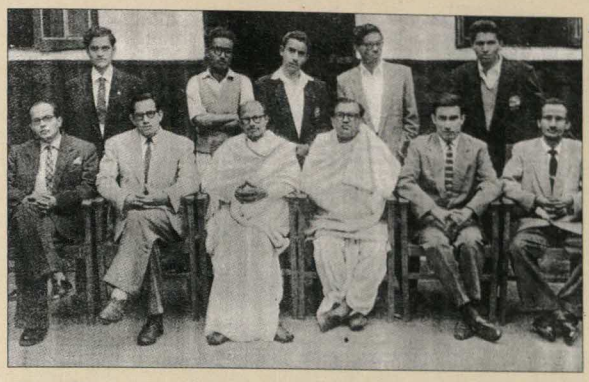
Principal Shri S C Dutta, Prof D S Rawat and some students in front of foundation stone on 11.05.1960

Principal, Staff and Students at New Site in 1962

Principal S.C. Datta with participants of All Assam Music Conference 1961-62
Sitting Front Row (L-R) : *Prof.-in charge D.S. Rawat, Principal S.C. Datta, Prof. B. Nanda*
Middle Row (L-R) : *Smt. L. Chyne, Smt S. Yaden, Shri B. Gupta, Shri C. B. Gurung, Smt. Snehalata Devi, Shri M. Baruah, Shri U. Barthakur, Smt. P. Saikia and Smt. M. Sohliya.*
Back Row (L-R) : *Shri P.K. Majumder, Shri R. B. Wanswett and Shri N. Talukdar*

SHILLONG COLLEGE

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES



Principal with some teachers and S. C. S. U. Members, 1962

Sitting :

1.Prof. B. Nanda, Prof.-in charge, Debates & Social,
2.Prof. D. S. Rawal. Prof-in charge,Sports.
3. Prof. B. B. Dutta, Prof.-in-charge, Magazine,
4.Principal S.C. Dutta, Ex-offico President, College Union,
5.Prof. D.H. Goswain, Prof.-in charge, Music & Culture,
6. Sri N. Pushilal, General Secretary, College Union.

Standing :

7.Sri N.Talukdar, Secretary, Sports, 8.Sri S.Choudhury, Joint Editor, College Magazine,
9.Sri A. K.Dev, Joint Secretary, Sports,, 10. Sri J. M. Das, Editor, College Magazine,
11.Sri P.K. Gupta Choudhury, Secretary, Music & Culture.

Teaching Staff with N.C.C. Officers, 1966

Dr. H J Taylor, former Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University, Principal and Members of the Staff - 1963
Front Row (Sitting L-R) : *(Profs) S. Bhattacharjee, B. N. Bhattacharjee, B. Nanda, S. Acharya, Dr. H.J. Taylor, Principal S. C. Datta, Prof(s) B.B. Datta, P.N. Datta and D. Sengupta (now Chakravarty).*
Middle Row (Standing L to R) : *Shri S. Das, Shri N.K. De, Shri R.K. Bhattachrjee, (Profs) S.R. Bhattacharjee, M. K. Saikia, B. C. Goswami, K.L. Choudhury, R. Deb, B. Datta, T. Moitra, S. Sen, B. Guptabhaya, A.K. Sengupta, S. K. Roy, K.B. Das, N. G. Goswami and Shri M.K. Dhar, a student.*
Standing in the last row *in coat is Balaram, the oldest sub-staff of the College*

Scene from 1966 Social Week

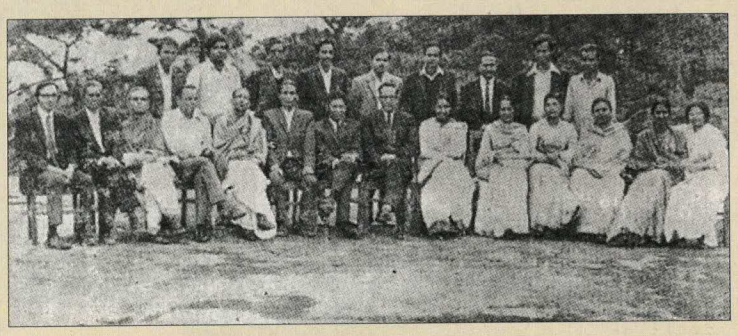
GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

SHILLONG COLLEGE

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES

Principal with some members of Teaching Staff – 1972
Seated L to R : *Prof. (Mrs) G. Sen, Prof. (Mrs) B. Barua (with her daughter,) Prof. B. B. Dutta, Prof. D. S. Rawat, Principal S. B. Bhattacharjee, Prof. K.B. Das, Prof. B. Goswami, Prof. N.G. Goswami, Prof. P. Deb.*
Standing L to R : *Mr. P. Chakraborty, Prof. R. K. Dutta, Mr. R. Das, Prof. K.K. Choudhury, Prof S. Datta, Prof. A. Pal. and Prof. B. Roy.*



Some members of the Staff with Principal – 1974
Sitting : *Prof. S. Sen, Prof. R. Bhattacharya, Prof. B.N. Bhattacharya, Prof. T.Moitra, Prof K.B. Das, Prof. A.B. Das, Prof, D. Mukherjee (Hist), Principal D.S. Rawat, Miss R. Bhattacharya, Prof. C. Choudhury, Prof. (Mrs.) G. Sen, Prof. B.Baruah, Prof. D.Chakraborty, Prof. M. Bordoloi.*
Standing : *Prof. Pohsngap, Prof. N. Sarkar, K.K. Choudhury, Prof. R. Datta, Prof. D. Mukherjee (Phy.) Prof. P. Deb, Prof. H. Syiemlieh, Prof. B. Roy. Prof. A.C. War.*

S.C.S.U. Members with Principal, 1972

SHILLONG COLLEGE

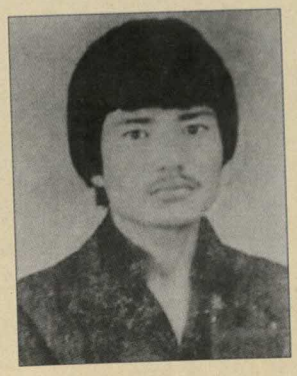
OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES

Silver Jubilee Celebrations – Inaugural Speech by Dr. B Pakem, Education Minister

Principal D S Rawat reading out messages

Silver Jubilee Committee Members with Dr. Pakem

Shri Bernard G Blah (1980-81)



Shri Habamut Lyngdoh (1981-82)

Two General Secretaries, S.C.S.U. of the Silver Jubilee Year

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

SHILLONG COLLEGE

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES

Teaching and Non-teaching Staff of the College with Principal Shri D S Rawat, 1981

Teaching and Non-teaching Staff of the College with Principal Shri K L Chaudhuri and President, Governing Body, Shri R T Rymbai, 1991

SHILLONG COLLEGE

OUR JOURNEY CONTINUES

GOLDEN JUBILEE

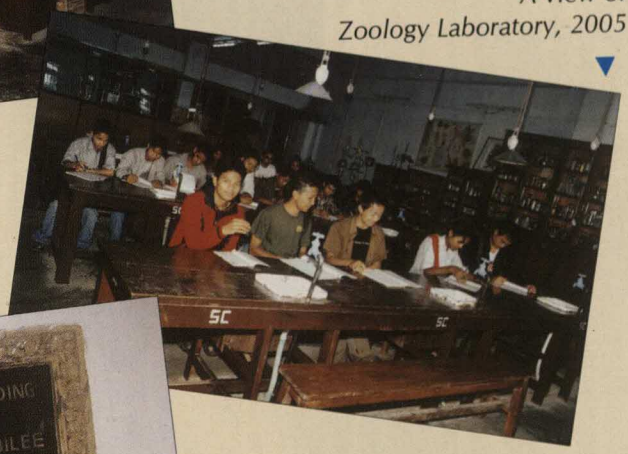
1956 ★ 2006

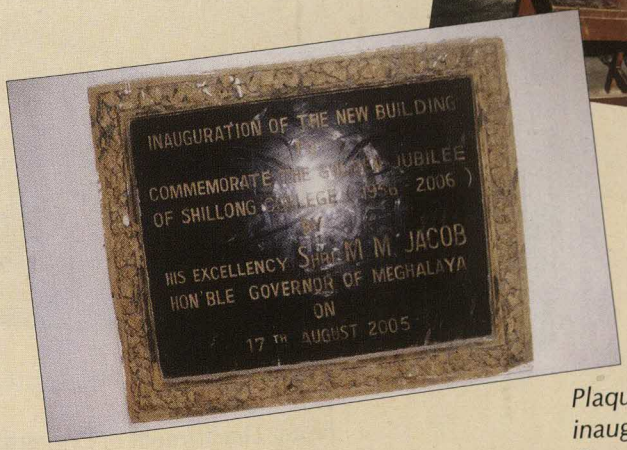
S. C. S. U. Members in Relief Camp 2003 – A noble service

A view of Botany Laboratory, 2005

A view of Chemistry Laboratory, 2005

A view of Zoology Laboratory, 2005





Plaque of the New Building of the College – inaugurated by His Excellency Shri M M Jacob, Governor of Meghalaya on 17.08.2005 at the Inaugural Function of Golden Jubilee Celebrations

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

SHILLONG COLLEGE

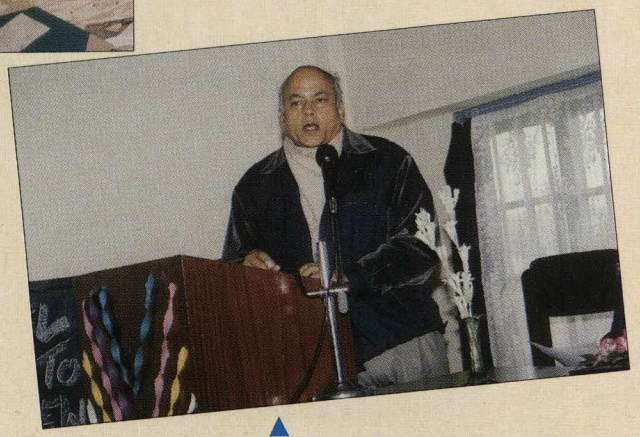
TEACHERS RETIRED IN 2005 & 2006

Shri Nirmal K Sarkar,
former Vice-Principal & Lecturer, English Department
(Joined : 21.07.1969, Retired : 28.02.2005)

Shri Rajat Kr. Das, Physics Department
(Joined : 15.10.1965, Retired : 28.02.2005
– probably longest service span in the College)

Smt. Mamata Bordoloi,
Head, Department of English
(Joined : 04.07.1967,
Retired : 31.07.2005)

Smt. Suvra Dhar, Head, Department of Mathematics
(Joined : 16.07.1969, Retired : 31.12.2005)



Dr. Sudhir Kr. Gupta,
Head, Department of Chemistry
(Joined : 04.09.1969,
Retired : 31.01.2006)

SHILLONG COLLEGE STUDENTS' UNION:
2005-2006

1. President:	Dr. (Mrs.) M. P. R. Lyngdoh, Principal,	- Shillong College
2. Vice-President:	Shri Gopal Kharkongor	- IIIrd Year B. A. (Morning)
3. General Secretary:	Shri Khrawkupar Warjri	- IInd Year B. A. (Morning)
4. Asst. General Secretary:	Smt. Flora Wahlang	- IInd Year B. Com. (Day)
5. Music Secretary:	Shri Sunny Massar	- IInd Year B. Com. (Day)
6. Asst. Music Secretary:	Smt. R. Venessa Mukhim	- IIIrd Year B. A (M)
7. Sports Secretary	Shri Linus Lawriniang	- IInd Year B. A. (Morning)
8. Asst. Sports Secretary:	Shri Wallamkupar Wankhar	- Ist Year B. Com. (M)
9. Debate Secretary:	Shri Mangkara Nongkhlaw	- IIIrd Year B. Sc.
10. Discipline Secretary (Boys):	Shri Wanlambok Kharsati	- IInd Year B. Sc.
11. Discipline Secretary (Girls):	Smt. Parveen Singha	- IIIrd Year B. Com. (D)
12. Asst. Discipline Secretary:	Smt. Andrea Pohshna	- Ist Year B. Sc.
13. Secy., Boys' Common Room:	Shri Frankie Warjri	- Ist Year B. A. (Morning)
14. Secy., Girls' Common Room:	Smt. Margareth Lyngwa	- Ist Year B. A. (Day)
15. Editor, College Magazine:	Smt. Deiti Shanpru	- XII Arts (Day)
16. Member, Editorial Board:	Shri Rutherford Thabah	- Ist Year B. Sc.
17. Member, Editorial Board:	Smt. Darilin Lamo	- Ist Year, B.C.A.
18. Member, Editorial Board:	Shri Reginald H. Khyriem	- Ist Year, B. A. (Day).

GOLDEN JUBILEE

1956 ★ 2006

Report of the General Secretary of the S.C.S.U. for the year 2005-2006

Shri Khraw Kupar Warjri
General Secretary, S.C.S.U.

The Shillong College Student's Union (S.C.S.U.) is a body formed to look upon the welfare of the Students relating to their problems, grievances and other matters relating to students' concern. The Executive Committee members of the S.C.S.U. took the challenge to look after the newer problems faced by the students time to time and solve them with the cooperation of the College Authorities. This being the Golden Jubilee Year of the College, there were additional responsibilities on the S.C.S.U. and I am proud to say that the Union has played a constructive role in the celebrations. As the General Secretary, it gives me a great honour and pleasure to learn that this year too our College Magazine is being published with the help of the Teacher-in-Charge and this is going to be precious collection as the Golden Jubilee Magazine. I thank the Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. M. N. Bhattacharjee and the members of the Publications and Publicity Committee for their hard work. After the formation of the Executive Body of the S.C.S.U. for the year 2005-06, the first challenge before us was to hold the Annual Sports and cultural Meet 2005. With the job assigned to different Secretaries, i.e., the Sports, Music, Debate and others, it was up to the General Secretary to supervise overall progress and also to see that everything is conducted in smooth manner. With the cooperation of the Teachers-in-charge of different events, the various competitions and events were conducted in a very professional way.

This year the Annual Sports and Cultural Meet were held from 26th September 2005 to 1st October 2005 and every event were conducted smoothly under the watchful eyes of Teachers and volunteers. Fashion show was introduced and run by the Music Secretary. A surprise item that was conducted is 'Band of Students' where my fellow students showed their skill beautifully and making everyone rock. It was really an unforgettable event. With that surprise item of the day (01-10-2005), the Annual Sports and Cultural Meet cam to an end with the students taking the pledge to concentrate on their studies after a week of extravaganza.

Lastly, I would like express my heartfelt gratitude to our Respected Principal, Vice-Principal and to all the Teachers who had been with us throughout, supporting and supervising us in every move. Thanks are also due to the members of the Non-teaching staff of the College, the Class Representatives and Members of the Students' Union and especially to all the Volunteers. On behalf of the S.C.S.U., as the General Secretary, I would like to apologize for any short-comings during this period our tenure.

THANK YOU ALL & LONG LIVE S.C.S.U.

Report of the Music Secretary

Shri Sunny Massar
Music Secretary, S.C.S.U.

As the Music Secretary of the S.C.S.U., I would like to extend my gratitude to our Principal, Vice-Principal, the teachers and the non-teaching staff, the union members and my dear fellow student friends who have been so cooperative during the whole year and particularly during the Annual Sports & Cultural Meet, 2005.

As the Music Secretary, I was assigned to look after the events like Dancing, Singing and similar other competitions and with the cooperation of all, the events went off smoothly. This year, we saw a lot of participation both from the boys and girls and it is a pleasure to find so many talented dancers, singers and performers in our College who can touch the inner core of our hearts with their melodious actions. All the memories of the Meet will really stay in our heart for the years to come.

Report from the Sport Secretaries (2005-2006):

Linus Lawriniang
Sport Secretary

Wallamkupar Wankhar
Asst. Sports Secretary

In accordance with the spirit of cooperation and camaraderie, the Shillong College Students' Union organised the Annual Sports and Cultural Meet 2005 with active guidance and assistance from the Teachers-in-charge of various games from 26th September to 29th September 2005. The Meet saw wonderful participation by the students in number of events like Football, Athletics, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Table Tennis, Chess, Carom Board and Arm Wrestling. Whereas the Football and Athletics were played in Nongthymmai Ground, the N.S.C.S. Stadium was the venue for indoor

games such as Badminton and Table Tennis. The venue for Volleyball was Manipur House Ground and all other games such as Basketball, Carom, Chess and Arm Wrestling were organised at the College Campus only. The Meet started with Basketball and Chess competitions on 26-09-2005 which witnessed tremendous enthusiasm by the students but was monitored by the Teachers very meticulously at every stages. On the whole, the Meet was a grand success and S.C.S.U. feels proud to have organised the same in the true spirit of togetherness and mutual understanding. On behalf of the S.C.S.U., we, the Sports Secretary and Assistant Secretary, would like to thank all the students for their cooperation and also for maintaining strict discipline, particularly whenever the events were held outside the College Campus. Our thanks are also due to the Referees, the Iaitylllialang Arm Sports Club, the In-charge of Manipur House Ground, the Rangbah Snong (Nongthymmai). Iakyntiewlang Sports, Social and Cultural Club and the Meghalaya Table Tennis Association for their help, cooperation and service. We express our gratitude to our respected Principal, Vice-Principal, all the Teachers and non-teaching staff of the college, all the Students' Union members and all the students, in general, for their active support.

A Report of extra-curricular activities by the B.B.A. students:

1. We the students of B.B.A. 2nd year, Shillong College visited Greystone Ispat Ltd, Byrnihat, Meghalaya on 22nd July with sheer enthusiasm and delight as part of Industrial Tour programme. We were given a hand out of a number of industries that are coming up in Byrnihat and it was a pleasure to see that our State is now in its march for industrial growth. We watch the plant where iron rods are produced and the workers there gave us step by step explanation of the processes involved. We were excited to see iron in liquid form, as is there had been a volcanic eruption. We watch the whole process for nearly 2 hours when about 120 iron ballads were ready for use and we were enlightened about the particular aspects of production, operational management, organisational behaviour, marketing, accounting etc. This knowledge helped us in better understanding of our subject which we would not have found in any book. However, we wonder how the hard working labourers there work in the extreme melting hot conditions of the furnace. It looked inhuman to find that safety measure were not up to the expectations for the labourers as they were exposed to all harmful chemicals making them prone to many deadly diseases. Thus these industries need to take care to look this aspects and monitoring agencies must also give appropriate attention to such happenings before some calamities occur.

2. Mission for PEACE AND INTEGRATION: North East Youth's Initiative for Peace and Development Organised by North East Girls' Students' Association (NEGSA) and sponsored by Centre for National Integration and Youth Development (CENIYD) and North East Women's Association (NEWA) on 2nd to 4th December, 2005 held at Guwahati, Assam. A Group of B.B.A. student from Shillong College attended the seminar. The session started at 9.00 a.m. on 2nd December, 2005, at Shanti Udyan, Dighalipukhuri, Guwahati and inaugurated by Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister of Assam. This followed by a Rally participated by the delegated from various parts of the North Eastern Region. The Seminar-cum-conference was held at District Library, Guwahati with inaugural address by Shri Nabajit Dutta at 11.00 a.m. on the theme "Mission for Peace and Development" which tried to identify the root cause of slow pace of development in North East. This was followed by "Get Together Programme of Delegates" marked by cultural activities and introduction of participants. On 3rd December 2005, the programme started with Seminar on "Role of Youth in Socio-economic Development of North East" and addressed by Dr. S. B. Singh, Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India and also the senior Journalist of Indian Express, Shri S. D. Kashyap with concluding speech by Shri Deven Verma, Member of Don Bosco Institute. On 4th December, 2005, the topic centred around "Public Awareness Programme against Bandh

Culture" at Rabindra Bhavan, Guwahati where the Speakers were: Shri K. Deka. Shri Malaya Goswami, Shri Girish Vyas, Shri Kamala Kanta Shankardev, Shri Amiya Sarma and Shri J. Bora. The programme ended at 3.00 p.m. with a short cultural show where we, the students of Shillong College, also presented Khasi song titled, "Ri Khasi". Our experience may be summarised as: We, the students of Shillong College, are extremely benefited from the trip and the experience of the Seminar. As we stand on the threshold of new millennium, let us look ahead and 'if our hands should meet in another dream we shall build another tower in the sky'. No surprise this, for the students there had shown an exemplary sense of responsibility, a quality that goes on to make them leaders in every field.

* * * ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS * * *

The Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee of Shillong College gratefully acknowledges the magnanimous contributions of various organisations, Government Departments, individuals, teachers, non-teaching staff, students, well-wishers and others who have come forward with helping hands and cooperation, in cash or in kind or in service, towards the successful celebrations of the Jubilee year. We thank them all and as a token of appreciation, produce below the names such contributors. The absence of names, if any, in the list is due to constraints of space, and never intentional.

1. His Excellency. Shri M. M. Jacob, Honourable Governor of Meghalaya, being the Chief Guest of the Inaugural Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.
2. Dr. Mukul Sangma, the then Honourable Minister of Education and Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Meghalaya for being the Chief Guest in Inaugural Function.
3. Dr. Donkupar Roy, Deputy Chief Minister of Meghalaya for being the Chief Guest during the Alumni Day.
4. Shri Robert G. Lyngdoh, Home Minister, Government of Meghalaya (formerly Chairman, Meghalaya Economic Development Council) and alumnus of the College.
5. All the Dignitaries of Government of India, Government of Meghalaya, University Grants Commission, Vice-Chancellors of Gauhati University and North Eastern Hill University, former Presidents of Shillong College Governing Body for the inspiring Messages.
6. All Patrons of Golden Jubilee Committee, Shilong College.
7. Shri Satyabrata Mukherjee, former Union Minister and son of Late Shri Baidyanath Mukherjee, formerly Minister, Government of Assam and President, Governing Body, Shillong College.
8. Dr. Helen Giri, North-Eastern Hill University, for gracing the Cultural Programmes.
9. Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar, Scientist of International repute, for contributing article in the Golden Jubilee Magazine, 2006.
10. Prof. Bibek Debroy, eminent Economist, for his article in the Golden Jubilee Magazine, 2006.
11. Prof. Jayati Ghosh, Jawaharlal Nehru University, for her article in the Golden Jubilee Magazine.
12. Prof. T. Joseph, President, AIFUCTO, for his article in the Golden Jubilee Magazine.
13. Shri P. J. Bazeley, I.A.S., former Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya.

14. Director of Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong (Rs. 50,000/-).
15. Vice-Chancellor, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong (Rs. 10,000/-).
16. Director, Higher & Technical Education, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong (24,000/-).
17. Education Department, Government of Meghalaya, (Rs. 35,000).
18. Sharmasons Scientific Instrument Co., T. R. Phukan Road, Guwahati, (Rs. 15,000 /-).
19. Smt. Amrita Choudhuri, Wife of Late Shri Amulya Choudhuri (formerly President, Governing Body of Shillong College), now staying in Kolkata (Rs. 5,000/-).
20. Meghalaya State Electricity Board, Shillong (Rs. 10,000/-).
21. Atomic Minerals Division, Government of Meghalaya, NE Region, for contributing towards celebrating the International Year Physics 2005 as a part of Golden Jubilee Celebrations (Rs. 5,000/-).
22. Shri L. Roy, Commissioner, Forests & Environment, Government of Meghalaya.
23. Shri R. D. West, Member Secretary, State Council of Science, Technology and Environment.
24. Atomic Minerals Division, Government of India.
25. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), Govt. of India & its officials.
26. Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong (for providing all assistance).
27. Director General & Inspector General of Police, Meghalaya, Shillong for all assistance.
28. Mr. J. Nongkynrih, Umsohsun, Shillong for helping in conducting cultural functions.
29. Indian Overseas Bank and its staff for excellent cooperation.
30. Shillong Municipal Board, for extending all help.
31. Superintendent of Police, East Khasi Hills, Shillong for control of traffic and other help.
32. Commandant, Assam Regiment, Happy Valley, Shillong.
33. District Medical & Health Officer, East Khasi Hills, Shillong for assistance during Jubilee Marathon Run.
34. Dr. S. R. Lyndem, Principal, all the teachers, students and members of Union Christian College Students XI (Football Team) for spontaneous participation in Exhibition Football Match.
35. Br. L. D. Lobo, former Principal, and Br. E. V. Miranda, present Principal, St. Edmund's College and authorities and teachers of the College for allowing to hold Exhibition Cricket Matches in the St. Edmund's College Ground and lively participation in the proceedings.
36. All the Officials/Referees/Umpires of the different Exhibition Matches.
37. Principal, St. Anthony's Higher Secondary School and authorities of the School for allowing to hold the Exhibition Football Match in the Don Bosco Mini Stadium.
38. Principal, Union Christian College, Barapani and the teachers and players of UCC for participating whole-heartedly in the Exhibition Football Match.
39. Shri H. N. Das, I.A.S., former Chief Secretary, Government of Assam.
40. Babu Jeebon Roy Memorial Welfare Institute, Shillong.
41. Jingkynmaw Memorial Creative Arts and Vocational Training Centre, Mawlai Maw Tawar, Shillong – 8.
42. Mrs. Genevieve Khongjee (for arranging Khasi Traditional Song).
43. Miss Mebarilin Kharshing (for Modern song).
44. Ms. Stella Mary Ropmay (for Modern song.)
45. The 'VOICES' group of artists.
46. Sein Raj, Shillong for presenting cultural items.
47. All the Members of the Governing Body, Shillong College, Shillong.
48. All the Teachers of Shillong College for their generous contributions.
49. All the Non-teaching staff of the College for their spontaneous cooperation.
50. Shillong College Students' Union (S.C.S.U.) and all the students of the College for their generous contribution and excellent cooperation.
51. Shri Joining Pde, President, Shillong College Alumni Association.

52. All the Office Bearers and Members of the Shillong College Alumni Association.
53. Former Students: Dr. S. D. Nandi, Shri Prashanta Purkayastha, Shri C. B. Gurung, A. Roy Choudhury, Dr. Sudipta Choudhury, Shri Prakash Joshi, Shri Bikash Roy, B. M. Shylla, K. C. Acharjee, Raghunath Banik, Smt. Emica Lanong, Luckily Ranee, Sanju Singhania, Jayanta De, Irin Ropmay, P. Khonglian, Sukanta Chakraborty, Anup Dey, Pradip Dey, Ranjit Dey, B. Purkayastha, B. Joshi, S. N. Ramanujam, Ballerima Jyrwa, Shyamal Dey, Biplab Dey, Happy Stone Syngkon and many others.
54. Meghalaya College Principals' Council.
55. Meghalaya College Teachers' Association.
56. Principals of the All the Colleges of Meghalaya.
57. Shri K. Chyne, Vanrap Tour and Travels, Shillong (an ex-student) (Rs. 5,000/-).
58. All the authors of articles in the Golden Jubilee Souvenir, 2005.
59. All the sponsors and advertisers in the Golden Jubilee Souvenir, 2005.
60. M/s Chapala Book Stall, Shillong.
61. All the former Teachers of the College for their encouragement and active assistance.
62. All the contributors of Articles in the Golden Jubilee Magazine, 2006.
63. Prof. Subir Datta, and all the family members of the founder Principal of Shillong College, (Late) Shri S. C. Datta for their encouragement.
64. Shillong College Academic Society.
65. N.C.C. Unit and N.S.S. Cell, Shillong College.
66. Convenors, Joint-convenors and members of the all the sub-committee of the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee of Shillong College.
67. All the Members of Print and Electronic Media for wide publicity of the Celebrations.
68. All the members of public, in general, and the past pupils, well-wishers of Shillong College, in particular, for their help and cooperation.

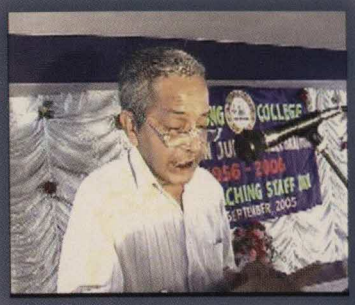
THANK YOU ALL

"The search for truth is more precious than its possession." ---- *Albert Einstein*

GOLDEN JUBILEE

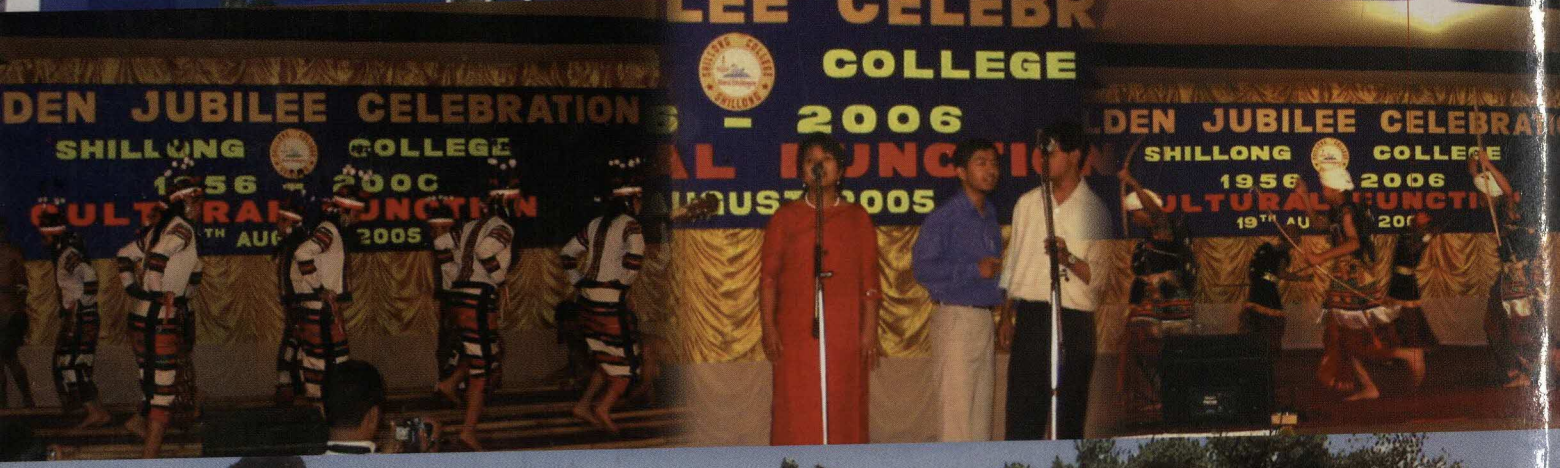
1956 ★ 2006

NON TEACHING STAFF DAY



10TH SEPTEMBER 2005


GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR 1956 - 2006
WEL
COME
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION
INAUGURAL FUNCTION
17th AUGUST, 2005
SHILLONG COLLEGE
(1956 - 2006)
COURTESY
SHRI. J. PDE
PRESIDENT
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
LLONG COLLEGE
N JUBILEE YEAR
2005 - 2006


DEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION
SHILLONG COLLEGE
1956 - 2006
COLLEGE
- 2006
SHILLONG COLLEGE
1956 - 2006


THANK-YOU