

ANVESHAN-Student Research Convention: East Zone

A two-day East Zone Student Research Convention: *ANVESHAN*—2023-24 was organised by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi in collaboration with the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong from February 22-23, 2024 to inculcate the young mind towards innovation and academic excellence. The event witnessed the convergence of leading minds from academia and government, culminating in a vibrant exchange of ideas and insights. about 31 participants from 4 Universities/Institutes, participated in the East Zone Convention. In total, 12 projects were presented, ranging from cutting-edge technological solutions to sustainable environmental initiatives. The projects covered six major subject areas i.e. Basic Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Social Science, Humanities, Commerce and Law, Interdisciplinary Research, Agricultural, and Health Sciences.

The event began with a Welcome Address delivered by Prof. S R Joshi. In his address, Prof. Joshi emphasized the significance of the convention in providing a platform for students to showcase their research prowess and contribute to the advancement of knowledge. He encouraged participants to embrace the spirit of inquiry and academic pursuit, inspiring them to strive for excellence and make meaningful contributions to society.

The distinguished lineup of guests included the Hon'ble Education Minister of Meghalaya, Rakkam A Sangma who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In the inaugural function, his presence underscored the government's unwavering commitment to promoting regional research and education. He delivered an impassioned address emphasizing the importance of nurturing a culture of innovation among the youth. Stressing the pivotal role of research in shaping the future, he underscored the need for students to harness their curiosity and critical thinking skills to tackle real-world challenges.

The Guest of Honor, Prof. T P Singh, SERB distinguished Professor, AIIMS, New Delhi inspired attendees to push the boundaries of knowledge and strive for academic excellence rather than study for recognition and accolades. Furthermore, the event welcomed representatives from the AIU, Dr. Amarendra Pani, Joint Director and Director(I/c), Research Division, AIU and Dr. Usha Rai Negi, Assistant Director, Research Division, AIU. Their participation highlighted the importance of collaboration and partnership in advancing the academic agenda at a national level. Prof. P S Shukla ensured that such platforms remain for meaningful discourse and intellectual exchange between the participants, distinguished guests,

and experts in the field. The Inaugural Function concluded with the Address, Prof. Timir Tripathi extended a heartfelt Vote of Thanks to all attendees, expressing gratitude on behalf of the Organizing Committee for their presence and support. He also thanked the esteemed guests and participants for sharing their research insights and inspiring the audience with their innovative ideas.

Prof. Animesh Mishra, Renowned Cardiologist, Department of Cardiology, North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong delivered a captivating keynote lecture on ‘Self-reliance and Innovation in the Pursuit of Excellence in Research and Development’. Drawing from his extensive experience in cardiology and medical research, Prof. Mishra underscored the need for healthcare systems to adapt and innovate to meet the evolving needs of patients and communities.

In addition to participants who presented their innovative projects, the event welcomed a diverse audience of students and faculty members from NEHU. The projects showcased at the event covered multiple topics, including technology, biotechnology, social sciences, and environmental sustainability. The presence of approximately 150 student attendees and nearly 50 faculty members enriched the event, fostering vibrant discussions, knowledge exchange, and networking opportunities. Students had the chance to interact with their peers from other universities, exchange ideas, and gain insights into different fields of study. Faculty members provided valuable guidance and mentorship, encouraging students to pursue innovative ideas and projects.

The independent judging panel, comprising esteemed faculty members, meticulously evaluated each project based on innovation, feasibility, societal impact, and presentation skills. After a rigorous evaluation, the judging panel announced the six top-performing projects, one from each subject discipline to advance to the international competition hosted by Mumbai University, Mumbai. Apart from the impressive projects presented by the participants, the event's key highlights included the active participation of student attendees and faculty members. The event also allowed students to gain exposure to research and innovation, inspiring them to explore new avenues in their educational and professional pursuits.

As the programme concluded, the Valedictory Session emerged as a moment of celebration and recognition for the winners. In this session, participants and winners were honored with certificates of participation, as well as winner certificates, by the Vice Chancellor of NEHU, Prof. P S Shukla, Dr. Amarendra Pani, AIU and Prof. Kandarpa Saikia. The culmination of

Anveshan 2023-24 was marked by a moment of pride as the event drew to a close with the rendition of the national anthem. Following this poignant moment, participants, attendees, and faculty members gathered for a group photo session, capturing the essence of collaboration, innovation, and academic excellence that defined the event.

Winners of the East Zone *Anveshan*—2023-24

Group	Project Title	Position	Name of Participant	Institute Name
Basic Science	‘VARUN’ a ‘Make in India’ module for waste water remediation and clean energy generation	1 st	Indrajit Mondal Piyali Halder Neelanjana Bag	Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal
Engineering & Technology	Cost effective, flexible EMI shielding jacket for preventing adversative effect of microwave radiation	1 st	Subhojit Dutta Suman Saha Sumana Lakshman	Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal
Social Science, Humanities, Commerce & Law	DASTAN: A New Chapter in Domestic Work	1 st	Atendriya Dana Anwasha Banerjee	Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal
Interdisciplinary Research	Development of Low Power Consumption Artificial Neuromorphic Synaptic Devices by Using Proton as a Neurotransmitter	1 st	Pranjal Sharma Nituparna Das	North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya
Agriculture	Enhancing the Quality of Bombyx mori Silk Through Genome Engineering Using Fibroin and Sericin Genes of <i>Anthraea assamensis</i>	1 st	Jahnu Kashyap Jessica Nampui Abhinab Sarma	North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya

Health Sciences	MRI Reconstruction Hardware Platform	Data on	1 st	Rikta Pal	Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal
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