



● Introducing the e-Bulletin

Cotton University has decided to publish a monthly bulletin electronically with effect from March 2022. This e-bulletin will update the recent news, notifications, achievement by the students, staff and faculties for a quick look and ready reference. This bulletin will stick to electronic version; a modest step towards preserving the nature for the next generation. In addition, the electronic version may provide an easy access to the academic community, alumni, and well-wishers across the world. I convey my best wishes for this noble venture.

Prof B C Goswami, Vice Chancellor

Dear colleagues, Greetings! The editorial board is happy to introduce and place this e-bulletin before you. This bulletin shall appear every month and will be available at the website of the university with news on academic, other social events and activities involving the entire university community - faculty, research scholars, students, and employees.

We are all aware that this age-old institution has fulfilled the expectations of people in more ways than it had been visualized. Still, entropy and innovation are the rule of universe, to drive life of an institution. This most sought institution for the students of Assam and Northeast India, in recent years, has seen innovative approaches and introduction of new disciplines, and work ethos for all round development of the academic community. The university is putting its best efforts to expand both physically and academically.

All of us must keep it in mind that certain essential assets need to be developed based on our predictive analysis for the growth and prosperity of Cotton University as one of the top universities of the country. Physical infrastructure, digital Infrastructure, innovative academic and training infrastructure, networking with academic community of the world would help to build confidence of the academic community of the university. This e-bulletin plans to keep the academic community informed about the development of academic work across the world and tell the academic world about the developments in Cotton University. We look forward for cooperation from all the faculty members, research scholars and students to make this *CUEB* the best e-Bulletin.

Arup Kumar Hazarika and Jyoti Das, Editors

● National Science Day, 2022 celebration at Cotton University

The University celebrated National Science Day on February 28, 2022, under the aegis of Cotton University Teachers' Association (CUTA). Some of the important events of the day included an essay writing competition on the theme "From Waste to Wealth: Vision for a Sustainable Future", competitions on Identification of Plants and Identification of Common Fish Species organised by the Botany and Zoology Departments respectively. The competitions were in view with this year's National Science Day theme – Integrated Approach for Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future. An exhibition on Microbial Art, held at the department of MBBT, CU was another major attraction of the day.



The celebrations also included popular talks from eminent personalities namely Professor Kulendu Pathak, Former VC, Dibrugarh University, Professor Parimal Bhattacharjee, Retired Professor and Head of the department of Zoology, Gauhati University, Professor Jibanjyoti Das, Department of Physics, CU involved in science education.



● **Conclave on Atmanirbhar North East through Science and Technology Interventions**

North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), an autonomous society, set up under Department of Science & Technology, Government of India joined hands with Cotton University, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan and Vijnana Bharati to organise a conclave on Atma Nirbhar North East at the university on December 21-22, 2021. The conclave aimed at reaching out to like-minded students, faculties, scientists and entrepreneurs by providing a platform where they could showcase their entrepreneurial and research traits to the academic community at large. The events of the conclave included technical sessions on start-up ideation, science and technology quiz, ideation on addressing climate change in the Northeast region, heritage through the lens of science, exhibition stalls of various products and a cultural programme by Cottonians. Professor Jagdish Mukhi, Honourable Governor of Assam graced the conclave on inaugural day. Dr. Krishna Kumar (NECTAR), Dr. Partha Jyoti Das (NECTAR), and Dr. Ujjal Deka Baruah (CU) were the convenors of the conclave.



● **Contribution of Military Psychology**

An online lecture on ‘Contribution of Military Psychology to the armed forces and society’ was held by Defence Institute of Psychological Research (DIPR), DRO in collaboration with the Department of Psychology, Cotton University, as a part of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebration on 11th February, 2022. Dr. Ravinder Yadav, Scientist ‘E’ graced the occasion as the esteemed speaker. The hour long lecture included evolution of Military Psychology in India, the major thrust areas of DIPR, challenges at DIPR, academic collaborations, how DIPR plays a significant role in selection-training of the personnels in Armed forces, and their societal contributions. It also covered career opportunities for the students in the field of military psychology.

● **Awareness Program on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) 2022**

The Patent Office, Kolkata under the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry in association with the IPR Cell, Cotton University organized an online program entitled “Awareness Program on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)” on February 21, 2022. The event was organized under the National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM), an initiative of the Government of India, celebrating 75 years of independence as “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”. The programme which was launched by Shri Anurag Jain, Secretary, DPIIT on 8 December 2021, had 154 registered participants from Cotton University as well as other institutions from Assam.

● **Kisan Diwas Celebration**

Kisan Divas 2021 was celebrated in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Cotton University, through the inauguration of a Skill Development Unit for Mushroom cultivation by Prof. Ganesh Ch. Wary, the Dean of Research and Development on 23rd December 2021. The first harvest of oyster mushrooms was presented to Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Cotton University and Dean of Research and Development, Cotton University on January 25, 2022.



● **Street plays by students of the Department of Mass Communication, Journalism and Media Studies**

Postgraduate students, third semester of the Department of Mass Communication, Journalism and Media Studies, CU presented two ‘Street Plays’ on relevant themes affecting contemporary society. The first event was held on February 18, 2022 whereby the students performed play on the theme “Sajag Grahak, Safal Grahak” in prime market localities of Panbazar, Fancybazar, Bharalu, Athgaon, Machkhowa, Paltanbazar and Uzanbazar of Guwahati city, raising awareness about consumer protection rights. The second event was held on February 19, 2022, whereby students performed the play “Akou Natun Prabhat Hobo” to raise awareness on negative outcomes of consumption of drugs and also spread information about drug rehabilitation process and facilities available.



● **Recognising contribution of Indian Diaspora in Iran and Arabian countries**

A two-day National Seminar, *Mysticism in Arabic & Persian Poetry: A Review* was organized by the Department of Arabic, Persian & Urdu, Cotton University, Guwahati, on February 15 -16, 2022 under the sponsorship of National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi. Dr. Mehdi Hasan, Associate Professor, University of Gour Banga, West Bengal discussed the contribution of the Indian Diaspora in Iran and Arabian Countries towards the economy of India. Professor Abdul Rasak, Department of Arabic, Assam University, Silchar delivered the keynote.



● **Cotton University gears up to implement New Education Policy, 2020**

Adhering to the guidelines of the New Education Policy (NEP) by the government of India, 2020, Cotton University is gearing up to implement the same from the Academic Session 2022-23. The University has constituted a Task Force for NEP that presented an operational frame of implementation at the meeting of University Court held on February 15, 2022.

● **Award of Ph.D. Degree at Cotton University, February 2022**

1. B D Nisha, *Pariparshwik Sahitya Samalochanar Alokak Ramdhenu Yugar Asamiya Chutigalpa: Ek Bishleshmanatmak Adhyayan*, Department of Assamese (Supervisor, Dr. Ambeswar Gogoi)
2. Khanindra Sharma, *Development of Treatment Strategies for the Remediation of Effluents of Paper and Oil Industries*, Department of Chemistry (Supervisor, Dr. Neelotpal Sen Sarma; Co-Supervisor Dr. Arundhuti Devi)
3. Tabassum Yesmin Rahman, *Histopathological Image Analysis Applying Machine Learning Methods for Detection and Classification of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma*, Department of Computer Science and IT (Joint Supervisors – Dr. Lipi B Mahanta and Dr. Hiten Choudhury)
4. Sabnam Swabaka Ullah, *Theoretical Studies on the Electronic Structure, Stability and Reactivity of Inorganic Rings and Cages*, Department of Chemistry (Supervisor Dr. Ankur Kanti Guha)
5. Gautomi Gogoi, *Studies on New Types of Organic Semiconductors Based on Diketopyrrolopyrrole and Naphthalene Diimides*, Department of Computer Science (Supervisor Dr. Sagar Sarma, Co-Supervisor Dr. Neelotpal Sen Sarma)

● **Report from the office of the Controller of Examinations**

The office of the Controller of Examinations, Cotton University efficiently steadied the challenges posed on academic schedule by the Covid 19 pandemic and successfully held examinations as well as declared the results on time. The following results were declared during the period January-February 2022.

- 1) UG first semester Covid special examination for 2020 Batch (conducted offline in December 2021)
- 2) UG first semester betterment examination for 2018 and 2019 batch (conducted offline in December 2021)
- 3) UG second semester betterment examination for 2018 batch (conducted offline in December 2021)
- 4) PG first semester betterment examination for 2018 and 2019 batch (conducted offline in December 2021)
- 5) PG second semester 2020 batch (evaluated as per the UGC guidelines, accounting 50 percent marks from the midterm examination and 50 percent marks from previous semester)
- 6) UG second semester 2020 batch (evaluated as per the UGC guidelines)
- 7) UG fourth semester 2019 batch (evaluated as per the UGC guidelines)

● **Call for Proposals**

ZMO, Berlin and CSDS, New Delhi are inviting abstracts within a page including a bio note of 2-3 lines for the conference on ‘Timely Histories’ being held on 12-14 October 2022. The deadline for receiving the abstract is 15 May 2022. Abstract may be mailed to timely.histories@gmail.com with the subject line “ZMO-CSDS Time Conference abstract”. For details, please visit <https://www.zmo.de/forschung/timely-histories>.

Call for Papers

Women’s Link an International Bi-Annual Peer Reviewed Jamia Journal invites paper on the theme – Women, Disability and Society for its July 2022 issue. The papers should be within word limit of 4000-4500. Papers may be submitted at wij@jmi.ac.in by March 30, 2022. Contributors are requested to go through the guidelines on papers on the website of JMI.

Call for Research Concept Notes

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), is currently inviting concept notes for policy research on Managing Environmental Changes on policies and instruments for greener development, ecosystems management and economics of climate change. Selected concept notes will lead to an invitation to submit full research proposals that will be further reviewed for grant consideration. Interested Ph.D. students/ teachers may read the [guidelines](#) and upload the concept note [here](#). SANDEE accepts proposals throughout the year. For any additional queries, may contact SANDEE research@sandeeonline.org

Call for fellowship

The “Waste to Wealth Mission” of the Government of India, one of the nine scientific missions of the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PMSTIAC) is inviting applications for award of “Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship (SSF) for College & University Students. For detailed information and submission, students may visit <https://www.wastetowealth.gov.in/fellowship-listing/swachhta-saarthi-fellowship-cohort-2022>. Last date for applying online for this fellowship is April 2, 2022. This fellowship would provide ample opportunity to reflect initiatives in relevant areas.

Call for Scholarship

The University grants commission, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, New Delhi is offering scholarship under British Council Scholarship for women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). Interested applicants are expected to apply to the UK University directly in the programme of their choice by the end of March 2022. For details please visit <http://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-abroad/in-uk/scholarship-women-stem>.

● Departmental Events

The Department of Botany organised a “Cancer awareness program” on December 9, 2021. Dr. Lopamudra Das Roy, founder president of Breast Cancer Hub, Charlotte, NC, USA spoke on Decoding Breast Cancer Challenges: Step Towards Saving Life.

● Students Orientation Program

As suggested by the Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, CU, all the departments of the university conducted an inspirational orientation program for encouraging the students who were admitted to the UG 1st semester and PG 1st Semester Course 2021 academic session. In the orientation programme of the Bodo department, Prof. Ganesh Chandra Wary, Dean, Research and Development of the university delivered an illuminating lecture. Prof. Wary stressed on some striking issues relating to learning process, in view of research and academic skill enhancement, highlighting the relevance of incorporating skill-based education in certain subjects such as literature. The traditional mode of literature subject can be developed by adding concept of literature of science which is important in the present day academic perspective. Prof. Wary also spoke about the growing importance of interdisciplinary perspective in 21st century.



A career counselling program was organized on December 20, 2021, for PG I semester students during their orientation program. Dr. Karabi Goswami, former head, Department of Botany, CU informed and discussed various career options on the subject related to botany.

Department of Zoology held students’ orientation meet on December 12, 2021. Dr. I K Bhattacharjee, former Principal of Cotton College, and Professor Prabodh Borah eminent scientist and educationist, Department of Animal Biotechnology, College of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agriculture University were the guest of honors. Dr. Bhattacharjee and Professor Borah spoke to the students about making the most of their academic journey in post pandemic era, stressing on proper utilisation of time and answered various queries related to their career plans.

● New Responsibilities assigned

Prof Mahadev Patgiri has taken over the charge of the Dean (R&D), Cotton University from Prof Ganesh C Wary on March 1, 2022. The outgoing Dean (R&D) did a commendable task to build a firm foothold of research environment for the new university.

Prof Debojit Sarma, Department of Physics of the university is the Member Secretary of the Governing Committee for the programme under Mentorship Scheme: Higher Secondary Programme (Arts and Science) at Cotton University.

Dr. Sangeeta Barthakur, Head of the Department, Statistics is the Director in-charge of the Capacity Building Centre of the university.

● The University upholds ethos of its democratic environment

Following the election of the Cotton University Teachers’ Association held on November 23, 2021, Professor Dipak Sarma and Dr. Jnanendra Barman assumed charges as the newly elected President and Secretary of CUTA respectively on November 25, 2021.

The election of the Cotton University Students Union was held on January 4, 2022 following which the new office bearers Niyar Deka (President), Heena Dewri (Vice President) Abhishek Mahanta (General Secretary), Jumi Gogoi (Assistant General Secretary) and others took oath on January 6, 2022.

● Homage to Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar

The Cotton Family met on February 7, 2022, at the Sudmersen Hall to pay tribute to the legendary Singer. Students paid tribute to beloved singer by singing her immortal songs. The Cotton Family remembered her visit to this institution in 1984.



● Meeting of the University Court

The second meeting of the University Court was held on February 15, 2022. A comprehensive presentation on university activities and progress made since May 2019 was presented before the Court members by the Honourable Vice Chancellor. The presentation included on-going academic programs, new initiatives - the special BA program for sports persons and new academic centres, Ph.D. programs, notable academic projects, research and development activities, faculty achievements, student welfare activities, student achievements and outreach activities under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. Dr. Ranoj Pegu, Honourable Education Minister was present at the Court meeting.



● Report from the Laboratory

Community mobilization and sensitization for freshwater pearl culture leading to entrepreneurship development in Northeast India

Pearl cultivation is a multibillion-dollar enterprise being world's largest aquaculture activity in terms of value. Lack of knowledge and inadequate scientific training inhibits development of pearl culture in the Northeast region of India. Interestingly, all the well known pearl producing mussels (*Lamellidens* spp.) are available in different parts of Assam including (a) *Lamellidens corrianus*, (b) *L. marginalis*, (c) *L. phenchooganjensis* and (d) *L. jenkinsi anus*. The Zoology department, CU has successfully developed an indigenous technology of pearl culture, producing laboratory based biopolymer coated nucleus that produces high quality designer pearls (figure) as compared to conventional nucleus. The Department of Fisheries, Government of Assam has granted some space in Dighali Pukhuri, Guwahati for further validation of the concept in natural environment.

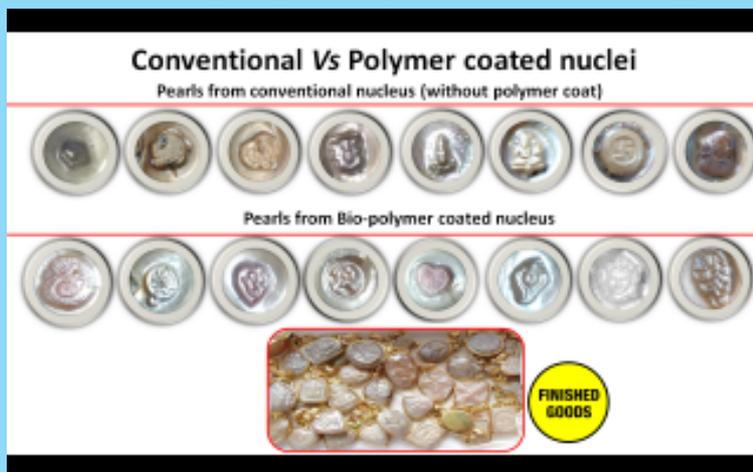


Figure Designer pearls produced by conventional nucleus (top row) and biopolymer coated nucleus (bottom row).

Report by Akalesh Kumar Verma (akhilesh@cottonuniversity.ac.in) * Namram Sushindrajit Singh
Department of Zoology, Cell & Biochemical Technology Laboratory, Cotton University.

Editorial Board :

Kalyan Das, Arup Kumar Hazarika, Jyoti Das, Eeshan Kalita, Raysul Hoque, Bidisha Sharma