Chapter 3

Introduction of the Universities

In this Chapter, a basic introduction of the four universities chosen for the study have been presented.

3.1. Assam University

Assam University (A.U.) is a teaching-cum-affiliating public university. It was established in the year 1994 through the Assam University (Central) Act, 1989 under the affiliation of UGC. The university is situated at a sprawling campus of 600 acres (2.4 km\(^2\)) at Dargakona, about 20 kms from Silchar, Assam, India.

The university is in South Assam, bordering Bangladesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, and Nagaland. The university has sixteen schools which offer Social Sciences, Humanities, Languages, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Information Sciences, Technology and Management Studies. There are 41 departments under these sixteen schools.

The five districts under the jurisdiction of Assam University have 56 undergraduate colleges. Assam University is an institutional signatory to the Global Universities Network for Innovation (GUNI), Barcelona and United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) for its commitment to educational social responsibilities. The university website is www.aus.ac.in.

3.1.1. Schools and departments

The university has 16 major teaching schools along with 35 various departments. These are:

i. Abanindranath Tagore School of Creative Arts and Communication Studies
   a. Hargobind Khurana School of Life Sciences
   b. Shushrutu School of Medical and Paramedical Sciences
   c. E. P Odam School of Environmental Sciences
   d. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan School of Philosophy
e. Jawaharlal Nehru School of Management  
f. Albert Einstein School of Physical Science  
g. Rabindranath Tagore School of Indian Languages and Cultural Studies  
h. Suniti Kumar Chattopadhyay School of English and Foreign Language Studies  
i. Mahatma Gandhi School of Economics and Commerce  
j. Ashutosh Mukhopadhyay School of Education  
k. Jadunath Sarkar School of Social Sciences  
l. Aryabhatta School of Earth Sciences  
m. Swami Vivekananda School of Library Sciences  
n. Deshabandhu Chittaranjan School of Legal Studies  
o. Triguna Sen School of Technology

3.1.2. Diphu Campus of AU

During the Vice-Chancellorship of Professor J. B. Bhattarjee, a new campus of AU was conceived. In 2007, the new campus was started at Diphu, Karbi Anglong with the approval of 6 departments from University Grants Commission (UGC).

3.1.3. Publications of AU

AU has the own publications of the following books and journals:
   a) Silchar: Problems of urban development of a growing city  
   b) Recent researchers in science and technology (Vol. I)  
   c) Science in society: proceedings of regional symposium  
   d) Netaji: a centenary tribute  
   e) Status of landslides in North-East India and natural disaster  
   f) Proceedings of the national conference on recent developments in mathematics and applications  
   g) Journal of Assam University  
   h) Our environment  
j) Proceedings: The national seminar on the relevance of Sanskrit studies in Twenty First century.

3.1.4. Library of A.U

The library was started with the establishment of the university in 1994. The library has been shifted to its new permanent Central Library-cum-Computer Centre building and started functioning in January 2006 and renamed as Rabindra Library. The new building is covering an area of 38,700 sq. Ft. Total numbers of library staff are 25 in numbers. The new building has a plinth area of 38,700 sq.ft. The function of the library includes collection development of knowledge resources, technical processing, organization, retrieval and dissemination of information to the end users including Barak Valley in particular and the entire North Eastern Region in general. The library has a stock of 109,000 books. There are 460 Indian journals and 100 foreign journals in the subscription list. Eighteen newspapers and 12 popular magazines are subscribed. There are departmental libraries in each department. [www.aus.ac.in (accessed on 12.11.18)]

3.2. Dibrugarh University

Dibrugarh University (DU) was established in the year 1965 as per the Dibrugarh University Act, 1965 enacted by Assam Legislative Assembly. The vision of DU is to develop human resource by integrating knowledge and skills along with human values which help to make the world better DU is one of the educational centres of excellence which provides value education with the praxis of knowledge. There is a strong global link of teaching and research of this university. Different international collaboration from this university especially in the field of science and technology is seen from this university. There are 175 affiliated colleges under DU which covers 7 different districts of upper Assam. DU has been accredited ‘A’ grade by NAAC. DU is situated at Rajabheta, which is 5 kilometres away from the Dibrugarh town. With the huge campus of 550 acres and with a beautiful surrounding, the university becomes a naturally rich centre of education.
3.2.1. Schools and Departments

DU is currently running the following schools of studies:

I. School of Humanities and Social Sciences
II. School of Science and Engineering
III. School of Commerce and Management Science
IV. School of Education
V. School of Earth, Atmospheric Science, Environment and Energy.

3.2.2. Teaching, Learning and Research

The university has planned for opening new course curriculum by noticing the developing knowledge approaches. The courses will be multi and cross disciplinary. Already DU is offering the following new courses:

i. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
ii. Human Rights
iii. Wildlife Photography &
iv. North East Studies

The new courses planning to be offered by DU which are related to Skill and Entrepreneurship Development are:

i. Petro Economics
ii. Petro Enterprises
iii. Natural Resource Management
iv. Brahmaputra Studies
v. Gendre Studies
vi. Hospitality Management
vii. Tourism Management

In spite of new courses, DU has recently introduced some language programme under Centre of Language Studies which are: Missing and Deori languages. Along with the university is planning to open Masters Courses for Bodo and Karbi languages too.
Different Curricular, Co-curricular and Extra-curricular activities are performed by the members of this university. There is collaboration with the government of Assam and UNICEF for extending such activities under the National Mission of Swach Bharat. Already in 29 collages of Dibrugarh districts Health and Sanitation clubs are established which are working smoothly. There is a planning from the university authority to expand those clubs to all over the 175 colleges affiliated to DU.

3.2.3. Research & Innovation

In the field of research, DU is seeking a topmost position by its performance. Almost every department is having M.Phil and Ph.D programmes. New planning is there to promote interdisciplinary research. Collaborative research especially international collaboration is envisioned to be preferred in the upcoming years.

As an effort to attract international students towards different courses from P.G. to Ph.D. increase induction of international students, DU has opened separate directorate for this purpose.

Industry-Academia Interface

The University of Dibrugarh maintains industry-academia interface. It is making the interface with Oil India Limited (OIL) and Coal industries. New planning includes interface with Tea and Pharmaceutical industries.

Consultancy

Faculty members for various departments viz. Applied Geology, Petroleum Technology, Economics, The Dibrugarh University Engineering and Technology Institute, Centre for Studies in Social Work, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Centre for Performing Arts, Centre for Tea and Agro Studies are engaged in extending consultancy services to various industries.

3.2.3. Library of DU

The central library of Dibrugarh University is named as the Lakshminath Bezbaroa Library (LNB Library). This library is a systematic and scientific library with a huge collection of book and non-book materials. The location of the library is in the centre place of the University
Campus. This library was set up in 1967. Initially this library was started with 997 books with a room of D.H.S.K Commerce College. After that, in the end of 1967, the library was moved to the University campus of Rajabheta. Till date the number of staff working in the Library is 36.

The main objectives of this library are to collect, consolidate and circulate knowledge among its members, it supports study and research, and preserves and protects information. It supports institutional research.

Currently there are more than 2,25,000 print and non-print resources in the library, among which 1,94,340 number of books among which 4300 reference books are found. Books from different branches like Social Sciences, Natural and Applied Sciences, and Humanities are found here. Along with access facility for 10,000 e-journals and 7,000 e-books are also provided by the Library. LNB library also contain 143 current periodicals, 22,685 bound journals, along with 21 regional and national newspapers. LNB library has some Government publication which follows:

- Census Data
- UN Journals
- Commonwealth Reports
- Statistical reports of Government of Assam
- LNB library possess some special collection viz
- Gandhian Collection: around 150 volumes of collections are there.
- Nobel Lauriat Collection: about 209 volumes are found in the library.
- North-East Collection: A special and rare collection of 2000 books on North-East India are there in LNB Library.
- Children book collection: this is proposed section for the library.
- Theses and Dissertation: more than 5000 Theses and Disserattaions of various branches are available in the Library.
- CD/DVD: a total of 750 Cd/DVDs of different disciplines are found.
- Cartographs: 53 Maps of various regions of earth are collected in the LNB Library.

LNB library serves its users with different services like: Circulation of documents, Display of current Journals, Recent arrivals, reference service, reprographic service, internet browsing,
The main facilities provided by LNB library are as follows:

i. Computerized bibliographic database of the library materials.
ii. Computerized lending facility.
iii. Computerized reservation of books.
iv. OPAC, Web-OPAC along with manual search.
v. Maintenance of computerized user accounts.
vi. Internet facility.
vii. Reprographic Service.
viii. Online database searching facility.
ix. CD/DVD lending/ searching facility.
x. Scanning of books and Special Hearing Devices for Visually Impaired students.
xi. Scanning of books and other documents for common users.
xii. Reading room facility.
xiii. Sound Proof Discussion room for students.
xiv. Drinking water facility.
xv. Sanitized Lavatory.

[https://www.dibru.ac.in ((accessed on 10.12.18]

3.3. Gauhati University

The University of Gauhati was established by an act of the state legislature by the Government of Assam in the year 1948. It is the oldest and the largest amongst all universities of North-East India. Earlier the university was in different location but in the year 1955-56 the university was shifted to the current location of is located in Jalukbari, Guwahati. The university is standing at its glorious 58th year of existence. The university is serving with its main objectives of revitalizing educational leadership and to produce higher educational intellect. Recently, the university has been graded with A by the NAAC.
3.3.1. Vision

The main vision of the university is to become a leading university in India by setting high standards of excellence in preservation, creation and dissemination of knowledge through teaching, learning, research, innovation and experiment. To strengthen the extension education to the society the university is taking a leading role. At present there are approximately 326 Colleges/Institutes which come under this university.

The university is 10 km from the Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport on National Highway No. 37; 5 km from Kamakhya Railway Station; and 10 km from Guwahati Railway Station as well as from the bus stop near the Cachari (D.C. court) at the heart of Guwahati City.

3.3.2. Academic Units

The University of Gauhati has 7 schools:

I. Faculty of Arts
II. Faculty of Science
III. Faculty of Commerce
IV. Faculty of Technology
V. Faculty of Law
VI. Faculty of Management
VII. Faculty of Fine Arts


Faculty of Science is heading 10 departments: Anthropology, Botany, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geological Science, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics and Zoology.
Applied Sciences, Bioengineering and Technology, Biotechnology, Computer Science, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Electronics & Communication Technology, Information Technology, Instrumentation and USIC are headed under the Faculty of Technology.

Gauhati University is consisted of the following different institutes and colleges under it.

a. University Law College: It was established in the year 1948 which acts as the deemed department of law. It is located in the university campus.

b. Institute of Science and Technology (GUIST): it was set up in 2009 to enhance the quality and innovation in Technology and Applied Science education. GUIST is currently offering Four year Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech), two year Master of Science (M.S.), Master of Technology (M.Tech.) and Ph.D programmes in different fields.

c. Institute of Distance and Open Learning (IDOL): It was formerly known as Post Graduate Correspondence School (PGCS) which was established in 1998. The main aim of the institution was to give opportunity to the students who want to pursue higher education but cannot go through conventional mode. IDOL is having an extra library in spite of Central Library of Gauhati University. The library is currently serving its users with 6,500 volumes including text as well as reference books and different non book materials. The working hour of the library is 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. The IDOL library provides the following services to its users.

- Lending of books to teachers only
- Reading room facility
- Reference Service
- Reprography
- Free internet browsing.

d. Institute of North East India Studies (GUINEIS)

e. Centre for Languages & Cultural Studies
f. UGC HRD Centre (Academic Staff College): This College was started in 1988 and it was the first centre in the entire North East for teacher’s training in higher education. It serves with the aim and objective of to train the college and university teachers for their professional development. Principals, academic administrators, non-teaching staff and PhD scholars are also trained by UGC HRD Centre.

3.3.3. Library of G.U.

The Library was established in the year 1948 along with the establishment of the University at Chandmari, Guwahati and later on shifted to the Arts building and moved to current building in 1962. This library is named after first Vice Chancellor of the university Professor K K Handiqui, an world famous Orientalist in the year 1982. The library is managed by the Library Committee chaired by the Vice Chancellor of the university with the Deans of various faculties as members. Librarian is the member Secretary of library committee.

This library is a huge fully automated digitised library with the facilities of Internet, Xerox, WebOpac, OPAC through Campus LAN, ETD (Electronic Theses and Dissertations) through Shodhganga, e-Journal browsing through UGC-Infonet, IEEEXplore, Manupatra, J-Gateplus, Online Abstracting and Indexing database viz. SCOPUS. Library has introduced a facility of providing membership to the college teachers of G.U. affiliated colleges. Total number of working staff of the library as on date is 30 in numbers. The total collection of the library is as follows:

- Books – 269369 volumes
- Bound periodicals – 34495 volumes
- Theses – 3704 nos.
- Report literature – 4276 nos.
- Dissertations – 5601 nos.
- Manuscripts – 4500 nos.
- K.K.Handiqui Collection – 7593 volumes in 11 (eleven) languages.
- Digitized Manuscripts – 150000 pages
• Digitized Theses – 852524 pages

Special Collections

• K K Handiqui Collection
• Dr BhupenHazarika Corner
• Vivekananda Corner
• Gandhi Collection
• Dr MaheswarNeogCollection
• Aurobindo Corner
• Nehru Corner
• Women’s Corner
• Collection of Manuscripts on Sanchipat, Tulapat etc.
• Back Volumes of Journals and Selected Newspapers
• Textbook Corner
• NE Corner
• UN Corner
• Thailand Corner

The personal collection of Prof Handiqui consisting of 7593 volumes of books generously donated by him to Gauhati University is a precious and unique collection of the library. The collection includes books on 11 (eleven) different languages like English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin, Pali, Prakrit, Russian, Sanskrit and Spanish.

[https://www.gauhati.ac.in/library/k-k-handiqui-library (accessed on 22.12.18)]
3.4. Tezpur University

Tezpur University (T.U.) is a Central University located in Tezpur in the state of Assam, India established by an act in Parliament of India in 1994. The university is serving with the vision to develop human excellence and to inculcate leadership through hard work and creativity and with the beautiful mission to make Tezpur University the most preferred institution among students. NAAC accredited the university with ‘A’ grade.

The establishment of Tezpur University is considered to be one of the outcomes of the Assam Accord, along with the establishment of Assam University and Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati. Tezpur University was established, by an Act of Parliament, in 1994. The then Prime Minister of India, P. V. Narasimha Rao chaired the opening of the University. Initially, the University operated from the premises of the Darrang College, in Tezpur. Land was acquired at Napaam, a suburb of Tezpur, about 15 kilometers east, of 242 acres (0.98 square kilo-meters), and the premises shifted. Kalaguru Bishnuprasad Rava (Rabha) donated an ancestral estate of 2500 bigha land received from the British government in favour of the peasants. The present day Tezpur University stands upon the land donated by him.

Tezpur University is the first university in India to offer the course Master of Technology in Computational Seismology and also one of the few universities in India to have its own Department of Energy. The Department of Electronics at Tezpur University is the first of its kind in India to introduce an interdisciplinary Master of Technology program in Bioelectronics. The first class graduated in June 2006. The university has four schools of studies which is divided into 23 departments and 3 special academic centres.

3.4.1. Vision & Mission

The main vision of TU is to develop human excellence through hard work and creativity along with the mission of making the institution among the top academic institutions of the World.
3.4.2. Schools of Study

As many as 23 teaching departments in the university are distributed to four schools.

I. School of Engineering
II. School of Humanities and Social Science
III. School of Management Studies
IV. School of Sciences

School of Engineering offers seven departments:

- Department of Computer Science & Engineering
- Department of Civil Engineering
- Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Department of Energy
- Department of Food Engineering & Technology
- Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Department of Electrical Engineering

School of Humanities and Social Science has eight departments:

- Department of Cultural Studies
- Department of English and Foreign Languages
- Department of Mass Communication and Journalism
- Department of Sociology
- Department of Hindi
- Department of Social Work
- Department of Education
- Department of Law

School of Management Sciences:

- Department of Business Administration
School of Sciences:

- Department of Chemical Sciences
- Department of Environmental Science
- Department of Mathematical Sciences
- Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- Department of Physics

3.4.3. Distance Learning:

The centre for Open and Distance Learning which was earlier worked as Directorate of Distance Education was established in 2011. It serves with the objective of imparting higher education through open and distance mode. Various post-graduate, undergraduate, diploma and certificate courses are provided by TU. The programmes provided by distance mode are:


3.4.4. Central Library:

The Central library of Tezpur University had started working since 1994 along with the establishment of the University. This is the fully automated and digitised library with a huge collection of books and non-book materials which serves the scholarly community. This library is fully automated with Libsys software. Currently the library is having 86654+ volumes of books, 10,360+ e- journals, and 9661 back volumes and three databases through INDEST-AICTE Consortium and other publishers. The UGC-Infonet Consortia of INFLIBNET Centre is providing access facility to 7721 (including 525 on perpetual basis) e-journals and eleven databases. The library also holds 81 VCDs and more than 1700 CDs scattering to different
thought contents. Library users can access book database, theses database, journal database, e-journals and other e-resources from any terminal within the University campus.

The main vision of the library is to empower academic community in teaching, learning and research with its large collections and services. Its motto is to collect, collate and disseminate knowledge.

Currently there are 18 numbers of staff in the library with 3 numbers of library trainees.

The services of the library are as follows:

- Circulation
- Current Awareness Service
- Reference Service
- Reprographic Service
- Inter Library Loan
- Government Publication Portal
- User education
- Online Document Delivery Service
- Research support service
- Library e-newsletter
- Library 2.0 services- library blog, Library Twitter page, Library Google page, Library Youtube Page

The total collections of Central library are:

- Books: 86654+
- Printed (national+international) journals: 212
- e-journals: 10360
- online databases: 41
- back volumes: 9661
- e-books: 502
- theses: 620
- dissertations: 1331
- CD/DVD: 2622
- Govt. Publications and Conference proceedings: 1025
- VHS cassettes: 36
- Newspaper and magazine: 10
- Manuscripts: 32

[http://www.tezu.ernet.in (accessed on 12.11.18)]