

PROGRESS REPORT – MACRONEI, Tezpur University

1. Opening of the Centre:

30th October, 2014. **Inaugural Programme of MACRONEI. Chief Guest Mr. H.N. Das, Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam.** He delivered an Inaugural talk on *North East India's Linkage with South East Asia*. The meeting was addressed by Professor M.K. Chaudhari, Vice Chancellor of Tezpur University, Dr. Sreeradha Dutta, Director, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata and Professor Chandan Kumar Sharma, Coordinator, MACRONEI, Tezpur University. The meeting was attended by a large number of faculty members and students.

2. Special Lectures organized:

- Special Lecture by **Dr. Sreeradha Dutta**, Director, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata on '*Act East' Policy and the Northeast India*. Organized by MACRONEI at Tezpur University on 25th August, 2017. The lecture was followed by an interactive session with faculty members and research scholars present.
- Special Lecture by **Professor Sanjib Baruah**, Bard College, New York on *Bringing the Frontier back in: Borderland Studies and Northeast India*. Organized by MACRONEI at Tezpur University on 3rd March, 2017. The talk was followed by Q&A session with the audience constituted by the faculty members and research scholars of various departments of the University.
- Special Lecture by **Professor Sujata Patel**, University of Hyderabad on *Conceptualizing Groups, Regions and Marginality in Northeast India*. Organized by MACRONEI at Tezpur University on 2nd September, 2016. The talk was followed by Q&A session with the audience constituted by the faculty members and research scholars of various departments of the University.

3. Seminars/ Conferences organized:

- **International Seminar on Governance, Development and the State in Contemporary Times**. Organized by MACRONEI in collaboration with Department of Sociology, Tezpur University and UNICEF, Guwahati during 9th-12th March, 2016. The seminar was attended by around 150 delegates from across India and other countries including South Africa, Nepal and Bangladesh. The Keynote Address was delivered by Professor Manoranjan Mohanty, Council for Social Development, New Delhi. The Valedictory

Lecture was delivered by Professor Virginius Xaxa, Deputy Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati.

- **International Seminar on Shared Rivers in South Asia: Challenges and Prospects in Lower Riparian States**. Organized by Centre for Development and Peace Studies (CDPS) in collaboration with MACRONEI at Tezpur University during 16th-17th March, 2015. (MAKAIAS provided the fund directly to CDPS). The seminar was attended by experts including former ambassadors, academics, top security officials, bureaucrats, journalists and senior functionaries of NGOs from India, Nepal and Bangladesh. These include P.C.Haldar, Member, National Security Advisory Board, Govt. of India; Tariq A. Karim (former Bangladesh High Commissioner to India), Advisor, South Asian Regional Economic Integration, World Bank; Professor Nayan Sharma, IIT Roorkee; Mir Sajjad Hossain, Member, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh and Surya Nath Upadhyay, Secretary General, Jalsrot Vikas Sanstha, Nepal. The Keynote Address was delivered by Professor Alka Acharya, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi.
- **7th Biennial International Conference of Indian Association of Asian and Pacific Studies on South Asia and Beyond: Past, Present and Future**. Organised by MACRONEI in collaboration with Department of Sociology, Tezpur University during 20th-22nd December, 2014. The conference was attended by more than 150 delegates from across India and also abroad. The Inaugural Lecture of the conference was delivered by Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Director General of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi and the Keynote Address was delivered by Professor Prasenjit Duara, Director, Asia Research Centre, National University of Singapore.

4. Projects undertaken (Up to May 2017):

- *Urbanization and Urban Commons: A Study with reference to a Wetland (beel) of Guwahati City*
Principal Investigator: Professor Chandan Kumar Sharma, Dept. of Sociology, Tezpur University.
Research Assistant: Natasha Hazarika
- *Border Trade at Pangsau: Transcending Boundaries between India and Myanmar*
Principal Investigator: Dr. Juri Gogoi Konwar, Associate professor, Dept. of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University.
Research Fellow: Arpita Dowarah
- *Interrogating Missing Identity in Assam*
Principal Investigator: Dr. Partha Pratim Borah, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Dibrugarh University.