

**A Brief Report  
on  
Three-Day Youth Conclave  
on  
Skill Development  
December 17-19, 2020**

*Organized By*



**Bhattadev University  
Assam**

*In Collaboration With*



**RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No.35/12  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports,  
Government of India, Sriperumbudur – 602 105.**

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## **Preface and Acknowledgements**

Youth development can be synonymously used with nation building. As a topic of all-time relevance, concerns related to youth are delicate and ever-evolving. Since contributory factors to youth development are many in the fast-changing socio-political premise of India, active engagement, close examination and research in youth-related topics are of paramount importance. Therefore, to ensure healthy growth and development of our country's youth, open discussion platforms where experts from multiple fields have to align to exchange valuable information on positive youth development.

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), being an institution of national importance exclusively devoted to youth development, is an active academic space that is engaged in teaching, learning and research on varied disciplines that is closely associated to youth development. The three-day conclave on skill development specifically designed for the youth minds of Bajali and nearby areas of Assam is one of our flagship programs created to bring out the self-confidence and entrepreneurship mindset among the youths. The program was tailor-made and carefully crafted so as to ensure quality and relevance in its contents and execution. Undoubtedly, the program was successful in meeting its objective, with the active participation of the resource persons and the student participants. It has reinstated the need to identify the varied concerns faced by today's youth and the requirement for knowledge dissemination and support being provided to ensure youth development. Time and again, the program urged the need for children and youth to be treated as our nation's priority and stressed on ensuring the optimal functioning of this valuable human resource for nation building.

Every accomplishment becomes successful only by the proactive involvement and dedication of the team members and this program is of no difference. Our university was highly resourceful, that it opened a vista of high possibilities for youth development and we extend our sincere gratitude and high regards for this support and cooperation from RGNIYD. Particularly, Professor Birinchi Kr Das, Vice Chancellor, Bhattadev University deserves special mention for evincing keen interest in to conduct the programme in collaboration with RGNIYD for the skill development of the youths of this area.

A key highlight of this program was our resource persons of finesse who were spirited and enthusiastic about the relevance of our program. RGNIYD extends wholehearted appreciation and earnest gratefulness to their utmost dedication and valuable inputs. We acknowledge our gratitude to all the esteemed resource persons for facilitating a session in this program and sharing their valuable experiences. We, at RGNIYD, work as a team and this program too was the fruit of our coordinated efforts. I appreciate each and every team member for their coordination and commitment in ensuring the smooth execution of this program. In particular, the role of Professor Vasanthi Rajendran, Training Officer, RGNIYD is highly appreciable.

We record our notable thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi for his visionary leadership and transformational plans to empower the Youth of India. We immensely thank our Hon'ble MOS (IC) for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri. Kiren Rijiju for his benevolent direction to RGNIYD. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Professor Sibnath Deb, Director, RGNIYD particularly for inaugurating this programme and for keenly following various sessions. We profusely acknowledge the continuous guidance of various officials from RGNIYD.

Together, let us be the architects of better tomorrow.

**PROF. SIBNATHDEB, PhD, DSc**

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(An Institution of National Importance by Act of Parliament No.35/2012)  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India,  
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## Preamble

Youth development is a continuous process wherein, nations engrossed several policies and programmes to foster the fundamental needs of growth and development that would enable the youth to attain holistic development viz., biological, social, psychological, moral, educational, and career aspects which will empower the youth not only to function effectively in daily lives but also contribute to the nation building. When such positive youth developmental activities are not formulated and the youth are not channeled in proper direction, the youth often will be influenced to engage in unproductive and negative acts.

Further, both theory and practice has established adequate evidence that the early childhood experiences and the conducive stimulating environment created for an individual will result in an enriched personality development through the adolescence and adulthood stages and to unleash their full potentials. Creating such conducive conditions is a shared responsibility of the family, educational institutions, community in which they live and their society at large. There have been several advantages of promoting positive youth development including contribution to nation building by youth thereby lowering the jeopardies of high-risk behaviours.

Our country has been endeavouring to empower the youth in all spheres and to resolve youth related problems through appropriate interventions as enshrined in the National Youth Policy relating to each priority area and various schemes, policies and programmes of line ministries cutting across the subject of youth development.

Recognizing the paramount significance of youth development, **The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)**, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu designed and offered an exclusive program for the NCC Officers of the North Eastern Region to orient them on various dimensions of youth development and to equip them to train and lead the youth with whom they work very closely and to effectively shape them as responsible citizens. The program was conducted during Oct.27-31, 2020. The program was an earnest attempt to provide useful inputs on different facets of imperative issues and challenges the youth of our country face today, particularly in the phase of COVID-19 pandemic and equip the NCC Officers with requisite skills and capacities to deal with such concerns with their youth clientele.

## Objectives of the Program

The objectives of the program were:

1. The youth of North East Region have immense potential but lack employability and entrepreneurial skill required to sustain oneself in the global competitive world. The programme shall try to familiarise them with different such skills that more employable in any sector.
2. The programme seeks to attract the youths to take up more entrepreneurial ventures so that they no longer remain job seekers but job providers. It is hoped that they contribute to make in India project of Government of India.

3. The Programme not only seeks to develop their personality and inter personal relations but also will try to hone their leadership skills and managerial skills so that they contribute in the process of nation building.

### **Target Group for the Program**

The programme was exclusively conducted for the youths particularly Graduate and Postgraduate students of North Eastern Region. Over 250 students registered for the program. However, about 70 Students could be allowed to attend the entire program as per Covid-19 protocol.

### **Inaugural Function of the Program**

The youth conclave on skill development programme for the young students of North Eastern Region was inaugurated by Prof. Sibnath Deb, Director, RGNIYD, Government of India who also delivered the Inaugural Address during the inaugural session.



The Vice Chancellor of Bhattadev University, Bajali, Prof. Birinchi Kr Das chaired the Inaugural session and addressed the participants speaking on the intent of the program keeping in view the concerns of young students need to address and how they can acquire skills through this program.



## Proceedings of the Activity

### **RGNIYD Youth Conclave Programme organized by Bhattadev University**

Dated 17 Dec to 19 Dec, 2020

The Conclave was organised by Bhattadev University in collaboration with RGNIYD, Govt. of India. The Three day Youth Conclave on skill development was hosted by Dr. Jitumani Rajbongshi, Activity Coordinator, RGNIYD Youth Conclave, 2020. On the very first day, the conclave was inaugurated by Prof. Sibnath Deb, Director, RGNIYD, Govt. of India. The Inaugural session was chaired by Prof. Birinchi Kr Das, Honourable, Vice Chancellor, Bhattadev University, Bajali.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Sajal Kr. Das, Academic Registrar and HoD, dept of Mathematics, Bhattadev University, Bajali.

Dr. Jitumani Rajbongshi, co-ordinator of the Conclave explained the objectives as:

- To develop the skill and personalities of the young generation required to effectively transition from the studying environment into workplace.
- To input leadership skills and managerial skills so that they can contribute in the process of Nation building.
- To create entrepreneurial mind set among the youths.

**Day 1:** Inauguration Ceremony ended successfully with the insightful remarks by Prof. Birinchi Kr. Das, Vice Chancellor, Bhattadev University, Bajali.

Following a tea break, the activity session started from 11.45 AM onwards on the topic of **“Emerging Entrepreneurship Landscape: Challenges and Opportunities for Entrepreneurs from NE”**. The resource person was – Dr Sriparna B Baruah, SR Faculty & Head, Centre for Industrial Extension and Consultancy, IIE, GHY. The session ended on 12.45 PM.

Then from 12:45 PM to 1:45 PM the next session ran, covering the topic of **‘Need of skill development India among youth for sustainable goals’**

The resource person was Dr. Sunil Kr Saikia, Director, Centre of management studies, Guwahati Commerce College.

After lunch break the session started from 2:30 PM having an interaction with local entrepreneurs, Bimal Sarma(Owner of milk parlour), Binita Goswami (Fashion Designer) & Ranjit Kalita (Organic Farmer)

**Day 2:** The activity programme was divided in four sessions. The first session was on the topic **‘Perspective of SDG 9:- Industry Innovation and Infrastructure’** roled by Prof. Sashindra Kr Kakoty, Dept of Mechanical Engineering, IITG and second session was highlighted by Prof. Prasanta Sarma,Dept of commerce, Gauhati University, on the topic **‘Concept of project for Entrepreneurial zeal’**

Following a tea break Mr. Pranab Kr. Sarma, Former Head, Centre for Entrepreneurship Education and Faculty,IIE,Guwahati, explained the topic **‘Need of generating entrepreneurial mindset among the youth for generating employment in NE’** in two sessions with some physical activities. In this way the day-2 programme ended at around 4.00PM.

**Day 3:** The last day of the Conclave Mr. ASS Dewan, SR Faculty, IIE, Guwahati delivered a valuable talk on **‘Entrepreneurship Development in Traditional Livelihood Skills of NE India’**in the first session followed by**A product promoting poster making competition** hosted by Prof. Parag Barman on the topic of ‘Vocal for local’ in the next session.

Honourable guests for the valedictory session Prof. Laishram Ladu Singh, Honourable VC of Bodoland University, Prof. Birinchi Kr Das, Honorable VC of Bhattadev University were welcomed by Dr. Jitumani Rajbongshi and Prof. Vasanthi Rajendran, Training Division, RGNIYD, Govt of India attended the function through online mode.

The special guest **Prof. Laishram Ladu Singh**, Vice Chancellor of Bodo land University, delivered a lecture on Policies and programs for welfare of youth(with reference to NEP 2020 and NYP 2020), youth participation and mobilization of youthfor community development. In his session he clarified the concepts of Youth Development and Empowerment and their importance, highlighted the provisions of National Youth Policy and Skill Development Programs in India, salient features of the new National Education Policy 2020.

**Prof. Vasanthi Rajendran**, Head, Centre for Training and Orientation, RGNIYD,Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu during the tenth session spoke on the role of youth in nation building during the valedictory session. She also spoke on the conceptual framework of Youth and Nation Building, the importance of Youth for Nation Building, Contribution of Youth in India by citing case studies of Youth in Nation Building.

The conclave ended with distribution of certificates among the participants and a humble vote of thanks by Mr. Parag Barman, member, Organising Committee, RGNIYD Youth Conclave, 2020.



## **Feedback of the Participants**

Among the participants, a total of 70 participants of the North-Eastern Region provided feedback.

### **Gender of the Respondents**

Among the students who provided feedback, 52% of them were male and the rest 48% were female.

### **Age of the Feedback Respondents**

With regard to the age of the respondents, it was found that 73% of them were 20-21 years, while the rest 27% were in the age group of 22-23 years

### **Education of the Respondents**

Among the respondents who provided feedback, 73% of them were Undergraduates and 27% were Postgraduates.

### **Name of the State Presently Posted**

All the participants were from Assam particularly from Bajali and its nearby areas.

### **Specific issues to be addressed in future training programmes of RGNIYD**

The students were further probed to provide the details of specific the issues that need to be kept in mind by RGNIYD while conducting the future programs. They delineated the following concerns:

- Programs aimed at developing the personality of youth
- Programs on Career Guidance and Counselling to guide the student youth
- Conduct programs on various career options for north-eastern youth
- Devote more time for interaction with the resource persons to clarify various issues on the subject
- More online programs may be conducted in view of the COVID-19 pandemic which will be easy and convenient to attend from their own educational institutions rather than coming to a particular training venue.

### **Challenges commonly faced while dealing with student youth**

The Resource persons of the program were requested to list the challenges that they face while they deal with the student youth. Following are the challenges faced specifically while they closely interact and deal with the issues of youth:

- Lack of awareness on the problems and concerns of children (child psychology) and youth
- Lack of confidence to deal with the youth
- Communication gaps
- Problems in guiding the youth for right kind of employment
- Youth do not conform to discipline
- Lack of skills to deal with the poverty issues of students
- To help student youth to come out of their confusion state
- Gaining attention of the youth (due to various personal distractions)
- Enabling the youth to develop focus in life
- Assisting the youth to keep away from peer pressures
- Guiding the youth to keep away/productive use of social media

### **Common challenges faced by the Students in educational institutions/ various north-eastern states**

Following were the responses that emerged during this interrogation:

- Problems of internet connectivity in rural areas
- Lack of seriousness about life among the youth
- Language and communication problem (students from mother states do not attend class regularly)
- Access to sports facilities
- Lack of guidance for pursuing higher education
- Job crises
- Lack of technical skills among youth –need to enhance employability skills during the course of study

### **Areas of attention for policymakers for development of children and youth in North Eastern Region**

- Need to create more facility for poor people (access to education, jobs etc)
- Quality of education to be enhanced
- Necessity to form avenues for developing the personal skills and potentials of students
- Enhance chances for interactions / exposure of north east students to other parts of the country
- Development of mind-set of north east people to think that people of whole India have right to go anywhere in NE and vice versa

### **Over all impressions and participants' perceptions on the special features of the Program**

At the end of the program, the participants were requested to share their personal views and unprejudiced observations about the 3-day Youth conclave on Skill Development Program. Following were the open comments provided by the participants: Overall, the program was very good

- Topics covered were highly interesting
- Contents of the programs were appropriate
- All the sessions provided good insights
- Learnt how to tackle different problem in different situations
- The course was well planned, well designed, well organized and all the lectures were well delivered

## **Annexure - I**

### **RGNIYD Youth Conclave Programme**

#### **Day- 1**

**Inaugural Session:10.00 AM to 11.30 AM**

**Chairperson: Prof. B.K. Das, Vice Chancellor, Bhattadev University, Bajali**

**Chief Guest: Prof. Sibnath Deb, Director, RGNIYD, Govt. of India**

**TEA BREAK**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Resource Person</b>
Session-1	11.00 AM to 12.30 PM	Emerging entrepreneurship landscape: Challenges and opportunities for Entrepreneurs from NE	Dr. Sriparna B Baruah SR Faculty & Head, Centre for Industrial Extension and Consultancy, IIE, Guwahati
Session-2	12.30 PM to 2.00 PM	Need of skill development in India among youth for sustainable goals	Dr. Sunil Kumar Saikia Director GCC Centre of Management studies. Guwahati Commerce College
<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>			
Session-3	2.30 PM to 4.00 PM	Interaction with successful entrepreneurs	
<b>EVENING SNACKS</b>			

#### **Day- 2**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Resource Person</b>
Session-1	9.00 AM to 10.30 AM	Perspective of SDG 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	Prof. Sashindra Kr Kakoty Professor, Dept of Mechanical Engineering IIT Guwahati
Session-2	10.30 AM to 12.00 PM	Concept of project for Entrepreneurial zeal	Prof. PrashantaSarma Professor, Dept of Commerce, Gauhati University
<b>TEA BREAK</b>			

Session-3	12.15 PM to 1.45PM	Need of generating entrepreneurial mindset among the youth for generating employment in North- Eastern States of India	Mr.Pranab Kr. Sarma Former Head, Centre for Entrepreneurship Education & Faculty, IIE, Guwahati.
LUNCH BREAK			
Session-4	2.30PM to 4.00 PM	Entrepreneurship Development in Traditional Livelihood Skills of North East India	Mr. A.S.S. Dewan SR Faculty, IIE, Guwahati
EVENING SNACKS			

### Day- 3

Session	Time	Topic	Resource Person
Session-1	9.00 AM to 10.30 AM	Career in different roles in the civil services/ how to prepare for different competitive examinations	Dr. Sanjay Dutta, Academic Registrar, Cotton University
Session-2	10.30 AM to 12.00 AM	Start Up India and IT Revolution in India. Scope of Employability in IT Sector & Necessary Skills for Income Generation by Rural Youths.	Mr. Prabir Kr Das Director, Software Technology Park of India, Borjhar, Guwahati
TEA BREAK			

**Valedictory Session: 12.15PM to 1.30 PM**

**Chairperson: Dr. S.M. Nath, Working Registrar, Bhattadev University, Bajali**

**Guest of honour: Prof. T.R.A. Devakumar, RGNIYD Govt. of India**

**Special guest: Prof. Vasanthi Rajendran, Training Division, RGNIYD**



## Annexure II: Profiles of Resource Persons

**Dr Sriparna B Baruah** has 33 years of work experience in Management Education and in Small and Medium Enterprise Development with thrust on Entrepreneurship and livelihood Promotion. She also has extensive experience in action research and projects relating to development of livelihood clusters specifically in the North Eastern Region of India. Since the last three years, she has been actively involved in facilitating creation of a start-up eco-system in Assam and has been regularly mentoring and handholding existing and potential start-ups in opportunity guidance and scaling up.



**Mr. Pranab Kumar Sarmah** started his career as college teacher in commerce education for about 3 years and retired as Senior Faculty Member and Head, Center for Entrepreneurship Education (CEE) after serving 30 years at Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati with specialization in Entrepreneurial Motivation & Behavioral Dimension, Enterprise Promotion & Development, and Entrepreneurial Education in entire North Eastern Region



**Dr. Sunil Kumar Saikia**, presently Director, MBA, Gauhati Commerce College, 40 years of work experience in Management Education and in Small and Medium Enterprise Development with thrust on Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Promotion. He was former Director of Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship. Since his day in IIE, Guwahati he is associated with the start up programme of small and medium scale industries.



**Mr. Parag Barman** has 15 years experience in imparting entrepreneurial motivation to the students and trainees associated with Rural Industries Programme Conducted by DICC, Assam and SIDBI. Presently he is the coordinator of Skill Development Centre, Bhattadev University, Bajali.



**Prof. Sashindra Kakoty** currently works at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati. Sashindra does research in Mechanical Engineering. Their current project is 'Hybrid Gas Foil Bearings and Magnetic Bearings '. Professor Sashindra Kumar Kakoty is the Dean (Infrastructure, Planning & Management) at IIT Guwahati and heading Centre For Rural Technology (CRT). He is also the Coordinator for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) and Ru TAG-NE IIT Guwahati. Dr. Kakoty started his career as a Lecturer and during his service span of 33 years, he has imparted teaching in reputed engineering institutions of Assam. He has been contributing highly in various R&D Projects, Consultancy support and Research Guidance.

