The Quarterly Newsletter

18th Convocation

The 18th Convocation of IIT Guwahati was held on 22nd June 2016 at the Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Auditorium of the Institute. The convocation was chaired by Dr. Rajiv I. Modi, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute. The Chairman of the Senate and the Director of the Institute Prof. Gautam Biswas awarded the degrees of Bachelor of Technology (BTech), Bachelor of Design (BDes), Master of Science (MSc), Master of Technology (MTech), Master of Design (MDes) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) to the students who completed the requirements for these degrees



Prof. Jitendra Nath Goswami (C), Chief Guest; Dr. Rajiv I. Modi (L), Chairman, BoG, IIT Guwahati, ; Prof. Gautam Biswas (R), Director, IIT Guwahati, along with the gold and silver medal winners at the 18th Convocation.

Prof. Jitendra Nath Goswami, renowned astrophysicist and planetary scientist, Principal Scientist of Chandrayaan-1 Mission and Chairman, Advisory Board of Chandrayaan-2 Mission, JC Bose National Fellow and former Director of Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the convocation address. The Chairman of Board of Governors, IIT Guwahati, Dr. Rajiv I. Modi was also be present at the convocation.

In this issue:

- α 18th Convocation
- α Jonak & Rengoni
- α Conference etc abroad
- α New Research Projects
- α New Joinings
- α RAER 2016
- α Recycle 2016
- α Delegation from Bhutan
- α Delegation from Taiwan

Prof. Goswami in his address congratulated the faculty, staff and student member for taking the Institute among top 100 world universities – under 50 years of age – in 2014, the only institute from India, and also for being ranked 5th among a total of 700 engineering institutes in the national ranking in 2015. Prof. Goswami also applauded about the steps taken by the Institute being a part of programmes like ISHAN VIKASH, Rāshtriya Avishkā Abhiyan and Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. Prof. Goswami in his address urged students to be socially committed and transform their knowledge into action for development and also to chalk out a workable plan to solve the problems of the northeast.

Dr. Rajiv I. Modi, Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT Guwahati opined that with changing times, leading institutes of the country would have to change to cater to the needs of the country and the industry. The curricula would have to be made more lively keeping in mind the interests of the nation and better industry-academia links would have to be established.

Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati, in his address apprised of the activities and achievements of the Institute during the past year with detailed reports ranging from academic activities to research and development, from physical infrastructure development to students activities and campus placement of students

Altogether 1265 students – 630 Bachelor of Technology (BTech) and Bachelor of Design (BDes), 22 Master of Arts (MA), 129 Master of Science (MSc), 356 Master of Technology (MTech) and Master of Design (MDes) and 128 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) – received their degrees at the Convocation. The winner of the President of India Gold Medal, the winner of Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal and all other medal winners were awarded medals by the Chairman, Board of Governors.

Vrinda Kochar of Computer Science and EngineeringDepartment was awarded the President of India Gold Medal for securing the highest Cumulative Performance Index (CPI) among all the graduating BTech and BDes students. Bhavin Mandalaywala of Mechanical Engineering Department was awarded the Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal. This medal is awarded to a graduating student adjudged to be the best in terms of general proficiency including character, conduct, and excellence in academic performance, extra-curricular activities, and social service. Fourteen students were awarded the Institute Silver Medal for securing the highest CPI in their respective departments of BTech, BDes and MSc programmes.

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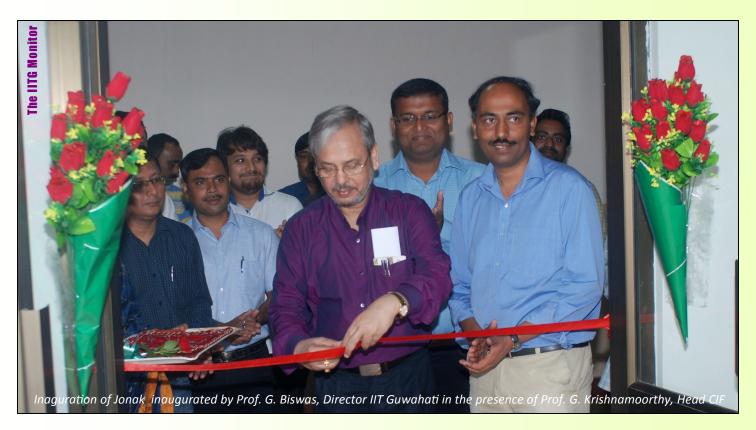
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Central Instruments Facility (CIF) achieved some important milestone this year, two important facilities of CIF, **Jonak** and **Regoni** were inaugurated by the director, IIT Guwahati on 1st June 2016.

Jonak

Jonak, this satellite data transfer facility is created as a part of green initiative by CIF. Through this the users can transfer the data from any instrument of CIF (except 400 MHz NMR) and Rengoni (Data Transfer Facility) of CIF to anywhere in the campus. Jonak means Moon-Shine. Every faculty was given a login and password. This facility allows the users to access and download only their data from any location in the campus like one gets light from the moon shine. Like moon reflects the sun's light, this facility helps the users to obtain the data generated from the CIF instruments in their systems. Thus, it is named as Jonak

Rengoni

Data analysis facility is named as *Rengoni*, a ray of light. This facility helps the users to analyze the data from different instruments of Central Instruments Facility, like a ray of light helps one to visualize/analyze this world. *Rengoni* is connected to *Jonak*, the data transfer facility. So one can obtain the data through *Jonak* and analyze them in *Rengoni*. After analysis the data can be downloaded from anywhere in the campus using *Jonak*. At present, *Rengoni* has the following Data Analysis Software:

- # Mestrenova (NMR spectral data analysis)
- # Protein Scape (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # Bio Tools (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # Poly Tool (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # WARP-LC (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # FQSEE (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # Flex Analysis (MALDI Mass data analysis)
- # Microcal Analysis (ITC data analysis)
- # Gattan Digital Micrograph (TEM data analysis)
- # NETZSCH- TA4 (DSC/TG data analysis)

External Sample Collection: An amount equal to Rupees. 3 lakhs approximately have been collected as charges of external samples analysis for the period from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.

Conference/ Seminar Abroad

BSBE

Dr. Kusum Kumari Singh was on a Research visit to Institute of Genetics, University of Cologne, Germany from 15.05.16 to 07.07.16.

Prof. Rajaram Swaminathan attended the Gordon Research Conference on Intrinsically Disordered Proteins at Les Diablerets, Switzerland from 26.06.16 to 1.07.16.

Dr. Biman B. Mandal attended the TERMIS-EU 2016 to be held at Uppsala Concert and Congress (UKK), Uppsala, Sweden from 28.06.16 to 01.07.16.

Chemical

Dr. R. Prasanna Venkatesh visited South Korea To meet Prof. Jin-Goo Park for possible collaboration and for carrying out mechanical polishing and cleaning experiments at Hanyang University, Ansan, South Korea from 30.06.16 to 14.07.16

Chemistry

Dr. Dipankar Srimani attend the Humbodlt Programme at RWTH Aachen University, Germany from 07.04.16 to 06.08.16.

Dr. Kalyan Raidongia attended the International Conference GM – 2016 Graphene and Related Materials: Properties and applications at Savoy Beach Hotel, Paestum, Italy from 23.05.16 to 27.05.16.

Prof. Parameshwar K. Iyer attended the International Conference on Science and Technology of Synthetic Metals 2016 (ICSM-2016)a at Guangzhou, China from 26.06.16 to 01.07.16.

Civil

Dr. Ankit Garg attended the 19th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference (SEAGC 2015) at Kuala lumpur, Malaysia from 31.05.16 to 03.06.16.

Prof. Rajib Kumar Bhattacharjya visited France to carry out research work at ECN, Nantes, France from 02.06.16 to 01.07.16.

Dr. Ankit Garg visited China to attend a Seminar & explore research collaboration at the Harbin Institute of Technology, Shenzhen, China from 09.06.16 to 14.06.16.

Computer Science

Prof. Shivashankar B. Nair attended the International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multi Agents Systems(AAMAS 2016) at Singapore from 8.5.16 to 13.5.16.

Dr. R. Inkulu was at a research stay at Tufts University, USA from 20.05.2016 to 14.08.2016.

Dr. T. Venkatesh attended the IEEE International Conference on Communication (ICC) 2016 at Malaysia from 23.05.16 to 27.05.16.

Dr. Rajasekhar Inkulu attended the 32nd International Symposium on Computational Geometry (SoCG 2016) at Boston, MA, USA from 14.06.16 to 18.06.16.

Design

Mr. Mriganka Madhukalliya attended a workshop at China Academy of Art from 20.06.16 to 24.06.16.

Ms. Charu Monga attended the 2016 2nd International Conference on Culture, Language and Literature at Nanyang Institute of Technology, Singapore from 22.06.16 to 24.06.16.

Electronics

Dr. Gaurav Trivedi attended the 26th International Conference (RADIOELEKTRONIKA 2016) at Kosice, Slovakia from 19.04.16 to 20.04.16.

Humanities

Dr. Sukanya Sharma presented a paper at Society for American Archaeology 81st Annual Meeting at Orlando, Florida from 06.04.16 to 10.04.16.

Dr. Sawmya Ray attended the Domestic Abuse and Violence 2016, the violence project: 13th Global Meeting at Prague, Czech Republic from 05.05.16 to 07.05.16.

Prof. . Rohini Mokashi Punekar attended the "Violets in a Crucible"-Translating the Orient at University Grenobl-Alpes, Grenoble, France from 22.06.16 to 24.06.16

IITG Monitor ¶ Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati.

Prof. Arupjyoti Saikia attended the 2016 AAS in Asia Conference at Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan from 24.06.16 to 27.06.16.

Mathematics

Prof. Swaroop Nandan Bora attended the International Conference on Applied Mathematics at Hong Kong, SAR China from 30.05.16 to 02.06.16.

Prof S. Natesan attended the International Conference on Applied Mathematics at Hong Kong, SAR China from 30.05.16 to 02.06.16.

Physics

Prof. Saurabh Basu attended the International Conference on Strongly Correlated Electron System (SCES 2016) at Hangzhou, China from 08.05.16 to 13.05.16.

Prof. Poulose Poulose visited Switzerland for Collaborative Research work at the Theoretical Physics Division, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland from 15.05.16 to 31.05.16.

Prof. Poulose Poulose attended the EFCA – Linear Collider Workshop at Santander, Spain from 01.06.16 to 04.06.16.

Prof. Poulose Poulose visited Germany for Collaborative research work at the theory division of DESY, Hamburg, Germany from 05.06.16 to 10.06.16.

Dr. Debasish Borah attended a workshop on Exploring Energy Ladder of the Universe at Mainz, Germany from 30.05.16 to 10.06.16.

Dr. Debasish Borah attended a workshop on Why is there more matter than antimatter in the Universe at Munich, Germany from 13.06.16 to 24.06.16.

New Research Projects

BSBE

Title: Study on Caseinolytic proteases of Leptospira interrogans, a promising target for treating bacterial infec-

ion

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Manish Kumar

Title: Investigation to understand cell signalling in Noisy

Environment

Funding Agency: ICMR

Principal Investigator: Dr. Biplab Bose

Title: Production of bio oil hydrous of microalgae Chlo-

rella sp

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Gargi Goswami (Mentor: Dr.

Debasish Das)

Title: North East Silk Biomaterial Based Injectable Hydro-

gels for Drug Delivery and Tissue Engineering

Funding Agency: DBT

Principal Investigator: Dr. Biman B. Mandal

Title: Development of electrocatalytic aptamer-

nanosensor for bacterial exotoxin detection

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Pranjal Chandra

Title: Study of RhoA signaling in bone metastasis of breast

cancer

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Bithiah Grace Jaganathan

Chemical

Title: Studies on shear thickening suspensions for liquid

body armor-applications Funding Agency: DRDO

Principal Investigator: Dr. Anugrah Singh

Title: Experimental and Numerical Study on Upgradation

of Bio-oil using Catalytic Hydrodeoxygenation

Funding Agency: BRNS

Principal Investigator: Dr. Nanda Kishore

Title: Assessment of corrosion of the steel liner of the water conductor system of Kopili H.E. Plant and suggestion for selection of corrosion resistance system for the steel

liner including a model study
Funding Agency: NEEPCO

Principal Investigator: Dr. Chandan Das

Title: Formulation and Characterization of Slurry for Cop-

per Chemical Mechanical Polishing

Funding Agency: CSIR

Principal Investigator: Dr. R. Prasanna Venkatesh

Title: Cloning, Express
Analysis of Therapeuticharides from Pedobac
Funding Agency: CSIR
Principal Investigator: Title: Cloning, Expression, Biochemical and in vitro Analysis of Therapeutic Chondroitin Lyase Oligosac-

charides from Pedobacter saltans

Principal Investigator: Dr. A. Goyal

Title: Peroxisomes and inter-organelle communica-

tion in a cell

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Shirisha Nagotu

Title: Direct reprogramming of human fibroblasts to

functional cardiomyocytes for cell therapy

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rajkumar P. Thummer

Title: To investigate how Apoptosis and Splicing-Associated Protein (ASAP) complex interface with splinc-

ing and connects Exon Junction Complex EJC)

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kusum Kumari Singh

Title: Design and fabrication of an integrated optofluidic device for solar irradiated water-splitting using bio-

synthesized metal/TiO2 photocatalysts

Funding Agency: DST

Principal Investigator: Dr. Nageswara Rao Peela

Title: Integrated biorefinery approach towards production of sustainable fuel and chemicals from Algal bi-

obased systems Funding Agency: DBT

Principal Investigator: Dr. V.V. Goud

Chemistry

Title: Asymmetric synthesis of five membered heterocy-

cles using chiral epoxide and azirdines

Funding Agency: CSIR

Principal Investigator: Dr. T. Punniyamurthy

Title: N-Heterocyclic Nitrenium Based Pincer Ligand and their Transition Metal Complexes: Exploring Potential

Catalytic Application Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Dipankar Srimani

Computer Science

Title: Design and Development of opinion mining and sentiment analysis of Social Media Content to assess se-

curity threats

Funding Agency: DeitY

Principal Investigator: Dr. S. Ranbir Singh

Title: Estimation of petro-physical properties from seismic attributes and well logs using advanced artificial intelli-

gence

Funding Agency: ONGC

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rashmi Dutta Baruah

Design

Title: Design modification, prototyping and user testing of

a semi-automatic handloom

Funding Agency: DST

Principal Investigator: Dr. A.K. Das

Title: Design & Development of Software

Funding Agency: O/o the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup

Principal Investigator: Dr. Keyur Sorathia

EEE

Title: Feasibility study of wireless power transfer using

metamaterial

Funding Agency: MTRDC

Principal Investigator: Dr. Sisir Kumar Nayak

Mechanical

Title: Design and Development of proper bonding mechanism for individual AAC block units in wall system of a

structure

Funding Agency: DST

Principal Investigator: Dr. U.S. Dixit

Title: Development of a nonlinear finite element based

framework for elasto-plastic contact problems

Funding Agency: ISRO

Principal Investigator: Dr. Sachin Singh Gautam

Title: Feasibility Studies and Optimization of Electromagnetic Pulse Welding of Tubes for Nuclear Reactor Applica-

tion

Funding Agency: BRNS

Principal Investigator: Dr. Sachin D. Kore

Physics

Title: Exploring the Higgs Sector of Inert Doublet Model in

the Presence of Scalar Triplets

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Poulose Poulose

Title: Role of spin orbit coupling in spintronic devices:

Search for new topological state of matter

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Saurabh Basu

Title: Indigenous development of the differentiating Synthetic Natural Diamond (UAY)

Funding Agency: MHRD

Principal Investigator: D Title: Indigenous development of technology for differentiating Synthetic Lab grown Diamond from

Principal Investigator: Dr. Alika Khare

Title: Massive online open courses (MOOCs) compliant e-

creation

Funding Agency: MHRD

Principal Investigator: HoC, CET

Title: Teachers Training Camps (TTC) under RMSA-Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan for Physics, Chemistry and

Mathematics

Funding Agency: Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhijan,

Assam

Principal Investigator: HoC, CET

Title: Strengthening Implementation Arrangements in

(TEQIP) Phase-III Funding Agency: NPIU

Principal Investigator: HoC, CET

Title: Global Initiative on Academic Network (GIAN) pro-

gramme

Funding Agency: MHRD

Principal Investigator: HoC, CET

Energy

Title: Development of renewable energy technology pack-

age for clean power generation in remote utility

Funding Agency: SERB

Principal Investigator: Dr. Pankaj Kalita

Title: Microalgae for sustainable fuel and food technology: coupling photovoltaic airlift photobioreactor (PAPB) and energy sfficient electrochemical harvesting (EEECH)

technology

Funding Agency: BCIL

Principal Investigator: Dr. Debasish Das

Title: Development of sustainable cost effective process for the removal of Nitrogen and Phosphorous from wastewater using microalgae coupled with carbon se-

questration

Funding Agency: CSIR

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kaustubha Mohanty

Title: Pilot scale study for biodiesel production using waste rubber seeds as raw material (Uchchtar Avishkar

Yojana)

Funding Agency: MHRD

Principal Investigator: Dr. V.V. Goud

Environment

Title: Whole genome sequencing and functional genomics

of golden silk moth Antheraea assamensis

Funding Agency: Central Silk Board Principal Investigator: Dr. Utpal Bora

Nanotechnology

Title: Novel nanocluster based targeted antican-

certheranostics

Funding Agency: DBT

Principal Investigator: Dr. S.S. Ghosh

New Joinings



Dr. Ayon Ganguly **Assistant Professor** Mathematics

Dr. Sweta Tiwari **Assistant Professor** Mathematics



8

THREE DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "RECENT ADVANCEMENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH" (RAER 2016)

Centre for the Environment, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati organized a two day national conference on "Recent Advancements in Environmental Research" during 4-5 June, 2016. The main objective of the conference was to discuss and spread awareness about the challenges and opportunities in environmental issues in recent times such as, environment pollution and remediation, climate change: impact and management, wastewater treatment, solid waste management, green chemical technology and environmental health and toxicology. Thematic experts from different parts of the country, along with young researchers, participated to present their work in the conference. At the very onset, convener of the conference Dr. Deepmoni Deka welcomed all the delegates and briefed about the objective of the conference. Chairman of the conference, Prof. Vikash Kumar Dubey gave the welcome address on current research trends in environment. Chief guest Prof. Sirshendu De of Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Kharagpur inaugurated the conference and gave the plenary lecture on "Ultra low cost innovation for

arsenic removal from drinking water and hollow fibres for treatment of industrial wastewater".

The conference was organized into 5 technical sessions which included 12 invited lectures, 14 oral presentations and 60 poster sessions. Around 120 participants registered in the conference. A conference proceeding consisting of 86 abstracts was also published and circulated among all the participants. Eminent scientist from all over India - Prof. Dulal Chandra Goswami, Gauhati Univeristy; Dr. Naresh Kr. Sahoo, Siksha O Anusandhan University, Orissa; Dr. Ranjit Kumar, Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra; Dr. Sutapa Bose IISER, Kolkata; Dr. Sudip Mitra, Tezpur University; Prof. Suresh Deka of IASST Ghy; Dr. SimantaKalita, Centre for Environment Education North East; Mr. A.B. Paul, Chief Engineer (Rtd) PHE Assam were some of the notable speakers in this conference.

The co-convener of the conference Mr. Partha Protim Bakal summarized the meeting with the formal "vote of thanks" to all the dignitaries, participants





and the people associated (Prof. Gopal das; Prof. Chandan Mahanta; Prof. Kanan Pakshirajan; Prof. Utpal Bora; Prof. Mihir Kr. Purkait; Dr. Ajay Kalamdhad; Dr. Lal Mohan Kundu; Dr. Pahi Saikia; Dr. NK Prasanna; Rajiv Gogoi and Tarini-kakati) in the success of the event. The conference ended with the award of certificate and cash prize to best two oral and poster presentations. In a nutshell, this two day national conference was a grand success providing a platform for interaction with fellow researchers on environment based research.



Prof. Vijay K. Dhir is the main resource person for the GIAN Course on "Boiling Heat Transfer". The course started at IIT Guwahati from May 23, 2016. The above moment was captured during the inaugural programme in the presence of Indian collaborators, Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director, IITG, Dr. Amaresh Dalal (ME), , Prof. Guru Prem Prasad, Dean of Academic Affairs and Prof. Sunil Khijwania, Head, CET.

Prof. Dhir received the Max Jakob Memorial Award of ASME and AIChE the highest award for a scientist in the area of Heat and Mass Transfer, in the year 2004.

Since 1999 a team of researchers led by Dhir has been taking part in a NASA research programme to examine the effects of microgravity on boiling. The activity culminated with an experiment aboard the International Space Station. In the year 2006, Prof. Dhir was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Engineering – among the highest honors awarded to engineers – for his work in boiling heat transfer and nuclear reactor thermal hydraulics and safety.

Prof. Dhir was the Dean of Engineering at Henry Samueli School of Engineering of University of California Los Angeles from 2003 to 2015. UCLA entered into the league of Top-10 in the US during his tenure.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WASTE MANAGEMENT RECYCLE - 2016

The International Conference on Waste Management "RECYCLE-2016" was organized bν WMRG (Waste Management Research Group) at IIT Guwahati during 1-2 April 2016. The Waste Man-

agement

Re-



search Group (WMRG) focuses on the treatment of solid waste using biological methods. The areas which have been pursued are: Composting and Vermicomposting of organic fractions of municipal solid waste, Agricultural wastes, Municipal and Industrial Bio solids; Anaerobic Digestion (Biogas generation) of food waste, Isolation and characterization of metal resistant microbes from compost.

One of the major environmental problems faced by India is Solid and Liquid Waste Management. India lacks appropriate strategies, methods for mobilization, necessary resources and necessary infrastructure for organized waste management. This conference provides a platform for researchers and engineers from academia, industry and utility to exchange their knowledge, expertise and experience and to deliberate on the challenges of Waste Management.

The main objective of "RECYCLE-2016" was 'To create an awareness on Waste Management and to come up with solutions for problems in it' and was inaugurated by Chief guest Prof. Amiya Kumar Sahu, our Guest of honor Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati and Prof. Subashisa Dutta IIT Guwahati respectively.

The conference featured major themes like themes Collection and Recycling of solid wastes, Integrated waste management and climate change, Treatment and disposal of solid waste, E-Waste and medical waste management, Composting and Anaerobic digestion, Air, water and wastewater Treatment, Agricultural waste utilization, Waste to energy and Any other issue in solid waste management persons in the area of power systems. There were about 300 delegates (India and Outside India) from academia, industries, utilities and R&D organisations who have attended the conference and shared their knowledge by Poster presentations and Paper presentations.

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Eminent scientists viz. Prof. G. Krishnaoorthy (San Diego State University, USA), Prof. Babu Alappat (IIT Delhi), Prof. M N Rao (Emeritus Professor, JNTU), Prof. Ranjith Dissnayake (University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka) spoke to the students and shared their research knowledge. The convener of conference was Dr. Ajay Kalamdhad, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering.

On the last day of Conference various award had been distributed for Best Poster Presentation as well as Best Paper Presentations. In the valedictory session, Dr. Ajay Kalamdhad informed that leading publishers would publish selected papers of the conference in the form of book chapters or journal papers.







VISIT OF THE DELEGATION FROM THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC STUDIES BHUTAN



Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati interacting with the delegation from the Royal Institute of Governance & Strategic Studies (RGISS), Bhutan on 15 April 2016. The delegation, representing the Government of Bhutan visited IIT Guwahati to explore possibilities of academic and research collaborations and learn about infrastructural facilities in a top-tier Technological Institute like IITG

VISIT OF THE DELEGATION FROM THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CENTRE



Director IIT Guwahati Prof. Gautam Biswas, Prof. S. Kakoti, Dean, IPM, Prof. R. M. Punekar, Dean, AER, Prof. R. Chaturvedi, Associate Dean, AER and Mr. A. W. Shynret, AR, AER with delegation from Science & Technology Division, Taipei, Economic and Cultural Center on 22 April 2016. The delegation expressed a keen desire to expand the academic and research collaborations that IIT Guwahati has with Institutes in Taiwan.

THE IITG MONITOR, the quarterly Newsletter of Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati is published by the Peer Review and Institutional Ranking office, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati 781039. Materials for Publication in the Newsletter may be sent to the Peer Review and Institutional Ranking office by 15th of every month (Email: peeroff@iitg.ernet.in, Phone +91-361-2584000).