



An Interaction Programme with
**European Union Delegation on Opportunities of Collaboration in
Research & Innovation**

(April 4, 2019)

Organised by
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Rajiv Gandhi University
Arunachal Pradesh

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Rajiv Gandhi University organized an interaction programme with a visiting delegation of European research & Innovation Officials representing European Union (EU) on 4th April, 2019 at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) to explore opportunities of collaboration in areas of research and innovation.

The EU delegation comprised of Tania Friederichs (First Counsellor & Head of Research & Innovation, Delegation of EU to India, New Delhi), Dr Vivek Dham (Advisor, Research & Innovation, Delegation of EU to India, New Delhi), Inger Midtkandal (Science & Technology Counsellor, Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi), Dr Srinivas Kaveri (Director, CNRS, India), Alain Ghislain Baetens (First Secretary, Embassy of Belgium, New Delhi), Dr Massimo Spandoni (Scientific Attache, Embassy of Italy, New Delhi) and Dr Jakob Williams Oerberg (Counsellor for Research, Royal Danish Embassy, New Delhi).

During the interaction programme with the delegation, Vice Chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha said, “RGU has been striving to serve its mandate of providing access to higher education as well as contributing to research in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh.” Expressing his gratitude to the EU delegation for its initiative to reach out to RGU, Prof Kushwaha said the university and its entire fraternity were “enthused at the possibilities of affiliation and collaboration.” He congratulated the university’s departments for working together to formalize the presentations that were made by the university. Kick-starting the series of presentations, IQAC Director Prof Amitava Mitra outlined the university’s history and spoke about its mandate, which he said was “not only to educate and train manpower for the development of Arunachal Pradesh but also to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people of the state, their intellectual, academic and cultural development.” Terming the visit of the EU delegation very significant, he expressed hope “for a new era of fruitful academic cooperation.” Marking the start of a

series of presentations on 'EU MS/AC-India research-funding programme' by the visiting team, the delegation's head, Tania Friedrichs, said research and innovation cooperation are an integral part of the EU's relations with India, and urged the university to engage more with the instruments of research that the EU offers. Describing the visit as "the beginning of a long-term engagement," she said the EU has an implementing arrangement with India that includes scholar mobility programmes, individual fellowships, and bilateral and multilateral collaborations. Other presenters of the delegation, from Belgium, France, Italy, Denmark and Norway, spoke about their respective country's perspective on the thrust areas of possible funding and collaborations. Concurring with RGU's mandate and its respect for biological and cultural diversity, besides the need for sustainable development and the idea that change elements must benefit all sections of society, the members of the delegation expressed their support towards "activating instruments to internationalize future research and innovation initiatives." The members also emphasized on the need for a mix of stakeholders in the research initiatives, and suggested having a multidisciplinary approach in conceptualizing the proposals, where the focus could be on new technologies and also on how they impact society. Earlier, RGU Life Sciences Dean Prof RK Singh made a presentation on the unique biodiversity of Arunachal. He also highlighted the university's potential as a major research partner that the EU could collaborate with. Prof Jumyir Basar from the Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies in her presentation spoke about how RGU has been upholding its mandate to engage with the communities of the state and the issues confronting them. She also enumerated the research areas that the EU and RGU could collaborate on.



Prof. Saket Kushwaha delivering the Welcome Address



Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor sharing his views in the programme



Prof. Amitava Mitra, Director, IQAC presenting the profile of RGU



Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor felicitating Ms. Tania Friederichs (First Counsellor & Head of Research & Innovation, Delegation of EU to India, New Delhi)



Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor felicitating Ms. Inger Midtkandal (Science & Technology Counsellor, Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi)



Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor felicitating Mr. Alain Ghislain Baetens (First Secretary, Embassy of Belgium, New Delhi)



Prof. Rajiv Kumar Singh, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences presenting the university's potential as a major research partner that the EU could collaborate in science and technology



Prof. Jummyr Basar, professor in Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies (AITS) presenting the prospects of research collaboration with EU member states in social sciences, humanities, commerce & management



Ms. Tania Friederichs (Head of the delegation) presenting the overview of EU Horizon 2020 programmes



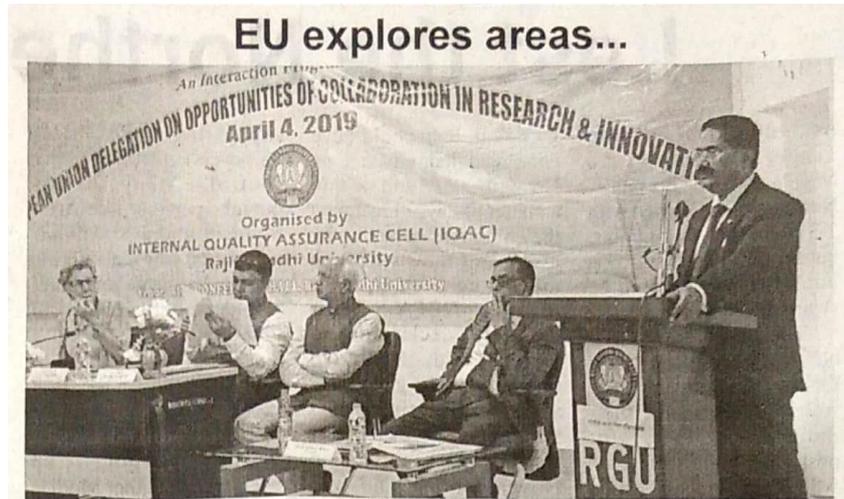
Ms. Inger Midtkandal (Science & Technology Counsellor, Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi) informing the gathering about the possible areas of collaboration with Norwegian Universities/Institutes



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EU explores areas of collaboration with RGU, NERIST

RONO HILLS, Mar 4: A delegation from the European Union (EU) on Thursday visited Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) here to explore opportunities of collaboration in areas of research and innovation. (Contd. on P-6)



(From P-1) During an interaction programme with the delegation, organized by the university's Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), RGU Vice Chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha said, "RGU has been striving to serve its mandate of providing access to higher education as well as contributing to research in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh."

Expressing his gratitude to the EU delegation for its initiative to reach out to RGU, Prof Kushwaha said the university and its entire fraternity were "enthused at the possibilities of affiliation and collaboration."

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Marking the start of a series of presentations on 'EU MS/AC-India research-funding programme' by the visiting team, the delegation's head, Tania Friedrichs, said research and innovation cooperation are an integral part of the EU's relations with India, and urged the university to engage more with the instruments of research that the EU offers.

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Delegation from European Union Explores Areas of Collaboration in Research & Innovation at RGU

Home » Arunachal Pradesh » Delegation from European Union Explores Areas of Collaboration in Research & Innovation at RGU



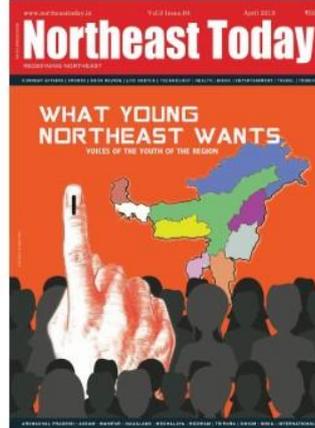
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NET Bureau

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EU delegation at RGU on Thursday.

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EU Explores Areas Of Collaboration With RGU

By From Our Correspondent — On Apr 4, 2019



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