



>>> ENDEAVOUR <<<

(A Half Yearly Newsletter of Extension Education Institute – NE Region)

An ISO 9001:2015 certified Institute



Message from the Vice-Chancellor ...



I am happy to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Extension Education Institute–North Eastern Region, for the publication of their Half Yearly Newsletter for January to June 2024. This newsletter is a mirror to reflect the institute's unwavering dedication to advancing agricultural education and extension in the North Eastern Region.

The various training programs and workshops highlighted in this newsletter, such as the "Training on New Dimension of Agricultural Extension," as well as the "Workshop on Soft Skills for Interpersonal Effectiveness of Extension Personnel," and the "Training on Urban Agriculture," among others, showcase the institute's commitment to equipping our extension personnel with the latest knowledge and skills in their relevant fields.

The institute's recognition with the prestigious ISO (9001: 2015) certification is a testament to its excellence and quality management. This achievement, along with the numerous successful events, such as the



Environmental Day and International Yoga Day celebrations, reflects the institute's holistic approach to development.

I extend my best wishes to Director EEI (NER) and his team for their relentless effort and look forward to witnessing the positive impact of their initiatives on the agricultural landscape of the North Eastern Region in coming days.

Bidyut C Deka



From Director's Desk...



It is indeed a matter of pride and happiness for me to publish this first Newsletter of EEI (NER) Khanapara, Guwahati for the period Jan 2024 to June 2024 to our esteemed readers. This edition gives a bird's eye view of the achievements, events and happenings of this Institute. During this period EEI organized 9 training programs, 1 Regional Workshop on Training Planning for EEI and SAMETIs of NER, 1 Farmers Exposure Visit to EEI NE Region, Guwahati, AAU, also input Distribution of Action Research project. The 31st Management Committee Meeting was successfully held in 24th April 2024. The staffs of the Institute bade Farewell to the Former Director Dr. P. K. Neog on 29th Feb. Subsequently, Undersigned took the responsibility as New Director of this Institute in April 2024. During this period EEI got recognition from Quality Management Certification Agency ISO (9001:2015). The Institute proudly celebrated the World Environment Day (5th June) and the International Day of Yoga (21 June) with a large number of participants.

Since its establishment in the year 1987 at AAU Jorhat Campus, EEI (NER) has left no stone unturned for the Development of Agriculture and allied sector through Capacity Development Programmes for Officers of NE States and West Bengal.

As we all know that like other fields of science agricultural technology is also changing at a fast pace globally to face the emerging challenges of climate change, Market Demands and Agro ecology. Hence the priority has been shifted to impart high quality Need based Training and other Capacity Development



Programmes supplemented with the latest infrastructure, which will facilitate to exploit future opportunities. EEI (NER) is also very much concerned for this, and accordingly taking care of guiding all Directorates of Agriculture, Veterinary, Fisheries etc. SAMETIs of NE States and West Bengal so that all officials are technologically updated to help the farm families finally.

We sincerely acknowledge the timely support and Cooperation received from MOA&FW GOI for executing our Programmes smoothly. At the same time, we are also grateful to the Hon'ble VC AAU Jorhat Dr. Bidyut C. Deka for his constant guidance for achieving the desired goals of the Institute.

We are grateful to all the readers for their constant support and suggestions in EEI activities and progress, while looking forward to continuing our mission of building organizational capacities and individual competencies in the domain of agricultural research, education and management.

R. Bordoloi



Training on New Dimension of Agricultural Extension: Approaches, Methods and tools at SAMETI, Mizoram

A training programme on “New Dimension of Agricultural Extension: Approaches, Methods and tools” was organized by EEI (NE Region) in the collaboration with SAMETI, Mizoram during January 03-06, 2024 at SAMETI, Mizoram. The topics discussed during different session of the training



programme were: Need and Importance of Agricultural Extension Management, Agricultural Innovation System, Self-reliance in agriculture- need to promote Entrepreneurship in Mizoram, Enlist the merits and demerits of the present Extension System in NE Region, Scope of Digital Marketing and Online Transaction, Significance of FPOs/FPCs and its growing importance, Orientation on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Methodologies for Extension Functionaries etc. Total 27 participants participated in the training programme.

Four days workshop on Soft Skills for Interpersonal Effectiveness of Extension Personnel at SAMETI, Nagaland



Soft skills are the cluster of personality traits, social graces, communication skills, personal habits, friendliness and optimism that mark people to varying degrees. Soft skills enable individuals to effectively utilize hard skills (technical competence) in doing job effectively. Organizations become effective as soft skills enable the staff to deal with clients / customers better Hence, Soft skills are increasingly treated by managers / employers as essential requirement of personnel. During January 22-25, 2024 a training programme on “Soft Skills for Interpersonal Effectiveness of Extension Personnel” was organized by EEI-NER in collaboration with SAMETI, Nagaland. The topic of discussion during those four days training were: Orientation on Soft Skills, Practical tips on Professional Communication, Up-scaling Communication Skills, Presentation Skills for Effective Communication, Interpersonal Effectiveness:



Principles and Practices, Critical aspects relating to delegation, etc. A total of thirty (30) participants participated in the programme.

Five days on campus training Production and Marketing of Bio Inputs through Entrepreneurship Development at Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat

Organic farming is a holistic production management system which promote and enhances agro-ecosystem, health including biodiversity, biological cycle and soil biological activities. Organic farming improves the bulk density of soil up to a layer of 25 cm and reduces resistance to penetration, supplement nitrogen up to 50% of the nitrogen requirement of the crop. Bio control measures keep food free from pesticides residues and do not pollute the soil and water. Looking into hazards of chemical residues, people prefer organically produced crop than that of inorganically produced. Keeping this in view, a training was conducted at EEI (NE Region) during January 18–22, 2024 on “Production and Marketing of Bio Inputs through Entrepreneurship Development” in collaboration with Directorate of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat. Total twenty-nine (29) Extension Functionaries were participated in the training programme from 9 North Eastern States.

Regional Workshop on Training Planning for EEI and SAMETIs of NER held at Itanagar

The Regional Workshop on Training Planning for EEI and SAMETIs of NER was held successfully organized at Itanagar, Arunachal



Pradesh from February 8 to 9, 2024 which was attended by about 100 officers from 7 states in North East. Dr. Sajith Kr. Kunhalath, Director of Extension, MoA&FW, GOI, New Delhi was present along with Dr. P.K. Neog, Director, EEI–NER, AAU, Guwahati and Dr. R.K Saud, Assoc. Director of Extension Education, AAU, Jorhat besides K. Riram Director, Agriculture, Arunachal Pradesh, N. Lobsang, Director, Horticulture, , Arunachal Pradesh in the workshop. Dr. PP Rao, Director, NERFMTTI, Biswanath Chariali was the resource person exhorting on Farm Mechanization. Dr. M. Ghosh, Director, SAMETI, West Bengal, Dr. W. Jamir, Director, SAMETI, Nagaland, M. L. Suiam , Director, SAMETI, Meghalaya were amongst distinguished guest present. Dr. S. Borua presented the performance report of EEI and Dr. C. Deka presented Academic Calender of EEI. A farmers cultural programme inaugurated by Pabitra Kr. Sarma, President Xangaskritik Xangha, Guwahati in which folk culture and





traditional art forms were showcased and represented.

Organization of Training on Urban Agriculture: Prospects and Advanced practices

A training programme on “Urban Agriculture: Prospects and Advanced practices” was organised by EEI (NE Region) during February 13–17, 2024 at EEI conference room, Khanapara, Guwahati. The topics discussed



during different session of the training programme were: Urban and Peri urban Agriculture: Its need and Importance, Rooftop Gardening in Urban areas– Need and Precautions, Cultivation and Management of Vegetables in Rooftop Gardening, Merits of Urban Agriculture and Its Benefits, Growing fruits in Rooftop and Urban areas, Growing



seasonal flowers in Rooftop Gardening, Estimate the cost of establishing a Roof Top Garden (In a medium size terrace), Low-cost water management in Crops on Rooftop, Plant Protection in Urban farms, INM and Composting for Urban Agriculture, Urban Aquaculture, Mushroom Cultivation in Urban Agriculture and Government Scheme etc. Total 29 participants participated in the training programme.

EEI NE Region Guwahati Distributes Inputs Under Action Research Initiative

EEI NE Region Guwahati successfully conducted input distribution events under its ongoing action research initiative on 15th February and 22nd May, 2024. This significant step aims to empower local farmers and researchers with the necessary resources to implement innovative agricultural practices and enhance productivity. The event, held at Jorhat District, Rhi Bhoi, District of Meghalaya and Baksha District of Assam was attended by a diverse group of stakeholders including farmers, faculty members, and representatives from Farmer Producer Organization. The action research initiative focuses on specific goals



aiming to motivate the farmers towards adoption of small livestock and poultry as a livelihood security and draw lessons and to popularize improved breed of small livestock





and poultry for higher income generation. The distributed inputs like poultry birds, piglets and goat, selected based on the specific needs identified during the preliminary research phase. The action research initiative will continue to monitor and evaluate the impact of these inputs, gathering data to inform future projects and improve agricultural practices.



Five days on campus training on Small Livestock Management Techniques for NE Region at ADEE, Veterinary, Khanapara

Extension methods and techniques for Livestock Development help in increasing farmer's knowledge and skills in cattle breeding, nutrition, animal health and marketing. It will help to learn how to plan and

facilitate cattle production courses for producers using adult learning and teaching principles, accessing sound research and developing industry partnerships. Therefore, there is a need to scale out the best practices of extension and capacity building methods for livestock production in north east. Keeping this in view, A training on "Small Livestock Management Techniques for NE Region" was conducted by EEI (NE Region) in collaboration with ADEE, Veterinary, Khanapara during February 19–23, 2024. Total 22 Extension Functionaries were participated in the training programme.

Workshop on Participatory Rural Appraisal Methods and Techniques at T-SAMETI, Tripura

A workshop programme on "Participatory Rural Appraisal-Methods and Techniques" was organized by EEI (NE Region) in collaboration with T-SAMETI, Tripura during February 20–23, 2024 at SAMETI, Tripura. The topics discussed during different session of the training programme were: Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA): Steps in Participatory approach, Concept and basic principles of PRA, PRA Techniques: Participatory Mapping, its purposes, planning and procedure of drawing Participatory Mapping, Advantages and Disadvantages of PRA, Transact Walk: Concept



and important consideration for conducting Transact Walk, Concept, purposes and procedure of conducting Seasonality / Seasonal Calendar and Matrix ranking, Concept, purposes and procedure of conducting Activity Profile and Venn Diagram and Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation etc. Total 28 participants participated in the training programme



EEI bids Farewell to Former Director at Grand Celebration

In a heartfelt and grand celebration, EEI (NE Region) Khanapara family gathered on 29th February, 2024 to bid farewell to their esteemed Director, Dr. Pradip Kr. Neog. The



event, held in the institute's conference room, was attended by faculty, staff and distinguished guests, all eager to honor Former Director Dr. Pradip Kr. Neog's remarkable contributions and

leadership over the past years.

The event began with a warm welcome from the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. Bidyut C Deka, who highlighted Dr. Pradip Kr. Neog's achievements and dedication to the institute. During his tenure, the institute saw significant advancements in research and infrastructure development, and establishing a reputation for excellence in the field of extension.

The celebration also featured cultural performances by faculty, staff showcasing the



diverse talents within the institute.

The farewell celebration was a fitting tribute to a visionary leader whose dedication has left an indelible mark on the institute. As Dr. Pradip Kr. Neog embarks on the next chapter of his journey, the entire EEI (NE Region) Khanapara extends their heartfelt gratitude and best wishes.

Training on Post-Harvest Management and Value addition of Horticultural crops at SAMETI, Sikkim

Income of rural consumer depends upon the efficiency of marketing of agricultural produce irrespective of the technology adopted in production. Any technology Innovation should go hand in hand with efficient marketing. Keeping this in view, a 4 days'





training on “Post-harvest management and value addition of horticultural crops” was conducted at EEI- NER in collaboration with SAMETI, Sikkim during March 05-08, 2024. Total 32 (Thirty-Two) Extension Functionaries were participated in the training programme. Faculty members of EEI (NE Region) conducted different sessions. Importance and Benefits of Post-harvest Management of Horticultural Commodities, Methods of Processing Fruits and Vegetables, Importance of packaging in shelf-life extension of horticultural commodities, Post-harvest pathology of horticultural Commodities etc. were discussed during the programme.



EEI welcomes Dr. R. Bordoloi as New Director

EEI NE Region Guwahati celebrated the arrival of new Director, Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, with a welcoming meeting held on 2nd April, 2024. The meeting, attended by faculty, and

staff marked the beginning of a new chapter for the institute under Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi 's leadership. The meeting began with an opening address by Dr. Sajib Borua senior faculty of the institute who highlighted Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi 's impressive background and contributions to



relevant field. In his keynote speech, Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi expressed enthusiasm for his new role. “I am deeply honored to join EEI NE Region Guwahati and to work alongwith such a dedicated and talented team. Together, we will strive to achieve new milestones and foster an environment of innovation, collaboration, and excellence,” said Dr. Bordoloi. The EEI NE Region family is eager to support Dr. Bordoloi in their vision for the institute and is confident that his leadership will guide EEI NE Region Guwahati to new heights.



EEI NE Region Guwahati achieves ISO Certification

EEI NE Region Guwahati is proud to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious ISO certification, a testament to its commitment to excellence and quality management. This milestone reflects the institute's dedication to maintaining high standards in its operations, training, and action research activities. Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, the Director of EEI NE Region Guwahati, expressed immense pride in this achievement. "Receiving the ISO certification is a significant



accomplishment for the Institute Name. The EEI NE Region Guwahati family celebrates this accomplishment and remains committed to upholding the standards set forth by the ISO certification, ensuring that quality and excellence remain at the forefront of its mission.

31st Management Committee Meeting of the Institute held

31st Management Committee of the EEI NE Region Guwahati was convened on 24th



2024 aimed at discussing and shaping the strategic goals for the upcoming fiscal year. The meeting, held at EEI NE Region's conference room, brought together distinguished members, including honorable Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat as chairman along with Registrar, Comptroller all the Directors of SAMETIs of NE Region including West Bengal, Director of ATARI zone VII. The primary agenda of the meeting focused on reviewing the progress of ongoing work, evaluating the institute's performance and setting new targets to ensure continuous growth and excellence. Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi Director of EEI NE Region Guwahati, expressed optimism about the





institute's future. This meeting has provided a clear roadmap to achieve desired goals.

Students from Tezpur University Visit EEI for Educational Tour

A group of enthusiastic Mass Communication students from Tezpur University recently visited EEI NE Region Guwahati on 5th May, 2024 as part of an educational tour aimed at enhancing their understanding of science & communication. The highlight of the visit was an interactive session with Dr. R. Bordoloi Director EEI and his team. The session covered various aspects of the media industry, from emerging trends to the ethical considerations of media practice. Students engaged in lively discussions, posing questions about the challenges and opportunities in the field of mass communication. The visit concluded with a group reflection session, where students shared their key takeaways and expressed gratitude for the learning experience. Faculty



members from Tezpur University also commended the institute for its hospitality and the valuable insights provided to the students.



Farmers Exposure Visit to EEI NE Region, Guwahati, AAU

A group of 30 farmers from Manipur embarked on an informative and enriching exposure visit to EEI NE Region, Guwahati, AAU on 30th May, 2024. The initiative, aimed at fostering skill development and knowledge sharing, provided the farmers with a unique opportunity to observe and learn about advanced agricultural practices and innovative technologies. The visit began with a welcome session where the farmers were introduced to the institute's mission and the various programs it offers. Dr. R. Bordoloi, Director, of the institute, emphasized the importance of continuous learning and adaptation in agriculture to ensure sustainability and



profitability. Dr. S. Borua, Dr. C. Deka, Mrs. M. Dutta, Dr. D. Saikia and Mr. K. Saikia faculty at the institute, led a detailed session on entrepreneurship development, leadership management, Preparation of business plan, Financial Management and Digital Marketing. The farmers showed great interest, asking



numerous questions and discussing the potential of adopting these concepts in their own fields.

with enthusiasm by faculty, and staff, who participated aimed at promoting ecological balance and sustainability.

The day's events commenced with a tree planting ceremony on the institute's grounds in collaboration with Directorate of Open Distance Learning Centre. Led by the Institute's Director, Dr. Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, participants planted a variety of native species. Dr. Bordoloi



emphasized the importance of reforestation in combating climate change and preserving biodiversity. "Planting trees is one of the simplest yet most effective ways to contribute to a healthier planet.

Following the tree planting, a meeting was held to educate about various environmental issues and sustainable practices. Topics included waste management, renewable energy, water conservation, and the importance of biodiversity.

EEI (NER) Celebrates Environmental Day

The Institute celebrated World Environment Day on 5th June, 2024 with a series of impactful events and activities, reinforcing its commitment to environmental sustainability and awareness. The theme for this year's



celebration, "Restore Our Earth," was embraced

EEI (NER) Celebrates International Yoga Day with Enthusiasm and Unity

The Institute marked International Yoga Day on 21 June, 2024 with an inspiring celebration, bringing together faculty, and staff icated to wellness, unity, and the holistic benefits of yoga. Held on the institute's confab lab room, the event saw enthusiastic participation from the entire community.

The festivities began early in the





morning with a yoga session led by yoga instructor, Mrs. Rupa Bordoloi. Participants, ranging from beginners to experienced practitioners, engaged in various asanas (poses) and pranayama (breathing exercises), emphasizing the theme of this year's Yoga Day: "Yoga for Self and Society. Mrs. Rupa Bordoloi the attendees through a series of postures designed to enhance flexibility, strength, and relaxation.

The event continued with an address from the Institute's Director, Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, who highlighted the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life. "Yoga is not just a form of exercise; it is a pathway to achieving mental clarity, emotional stability, and physical health.



EEI-NER, AAU, Khanapara Hosts Training on Millet-Based Integrated Farming

The Extension Education Institute–North Eastern Region (EEI–NER) at Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Khanapara, launched a five-day on-campus training program on June 11, 2024, focusing on the "Millet-Based Integrated Farming System: Approaches and Models for the NE Region of India." The program was inaugurated by Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director of EEI–NER.



The training aims to educate farmers, agricultural professionals, and researchers on advanced millet-based farming techniques. Dr. Bordoloi highlighted millet's nutritional benefits and its potential for sustainable agriculture in the NE region. "This program will provide participants with the knowledge and skills to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability," he stated.

The curriculum includes sessions on millet variety selection, soil health, pest control, water-efficient farming, and integrating millets





with other crops. Participants will benefit from hands-on sessions, field visits, and expert-led workshops.

This initiative aligns with India's national goals of promoting millet cultivation and sustainable agriculture, especially significant in the wake of 2023 being declared the International Year of Millets.

The training, running until June 15, 2024, is set to impact the agricultural landscape of the NE region positively.

Four days workshop on Linking Farmers to Markets at SAMETI, West Bengal

A training programme on “Four days’ workshop on Linking Farmers to Markets at SAMETI, West Bengal” was organized by EEI (NE Region) in the collaboration with SAMETI, West



Bengal during June 25–28, 2024 at SAMETI, West Bengal. The topics discussed during different session of the training programme were: Basics of Market linkages with farmers,



Food safety and quality and traceability, Consumer demand and market trends in Agriculture, Wholesale, Retail, supermarket, and Hyper market Linkage, Aggregation models and producer organizations, Fair trade and marketing, Integrated value chain system, Agri logistics and supply chain management E-marketing and alternative marketing system, Business linkages through FPO, Agri-preneurship and Innovations in marketing, Farmers Linkage with Sufal Bangla Marketing System etc. Total 30 participants were participated in the training programme.



Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals and happiness

Thomas Jefferson

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