



ENDEAVOUR



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

An ISO 9001:2015 certified Institute

INSIDE THE NEWSLETTER



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Dear Esteemed Readers,



It is a pleasure for me to present the current issue of the EEI (NER) Newsletter highlighting important activities and accomplishments. During the period from Jan to June 2025, EEI-NER organized and collaborated more than two dozen training programmes and workshops, covering key focus areas such as

Climate-Resilient Agriculture, Digital Extension, e-Governance, Rooftop Gardening, Agri-entrepreneurship, and Natural Farming. These initiatives responded to the dynamic needs of extension personnel and rural stakeholders, with participants from all eight North Eastern states as well as West Bengal. The active collaboration with SAMETIs, AAU Directorates, ECHO India, NABARD, ICAR-ATARI, ICAR NAARM, KVKs of NE States and several reputed academic and research institutions significantly strengthened our outreach and effectiveness.

A notable achievement during this period was the successful conduct of the Regional Workshop on Strengthening Agricultural Extension, which brought together representatives from all NE states and central institutions to align regional extension strategies with national priorities. Similarly, the FPO–Startup Immersion Programme in association with ICAR-NAARM and NABARD showcased EEI's growing role in enabling market linkages and entrepreneurial ecosystems for FPOs and rural youth. We also prioritized thematic trainings on poultry value chains, horticultural nursery management, organic inputs promotion, and marketing skills, while promoting holistic learning through observances such as Republic Day, World Environment Day, Constitution Day and International Yoga Day. These activities reinforced our mission of building not just technical capabilities but also environmental and personal well-being as a responsible citizen. Through both on-campus and online platforms like ECHO, EEI-NER trained hundreds of extension professionals, rural youth, and farmer leaders. The diversity of topics from natural farming strategies to digital agriculture underscores our adaptability and forward-thinking approach to extension education.

EEI remains firmly committed to continue the mission for fostering sustainable, inclusive, and innovation-led agricultural development in the North Eastern Region. We extend heartfelt thanks to our all-associated partners, academicians, NGOs, and other stakeholders for their continued trust and collaboration with us for holistic development of the region. We seek your critical feedback and suggestions that enable us explore and embark on new footprints to promote excellence in agricultural research, education and innovation management. I thank you all for your continued interest in the endeavours of EEI (NER).

(R. Bordoloi)

EEI-NER conducted collaborative training on Recent Extension Approaches for Technology Transfer

Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Khanapara, in collaboration with SAMETI Assam, successfully organized a training programme on “Recent Extension Approaches for Transfer of Technology” from January 07 to 10, 2025. The programme aimed at strengthening the capacities of extension personnel by introducing them to innovative and effective methods of technology dissemination in agriculture and allied sectors. The four-day training brought together 29 participants, including officers from the Department of Agriculture and frontline extension workers from various districts of Assam. The programme featured expert-led sessions on participatory extension models, ICT-enabled tools for extension, climate-smart agricultural practices, and successful case studies demonstrating ground-level impact. Renowned experts

from agricultural universities and research institutions shared insights on farmer-led innovations, policy frameworks, and institutional mechanisms supporting technology transfer. The training also included hands-on activities, group discussions, and field visits, fostering interactive learning and peer-to-peer knowledge exchange. Emphasis was laid on developing demand-driven, location-specific, and community-oriented extension strategies that align with the evolving needs of farming communities, especially in the North Eastern Region. The participants expressed their appreciation for the comprehensive and practical nature of the training, which equipped them with new perspectives and tools to enhance their field-level interventions.



Republic Day Celebrated at EEI-NER (NE Region), Khanapara with Enthusiasm and Patriotic Spirit

Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Khanapara celebrated the 76th Republic Day with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm on its campus. The event began with the ceremonial hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by faculty, staff, and trainees present at the institute. On this solemn occasion, Dr. Sajib Borua, Faculty, EEI-NER, addressed the gathering with a motivational speech, reflecting on the significance of Republic Day and the values enshrined in the Constitution of India. He highlighted the role of democratic institutions and the contribution of the agricultural sector towards the progress of the nation, especially in the North Eastern Region. Dr. Borua also emphasized the importance of unity, integrity, and the collective responsibilities of citizens in shaping a vibrant and progressive India. His words served as an

inspiration to all attendees. Dr. Chittaranjan Deka extended his heartfelt support and appreciation for the Republic Day celebrations and commended Dr. Borua's thought-provoking address. He encouraged everyone to continue their dedication towards institutional goals and nation-building. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and a sense of pride and unity among all present.



ECHO Orientation Training programme conducted at EEI-NER

The Extension Education Institute (EEI-NER), in collaboration with ECHO India, successfully conducted a two-day training program on “ECHO Platform” from January 29 to 30, 2025. The program aimed to familiarize extension professionals, academicians, and agricultural stakeholders with the Eco Platform, a digital learning and knowledge-sharing system designed to enhance outreach and capacity-building in the agricultural sector. Experts from ECHO India led interactive sessions on utilizing the platform for real-time knowledge dissemination, virtual training, and collaborative learning. Key topics

covered included digital extension strategies, remote mentoring, and integrating technology into agricultural advisory services. Participants engaged in hands-on demonstrations, exploring the platform’s features for enhancing farmer-centric communication and training. The program concluded with a feedback session, where attendees emphasized the potential of the ECHO Platform in bridging the gap between researchers, extension officers, and farmers. Total 38 participants participated in the programme.



EEI-NER and AAU-ODL Centre Conducted Training on Rooftop Gardening



allowed participants to gain experience in seed selection, transplanting, and composting techniques. The training also emphasized the benefits of rooftop gardening for food security, climate resilience, and urban greening. Participants expressed appreciation for the initiative, highlighting its potential to enhance self-sufficiency, nutrition, and environmental sustainability in urban areas. Total 30 participants participated in the programme.

EEI-NER in collaboration with the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Centre of Assam Agricultural University (AAU), organized a five-day training program on “Rooftop Gardening” from February 3 to 7, 2025. The program aimed to equip participants with practical knowledge and skills to establish and maintain rooftop gardens, promoting urban agriculture and sustainable food production. Experts from AAU and EEI-NER covered topics such as container gardening, vertical farming, soil preparation, water management, and pest control. Hands-on sessions



EEI-NER conducted collaborative Training on Rooftop Gardening to Promote Urban Agriculture

Extension Education Institute (NER), in collaboration with the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Centre of Assam Agricultural University (AAU), organized a five-day training program on “Rooftop Gardening” from February 8 to 12, 2025. The program aimed to equip participants with practical knowledge and skills to establish and maintain rooftop gardens, promoting urban agriculture and sustainable food production. Experts from AAU and EEI-NER covered topics such as container gardening,

vertical farming, soil preparation, water management, and pest control. Hands-on sessions allowed participants to gain experience in seed selection, transplanting, and composting techniques. The training also emphasized the benefits of rooftop gardening for food security, climate resilience, and urban greening. Participants expressed appreciation for the initiative, highlighting its potential to enhance self-sufficiency, nutrition, and environmental sustainability in urban areas. Total 30 participants participated in the programme



Regional Workshop on Strengthening Agricultural Extension Held at EEI-NER, Guwahati

Extension Education Institute (NE Region), AAU, Khanapara successfully organized a two-day Regional Workshop from February 13–14, 2025 at the EEI-NER Conference Hall, Guwahati. The event brought together 53 senior officers from the Departments of Agriculture, ATMA, SAMETIs, AAU, and EEI-NER, representing all nine North Eastern states, to deliberate on strategies for strengthening agricultural extension systems in the region. The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Bidyut C. Deka, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, who underscored the need for innovation, technology adoption, and institutional collaboration to accelerate agricultural development in the NE region. The event was chaired by eminent dignitaries including Mr. Arabinda Debbarma (Director, SAMETI, Tripura), Mr. Sumar Kharlukhi (Director, MAMETI, Meghalaya), Mrs. Watimongla Jamir (Director, SAMETI, Nagaland), and Mr. N. Selvam, Joint Director (Extension), DAC&FW, Government of India. Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI-NER, highlighted the workshop's objectives and stressed the need for continued collaboration between EEI-NER and SAMETIs to build a robust capacity development framework for extension personnel. He shared that EEI-NER and SAMETIs have made significant progress through mutual cooperation in recent years. A key highlight of the workshop was the

address by Mr. N. Selvam, who emphasized the growing importance of Natural Farming and Digital Extension, recommending focused training on emerging areas like remote sensing and digital tools in agriculture. Shri Mainul Islam Mondal (IPS), IGP-CID, Assam, addressed the gathering, noting the untapped potential of agriculture in the North East. He urged for adoption of modern techniques, sustainability, and market linkages, with special emphasis on agri-entrepreneurship for rural economic growth. Dr. R. Murugesan, Director of NIRD, advocated for greater convergence between NIRD and EEI-NER to ensure integrated efforts in research, training, and policy support. He called for collective action across institutions to enhance the resilience and productivity of farming communities. During the technical session, all nine NE states made state-wise presentations on the implementation status of major schemes and extension programmes. These sessions facilitated meaningful discussion, experience sharing, and identification of training needs specific to each state. Dr. S. Borua, Faculty, EEI-NER, presented the Annual Performance Report (2023–24) of EEI-NER, highlighting key training programmes, feedback from stakeholders, and the Institute's roadmap for the upcoming year. The workshop concluded with a renewed commitment to collaboration and capacity building across the NE region's agricultural extension landscape.



EEI-NER Organized Off-Campus Training on e-Governance Tools and Techniques

The Extension Education Institute (NE Region), in collaboration with SAMETI Manipur, organized a training program on **"Recent Tools and Techniques for e-Governance"** from **February 18-21, 2025**. The training aimed to equip government officials and extension personnel with the latest digital tools and strategies to enhance transparency, efficiency, and service delivery in governance. Sessions covered topics such as digital platforms for agricultural governance, data management systems, GIS applications, mobile-based service delivery, and cybersecurity in e-Governance. Participants,

including state officials and extension workers, engaged in practical demonstrations and interactive discussions on implementing digital solutions in public service sectors. The program emphasized the importance of ICT-driven governance for effective policy execution. The training concluded with a feedback session, where participants highlighted the usefulness of the training in improving digital governance initiatives in Manipur. Total 30 Extension Functionaries participated in the training programme.



EEI Organized Training programme on “Soft skills for interpersonal effectiveness of extension personnel” in Arunachal Pradesh

A training programme on “**Soft skills for interpersonal effectiveness of extension personnel**” was organised by EEI (NE Region) in collaboration with SAMETI, Arunachal Pradesh during **February 19-22, 2025** at SAMETI Pasighat. The training aimed to enhance the communication, leadership, and interpersonal skills of extension personnel to improve their engagement with farmers and stakeholders. Sessions covered key topics such as emotional intelligence, conflict resolution, active listening, effective communication, and behavioral skills for field extension work. Participants, including agricultural officers and field extension workers, engaged in group discussions, and interactive case studies. The training

emphasized the importance of soft skills in building trust and improving technology adoption among farmers. Total 28 participants participated in the programme.



EEI-NER and ADEE (Veterinary), Khanapara Organized Advanced Training on Poultry Management and Marketing

Recognizing the evolving role of extension personnel in the era of market-led agricultural development, the Extension Education Institute (NE Region), in collaboration with A.D.E.E. (Veterinary), Khanapara, conducted a five-day “Advanced Training on Management of Poultry and Marketing of Poultry” from February 24 to 28, 2025 at EEI, Khanapara. The training addressed the urgent need for extension professionals to stay equipped with up-to-date knowledge and skills in poultry production, value addition, and market-oriented strategies, enabling them to guide farmers more effectively in improving income and resilience. A total of 20 extension functionaries participated in the programme, which focused on the paradigm shift from production-led to market-led extension, aligning with the broader goal of doubling farmers’ income. Key sessions covered scientific poultry management practices, market intelligence, value chain development, branding, and strategies for the formation of farmer producer groups and community organizations. The training also featured discussions on navigating market fluctuations

and leveraging collective approaches for better price realization and market access. Resource persons emphasized that the capacity of extension personnel to support farmers in building viable, market-responsive enterprises is critical for enhancing livelihoods, particularly in the livestock sector. Participants engaged in hands-on activities and shared local success stories, appreciating the relevance of the training in helping them serve their communities more effectively.



EEI conducted On-campus training on Advances of Training Methods and Training Management

Extension Education Institute (NE Region) conducted an on-campus training program on “Advances in Training Methods and Training Management” during February 25-March 01, 2025. The program aimed to enhance the skills of trainers and extension personnel in designing, delivering, and managing effective training programs in agriculture and allied sectors. Key sessions focused on advanced training methodologies, participatory learning approaches, adult learning principles, ICT-enabled training tools, and evaluation techniques. Experts provided insights into innovative strategies for training delivery, including experiential learning and blended learning



models. Participants, including trainers and extension professionals, engaged in interactive sessions, group exercises, and case studies to improve their facilitation and training management skills. The program emphasized the importance of learner-centric approaches for better knowledge transfer. Total 21 participants participated in the programme.



Collaborative training programme on “Marketing Approaches and Marketing Skills for Extension Functionaries” with MAMETI-Meghalaya

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 in view, a training on “Marketing approaches and skills for Extension Functionaries” was conducted at EEI (NE Region) in collaboration with MAMETI, Meghalaya during March 04-07, 2025. Total 41 Extension Functionaries participated in the training.

Extension Approaches for Promotion of Marketing and Export of Agril Products, Marketing management – types of markets, Marketing mix, Role of FPOs/FPCs for Agricultural Marketing, Agripreneurship and Agricultural Marketing: Scope, issues and strategies, Mobile apps and Use of Digital Media for Agricultural Marketing, Different Skills needed in Marketing Management and SWOT analysis of market potential of selected agril. products in NE states etc. were discussed during the programme.



EEI-NER Collaborates in FPO–Startup Immersion Programme to Boost Agri-Entrepreneurship in Assam

Extension Education Institute (NER), Guwahati actively collaborated in the successful organization of the FPOs/FPCs–Farmers–Startups Immersion Programme, held on March 12, 2025, at the Rohika International Guest House, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Khanapara, Guwahati. The programme was jointly organized by a-IDEA, the Technology Business Incubator of ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, and NABARD Assam Regional Office, with the support of several institutional partners including EEI-NER, ICAR-ATARI Zone VI, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, and SELCO Foundation. The event aimed to establish meaningful linkages between FPOs/FPCs, farmers, and startups supported by a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM, fostering innovation, collaboration, and market access for farmers across Assam. The event witnessed the participation of over 10 agri-startups, 70 FPOs, and 100 farmers from various districts.





Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI-NER, graced the event as Guest of Honor and emphasized the institute's commitment to capacity-building and entrepreneurship development in the North Eastern region. In his address, he highlighted the pivotal role played by NABARD in strengthening FPOs in Assam and remarked that linking grassroots farming organizations with innovative startups was a timely and strategic initiative to boost rural livelihoods and agri-business development. EEI-NER's involvement in the programme aligned with its mandate of promoting knowledge dissemination, entrepreneurship support, and extension capacity enhancement. The institute facilitated coordination among stakeholders and contributed to the technical discussions on value chain strengthening, marketing linkages, and farmer capacity-building. The programme featured addresses from distinguished guests including Dr. S. Senthil Vinayagam, CEO, a-IDEA, ICAR-NAARM; Dr. Gopal Lal, Vice President, a-IDEA & Joint Director, NAARM;



Shri Loken Das, Chief General Manager, NABARD Assam RO; Dr. K. Govindaswamy, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone VI; and Dr. Bibeka Nanda Saikia, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science, AAU.

Startups showcased innovative agri-technologies, digital tools, and value-added services to the attending FPOs and farmers. EEI-NER representatives also interacted with stakeholders to explore future training needs and partnership opportunities in the areas of market-led extension, digital agriculture, and FPO development. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Shiva Karingu, Project Manager, a-IDEA, recognizing the active role of EEI-NER and other partners in making the event impactful and outcome-oriented. This collaborative initiative reflects EEI-NER's ongoing efforts to bridge the gap between technology developers, extension systems, and the farming community through participatory, market-driven approaches.

EEI collaborated with SAMETI-Mizoram to organize training on "Climate Resilient Agriculture: Approaches and Practices"

Extension Education Institute (NE Region), in collaboration with SAMETI Mizoram, organized a four-day training program on "Climate Resilient Agriculture: Approaches and Practices" from March 4-7, 2025. The program aimed to build the capacity of extension personnel in promoting sustainable agricultural practices to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. The training covered key topics such as climate-smart farming techniques, soil and water conservation, integrated

farming systems, agroforestry, and the use of ICT in climate adaptation. Experts from EEI-NE Region KVK Scienties, and government agencies shared insights on climate risk assessment and policy support for resilience-building in farming communities. Participants, including agricultural officers and field extension workers, engaged in interactive sessions and field visits to observe climate-resilient practices in action. Total 29 participants participated in the programme.



EEI organized collaborative Executive Development training on Promotion of Organic Inputs in NE States

The Extension Education Institute (NER), in collaboration with the Directorate of Extension, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), conducted a five-day training program on the “Promotion of Organic Inputs in NE States” from March 24 to 28, 2025. The program aimed to equip agricultural professionals, extension officers with knowledge and skills on organic input production and its effective utilization. Experts from AAU and EEI-NE Region delivered sessions on organic fertilizers, bio-pesticides, vermicomposting, and integrated nutrient management. The training emphasized sustainable agricultural practices, quality certification, and market linkages for organic produce. Participants engaged in interactive discussions, field demonstrations, gaining practical insights into organic farming. The program concluded with a feedback session, where attendees highlighted the importance of such initiatives for enhancing organic farming in the region. EEI-NER and AAU reiterated their commitment to supporting the adoption of

eco-friendly agricultural practices in the Northeast. Total 20 participants participated in the programme.



EEI-NER and DEE, AAU Conducted Collaborative Training on “Nursery Management of Horticultural Crops in Northeast India”

The Extension Education Institute (NER) in collaboration with the Directorate of Extension, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), successfully organized a five-day training programme on “Nursery Management of Horticultural Crops in Northeast India” from March 24 to 28, 2025, at AAU, Khanapara. The programme was designed to build the capacities of extension functionaries, horticulturists, and progressive farmers in adopting scientific nursery techniques for enhancing the availability and quality of planting materials in the region. A total of 20 extension functionaries participated in the training, which featured expert-led sessions on key topics such as seed selection, propagation techniques, disease and pest management, and modern nursery technologies. Eminent scientists and faculty from AAU and other reputed institutions conducted the sessions, focusing on both theoretical concepts and practical applications. Special emphasis was given to the nursery management of region-specific horticultural crops including citrus, areca nut, black pepper, and medicinal plants, which hold significant potential for commercial cultivation and income generation in the North Eastern region. Participants also engaged in field visits and hands-on demonstrations at AAU’s well-established nurseries, allowing them to gain practical exposure to nursery layout design, use of



propagation media, irrigation systems, and integrated plant protection practices. Speaking at the closing session, officials from EEI-NER and AAU reaffirmed their commitment to promoting sustainable, scientific, and profitable nursery practices in the region. The training was appreciated by participants for its practical relevance and timely focus on improving nursery systems to support the region’s horticultural growth. This initiative aligns with the broader goal of strengthening the horticulture sector in Northeast India by improving planting material standards, productivity, and farmer incomes through skill development and institutional collaboration.

EEI Management Committee Meeting Held on 30th May, 2025

The 32nd Management Committee Meeting of the Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati, was convened on 30th May, 2025, at the EEI Conference Hall, Khanapara. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Bidyut Chandan Deka, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Directors of SAMETIs of North Eastern states, senior officials of AAU, and EEI faculty members. At the outset, Dr. R. Bordoloi, Director Extension Education Institute AAU, Khanapara Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI delivered the welcome address highlighting the significant milestones achieved during the previous year.

In his opening remarks, Dr. B.C. Deka, emphasized the vital role of EEI in strengthening the human resource

development of the extension system and advised the institute to align its activities with the evolving needs of the farming community, particularly in the context of climate resilience, digital extension, and natural farming. During the meeting, the Annual Report of EEI (NER) for 2024-25 was presented, along with the action plan for the upcoming year. The committee appreciated the diverse range of training programmes, collaborative initiatives, and the introduction of innovative capacity-building modules by the institute. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. S. Borua Faculty, EEI NE Region, who expressed gratitude to the Chairman and all members for their valuable suggestions and continuous support toward achieving the institute's mandate.



EEI-NER Participates in Annual Action Plan Workshop 2025-26 to Strengthen KVK Planning and Extension Linkages

The Extension Education Institute (NER), Guwahati, actively participated in the Annual Action Plan Workshop 2025-26 organized by ICAR-ATARI, Zone VI, at the International Guest House, Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Khanapara, from April 22 to 23, 2025. The two-day workshop was aimed at reviewing and planning the key activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

(KVKs) across the North Eastern region, with a focus on On-Farm Trials (OFTs), Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs), revenue generation strategies, and convergence with line departments and allied institutions.

Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI-NER, attended the workshop as a key dignitary and resource person. In his address, he highlighted the institute's ongoing efforts

in strengthening the extension system by providing regular training and capacity-building programmes for KVK personnel. EEI-NER's involvement in the workshop underlined its commitment to providing training support for the skill development of KVK staff, promoting convergence models to enhance outreach and resource-use efficiency, and encouraging participatory and ICT-enabled extension practices that align with evolving agricultural needs.

The workshop was chaired by Dr. G. Kadirvel, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone VI, and was attended by several distinguished guests including Dr. M. Neog, Director of Extension Education, AAU; Dr. D.N. Kalita, Executive Director, CBBO, AAU; Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Former Director, ICAR-ATARI; and scientists and representatives from KVKs and other partner institutions. EEI-NER reaffirmed its continued collaboration with ICAR-ATARI, AAU, and other stakeholders to develop a more responsive, inclusive, and impact-oriented extension system for the North Eastern Region.



EEI-NER Strategies for Promotion of Natural Farming in NE Region May 13-17, 2025

A five-day training programme on “Strategies for Promotion of Natural Farming” was successfully conducted by the Extension Education Institute (NE Region), AAU, Guwahati from May 13 to 17, 2025 at its campus in Guwahati. The programme was specifically designed for officers from Agriculture and allied departments across the North Eastern states. The training aimed to sensitize and equip the participants with scientific knowledge and practical approaches related to natural farming, which is gaining prominence as a sustainable and eco-friendly alternative to conventional agriculture. Sessions were conducted on core topics including the principles of natural farming, soil health management, indigenous inputs preparation, crop diversification, integrated farming systems, and policy support mechanisms.





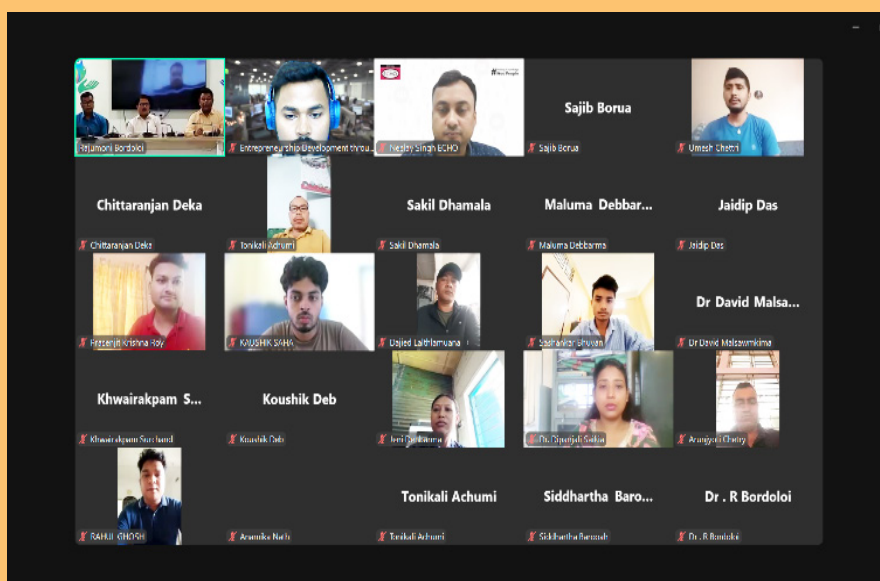
Expert resource persons from academic institutions, KVKs, and progressive practitioners shared field experiences and successful models. Interactive group activities, field visits, and case presentations enriched the learning experience. Participants appreciated the relevance and timely conduct of the training in the context



of climate resilience, Soil Health Management in Natural Farming, and Use of ICT and Digital Tools for Promoting Natural farming. The programme concluded with a feedback session and certificate distribution. The initiative reinforces EEI's commitment to promoting sustainable agricultural practices in the North Eastern Region of India.

EEI Guwahati Conducts Executive Development Programme on Agro-Tourism

The Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati, successfully organized a four-day Executive Development Online Training Programme on “Entrepreneurship Development through Agro-Tourism: Prospects and Strategies” from May 20 to 23, 2025. The programme was conducted via the ECHO platform and aimed to enhance awareness, capacity building, and strategic planning for agro-tourism across the North Eastern Region. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. Bordoloi, Director, EEI (NE Region), who highlighted the immense potential of agro-tourism in promoting sustainable livelihoods and rural development. He encouraged agricultural officers, SHG members, and rural entrepreneurs to adopt agro-tourism as a viable entrepreneurial model. A total of 49 participants from various states of Northeast India attended the programme, representing agricultural departments, extension systems, and rural institutions. The programme concluded with a valedictory session, post-training evaluation, and feedback collection. Participants appreciated the timely and relevant nature of the training, particularly its focus on integrating agriculture, tourism, and entrepreneurship for regional development.



EEI-NE Region organize Collaborative VKSA Event to Empower Farmers

As part of the nationwide Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA), a significant collaborative event was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kamrup under Assam Agricultural University (AAU) in association with the Extension Education Institute (EEI), North Eastern Region on 31st May, 2025. The programme aimed at promoting government schemes and strengthening agricultural extension outreach among farmers in Assam.

The event was graced by several distinguished dignitaries, including Dr. Bidyut Ch. Deka, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of AAU, Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director of EEI-NE Region, and Mr. N. Salvam, Joint Director (Extension), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India. Also present were Dr. Sunmoina Bhuyan, Head of KVK Kamrup, Dr. Dharendra Nath Kalita, Executive Director, CBBO, scientists from AAU, a veterinary expert, and officials from the State Agriculture

Department. A key highlight of the event was the launch and circulation of a Technical Bulletin, developed by EEI-NE Region, focusing on various Central and State agricultural schemes. The bulletin is designed to improve farmers' awareness and accessibility to government programs, thereby enabling them to make informed decisions and leverage available resources for sustainable agricultural growth. The event also featured interactive sessions, expert consultations, and deliberations on strategies to empower the farming community through knowledge dissemination, convergence of departments, and strengthening of extension services under the VKSA banner. The collaborative initiative received enthusiastic participation from farmers, extension personnel, and agri-stakeholders, reaffirming the commitment of AAU and EEI towards the inclusive development of agriculture in Assam and the North Eastern Region.



World Environment Day Celebrated at EEI, NE Region

The Extension Education Institute (NE Region), AAU, Guwahati, celebrated World Environment Day on June 5, 2025 with great enthusiasm and active participation from faculty and staff. The theme for this year's celebration, "End Plastic Pollution," was highlighted through a series of meaningful activities promoting environmental awareness and action.

The programme commenced with a short inaugural session, where the Director of EEI, Dr. R. Bordoloi, emphasized the critical role of individuals and institutions in protecting and restoring natural ecosystems. He encouraged all to adopt sustainable practices both in personal and professional life. Tree Plantation Drive was organized within the institute premises to promote greenery and biodiversity. Faculty members, trainees, and staff actively participated in planting saplings of indigenous species. The celebration concluded with the reaffirmation of EEI-NE's commitment to promoting eco-friendly practices through education, training, and outreach activities in the North Eastern region.



Collaborative Workshop on “Livestock and Poultry Development in Assam: A Way Forward

A one-day workshop on “Livestock and Poultry Development in Assam: A Way Forward” was successfully organized on June 9, 2025, at the Extension Education Institute (NE Region), AAU, Khanapara, Guwahati, in collaboration with the ADEE Veterinary Science, AAU and EEI-NER. The event aimed to deliberate on the present status, emerging challenges, and strategic roadmap for the sustainable growth of the livestock and poultry sector in Assam.

The workshop brought together key stakeholders from veterinary professionals, field-level extension personnel, progressive farmers, and officials from the animal husbandry and veterinary departments. At the outset, Dr. Hiranya Kumar Bhattacharyya, Associate Director Extension Education, AAU, Khanapara welcomed all the dignitaries, scientists, experts, veterinarians, and entrepreneurs present in the meeting, and briefed about the agenda and the significance of the programme. It was followed by an address by Dr. Dandeswar Deka, President, AVC, wherein he emphasized on supporting

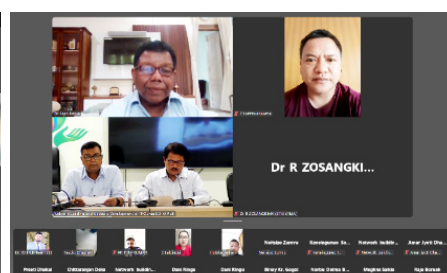
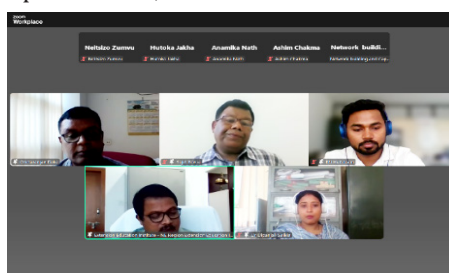
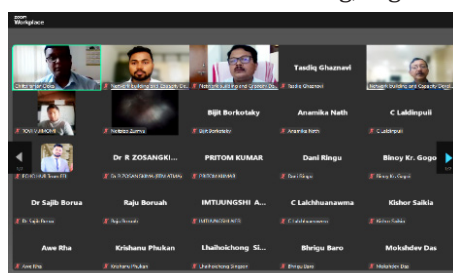
the budding entrepreneurs of the state in order to attain self-sufficiency in milk, meat and egg production so as to become an Atma-nirbhar Asam. In his opening remarks, Sri Loken Das, CGM, NABARD, Assam Regional Office, Guwahati, highlighted the grassroots-level problems being faced by the farmers concerning the backyard poultry farming system, animal feeds, availability of quality animals (seeds), and marketing policies. Dr. Probodh Borah, Director Research (Veterinary), AAU, Khanapara addressed the house and emphasized need of & strengthening the linkage between College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara and the State Veterinary Department of Assam by institutionalizing collaborations at different levels and initiating joint activities. Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI, AAU, K.hanapara apprised the house about the new challenges in the livestock and poultry sectors like climate change and emergence of new diseases. He also emphasized on value chain management, new initiatives, use of indigenous knowledge, and building a proper and planned roadmap for strategic development.



Online Training on Network Building and Capacity Development of FPOs Conducted by EEI (NE Region)

The Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati, successfully conducted a five-day Management Development Online Training Programme on “Network Building and Capacity Development of FPOs” from June 17 to 21, 2025. The training was hosted at the EEI Conference Hall and delivered in online mode through the ECHO platform. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. R. Bordoloi, Director, EEI (NE Region), who, in his inaugural address, emphasized the crucial role of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in strengthening rural economies and ensuring collective growth for smallholder farmers. He highlighted the need for effective network building, digital empowerment, and

leadership within FPOs for their sustainability. A total of 58 participants from various Northeastern states joined the training programme, representing departments of agriculture, allied sectors, and FPO-promoting institutions. The programme was coordinated by Dr. C. Deka, Faculty, EEI, who ensured seamless execution of sessions, expert interactions, and participant engagement. The programme concluded with a valedictory session, post-training evaluation, and feedback collection. Participants appreciated the comprehensive structure and contextual relevance of the training in addressing the challenges of FPO network building in the North Eastern Region.



International Yoga Day Celebrated at EEI, NE Region

The Extension Education Institute (NE Region), Guwahati, observed the International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2025, with enthusiasm and collective participation from faculty and staff. The celebration was aligned with this year's theme, "Yoga for Self and Society", emphasizing the role of yoga in promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

The programme began with a brief inaugural address by the Director of EEI, Dr. R. Bordoloi, who highlighted the importance of integrating yoga into daily life for a healthier lifestyle and enhanced productivity. He encouraged all to



practice yoga not just as an exercise, but as a way of life. A guided yoga session was conducted in the institute premises by Mrs. Rupa Bordoloi Yoga instructor, focusing on basic asanas, pranayama, and meditation techniques. Participants actively took part in the session, experiencing the benefits of balance, flexibility, and mindfulness. The event concluded with a group pledge to adopt yoga as a regular practice and spread its message within the community. The celebration reflected the institute's commitment to promoting holistic health and well-being among its members.

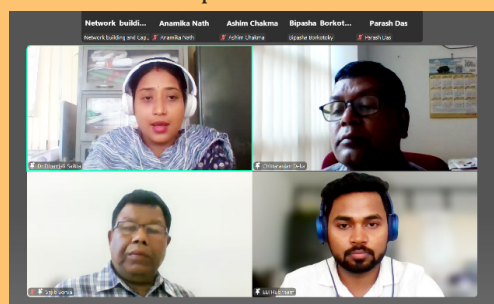
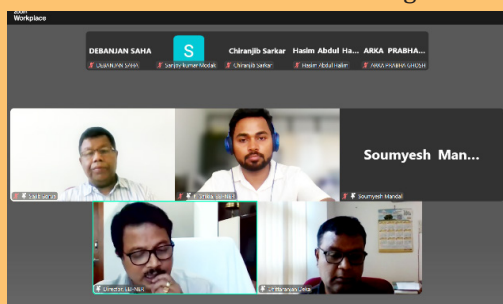


EEI-NER and SAMETI-West Bengal Organized Online Training on Digital Agriculture via ECHO Platform

The Extension Education Institute (NER) in collaboration with SAMETI-West Bengal, successfully conducted a four-day online training programme on "Digital Agriculture – Harnessing Data and Information Technologies for Improved Farming Practices" from June 23 to 26, 2025, through the ECHO platform. The training aimed to orient extension professionals on emerging tools and techniques in digital data management and ICT applications for advancing modern farming practices.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Rajumoni Bordoloi, Director, EEI-NER, who highlighted the growing significance of digital technologies, data analytics, and AI tools in transforming Indian agriculture and strengthening field-level extension systems. He emphasized that capacity building in digital agriculture is vital to support climate-smart practices and precision farming in the North Eastern and Eastern regions. Dr.

Manash Ghosh, Director, SAMETI-West Bengal, delivered a valuable address during the opening session. He stressed the importance of strengthening data literacy among extension professionals and encouraged the participants to embrace digital tools to improve decision-making and service delivery in the farming sector. The training was coordinated by Dr. Soumesh Mandal, who ensured smooth execution of the technical sessions, participant interaction, and overall facilitation on the ECHO platform. The programme concluded with a valedictory session and participant feedback, where attendees appreciated the practical orientation and real-world applicability of the training. The initiative reaffirmed EEI-NER's and SAMETI's commitment to advancing digital capacity-building for extension systems in the region through innovative online platforms like ECHO.



*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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Email: eei.ner@aau.ac.in

Website: www.eei-ner.org

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