## **ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

- •The first staff meeting of the year was held on 6 February, 2020. At the outset of the meeting, Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim heartily welcomed everyone present to the meeting after several months of lockdown which was followed by a short prayer led by Prof. Rubitha Sangma. The minutes of the last meeting were read out by Dr. Barbara S. Sangma and were approved. The leaflets of meeting agenda were distributed before the meeting and discussed effectively and productively.
- With an aim to go beyond classroom teaching and textbook, Don Bosco College, Tura organized a two-day Orientation Programme on 7 and 8 February, 2020 for the teaching staff of the college at the Pastoral Centre, Walbakgre, Tura. The two-day programme on the theme 'Extending teaching Beyond the Textbooks' was lighted up by Dr. (Fr) George Palamattam, SDB, Director of Siloam, Umiam. The sessions constituted the topics on Effective teachings, Life Principles, Self-Transformation and making classroom a safe place etc. It also consisted of inspirational video shows in a bid to remind teachers of going beyond textbook and seeing something in students. In addition, the resource person touched upon the building up of self-esteem and self-confidence referring to it as simply believing in oneself. In one of his sessions he focused on the heart- touching and relevant question, "How can I create my classroom safe for students to bounce back?" Apparently, it was a reminder for teachers how to help students bounce back from setbacks and build resilience.
- A seminar on Career Guidance by Kaziranga University, Assam was conducted for the 6<sup>th</sup> Semester BA, BCOM and BSc students on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2020. The resource persons for the occasion were Dr. Govinda Prasad Bhandari and Prof. Basumatary. A total number of 170 students participated in the programme that would help them for their future career and to select the right kind of job-oriented courses to take their career in the right direction.





•National Science Day was observed on 28 February, 2020 at Don Bosco College on the theme, 'Women in Science'. Students from various schools and colleges attended the programme. Smt. Rikse R. Marak, MCS, Director Academic and Administrative Department, MBOSE and Secretary Executive Chairman, GHADC was the Chief Guest of the celebration. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest stressed on the need to prepare oneself to meet the challenges of the society and the world at large. The Guest of Honour, Dr. Arindam Barman, Asst. Professor, Department of Horticulture, NEHU, Tura Campus also spoke on the theme and contributions of women in Science stating that 'tissue culture' in India was

started firstly by women. On the occasion, various activities such as Science exhibition, Science Quiz and Painting were organized for school and college students.





•In an attempt to assist students in making and implementing informed educational and occupational choices *Career Guidance Programme* was conducted in collaboration with the Meghalaya Police on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2020. On the occasion, the Resource Person, Shri Deepak Kr. Palecha, IPS, Addl. Superintendent of Police, West Garo Hills said that there are various options available to the students after the graduation. He also emphasized the important aspects of life that is 'passion' which stimulates a person to strive towards success. A total number of 200 students participated in the programme.





•A one- day Seminar on the theme' *Rainbow Diet Campaign*' was organized on 5<sup>th</sup>March,2020 by the college jointly with Incubation Centre, NEHU on Promoting Tuber Crops based on Diet for Food, Nutrition and Health Security and Creating Entrepreneurs. Dr. C. A. Jayaprakas, Principal, Scientist (Agric. Entomology) and Head Division Crop Production, ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvanthapuram gave the Keynote address on Rainbow Diet Campaign. In his explanation, he said that the institute is promoting the importance of tuber crop that is easily available in the market. Another speaker, Dr. Sevakumar Sethuraman, Principal Scientist ICAR, CTCRI also asserted that people from North Eastern State suffer from Vitamin A Deficiency. 'Tuber Crops' like sweet potato can help in

absorption of Vitamin A and thus boosting one's immune system. A rally was also held from Chandmary to Ringrey as part of the campaign on promoting tuber crops.





•The International Women's Day was celebrated on March 6, 2020 at Don Bosco College, Tura. Mrs. Sume Chandola B. Sangma, Secretary, Mothers 'Union, Tura and Headmistress, Smallville Secondary School was the Chief Guest for the occasion. In her keynote address, the Chief Guest spoke on the theme of the year," I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights". She laid emphasis on the accountability and honour of every woman in the society and detrimental and abusive laws against women according to Garo Customary Laws. In the rural areas women are victims of domestic violence and dominated by male relatives despite matrilineal system. Moreover, she urged those present to work together hand in hand against personal issues and abusive laws as such evils have to be debated for a better perspectives of gender equality. Miss Sengrikchi N. Marak, DSP, Tura, an alumna of the college also spoke on the topic, "Women's Safety" encompassing the topics such as molestation, Dowry and Harassment of Women. Others those who spoke on the occasion were Rev.Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal and Dr. Madhusudhan Saha, Asst.Professor, Department of Chemistry.





•On 12 March, 2020, the Department of Physics organized a Seminar at the college. At the start, Prof. Mahidar Rajbongshi, Head of the Department welcomed the gathering. Altogether 31 students took part in the seminar and were divided into 8 groups with the topics allotted to each group. Miss Rikre R. Marak, Asst. Environmental Engineer, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, Shillong also spoke on

on the necessity of seminar in the college. She further extended her appreciation towards the organizers as this would help students to boost self-confidence. Dr.Yubraj Sharma, Asst. Professor, Department of Physics also gave a talk on 'Critical Analysis of Presentation.'



•On ensuring sustainability to consumers, on 12 March, 2020, the World Consumer Rights Day was observed by the college in coordination with the Department of Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs, West Garo Hills and the District Administration, West Garo Hills. In his speech based on the theme "The Sustainable Consumer", Shri Ram Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner outlined the need for sustaining the environment through sustainable consumer. He also added that the present generation is aware of the role in the context of protecting the environment. Prof. C. P. Suresh, Department of Horticulture, NEHU, Tura Campus also highlighted on the use of organic materials for sustainable environment. Others those spoke include Shri O.D. Sangma, Asst. Commissioner, Food Safety, West Garo Hills, Shri Juniko K. Marak, Inspector of Supply, FCA and CA, West Garo Hills and Shri Namsong M. Marak, Deputy Director, Food and Civil Supply. Concurrently, the quiz competition was also organized as part of the programme. Prof. K. Mahimairaj, Head, Department of Commerce expressed his appreciation towards the students for taking initiative and their whole-hearted support to make the programme a success.



•On 8 April, 2020, Don Bosco College, Tura handed over 900 hand stitched masks to the District Administration, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya. The hand stitched masks were received by Shri Ram Singh,

IAS, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills in the presence of Dr. Ivonne M. Sangma, Senior Medical Officer District Medical and Health Office(DMHO), West Garo Hills and Senior Medical Officers.



- •In view of the outbreak of COVID 19, the District Administration, West Garo Hills identified Don Bosco College, Tura as a safe place for the students and workers. Shri Ram Singh,IAS, Deputy Commissioner , with the issue of requisition order dated Tura the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2020 vide No. DOMA/WGH/COVID 19/2020/170 requisitioned Don Bosco College for quarantine facilities with immediate effect until further notice.
- •On 10 June,2020, the Don Bosco College family bade adieu to Fr.Albinus Dhanwar, Vice Principal, Sister Shainy Cheriyan and Sister Deepthy Philip. Father Albinus is transferred to Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Mendal whereas Sister Shainy Cheryian and Sister Deepthy Philip are transferred to Africa after serving for three years in Don Bosco College with utmost devotion.





•The Department of Chemistry organized the National Webinar on 15 June, 2020. The resource persons for the Webinar were eminent scientists, Dr. Chinmoy Kumar Hazra, IIT, Delhi, Dr. Mrigendra Dubey, IIT, Indore and Dr. Anup Paul, University of Lisbon, Portugal. Dr. Paul presented on his works which could be helpful in the corona virus era for tracing virus and battle against the COVID 19 pandemic. Besides, Dr Dubey also gave a talk on his work 'Metalogels'. The webinar was attended by 250 participants registered and it was indeed informative and eye-opening for the attendees.



•On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2020, Fr. Januarius Sangma, Provincial of the Salesian Guwahati Province inaugurated Rev. Fr. Anthony Buccieri Memorial Gymnasium in the presence of all the Rectors from Garo Hills and the non-teaching staff of Don Bosco College.Fr. Provincial extended his gratitude to the college for setting up the gymnasium that seeks to preserve the memory of Fr. Anthony Buccieri whose selfless and tremendous contribution to Garo Hills is highly valued and vividly remembered .It was indeed an occasion to remember and value the sacrifices of early missionaries.



- •Five NCC Cadets of the college took part in the Online *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat Camp* on 6 and 7 July 2020, initiated by NCC Directorate North Eastern Region in collaboration with the NCC Directorate, Delhi being the Guest State. The camp aims at celebrating the unity in Diversity of a Nation and to maintain and strengthen the traditionally existing emotional bonds amongst people of India.
- •A two-day (*International*) Web Conference on Recent Advances in Science (*IWCRAS 2020*) was conducted from 30<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and the Department of Physics, Don Bosco College. The conference was organized in collaboration with North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Tura Campus, Tura, National Institute of Technology, Meghalaya, Shillong, National

Institute of Technology, Nagaland, Dimapur, Society for Technologically Advanced Material of India(STAMI), Association for Agriculture Environment and Biotechnology, New Delhi, District Administration, Tura, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya, Prime Alternatives, Department of Chemistry, Cotton College, Guwahati, Assam, Physics Academy of the North East (PANE). Altogether 1391 registrants from 17 countries attended the Web Conference. There were eleven resource persons and two invited speakers. Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Chief Minister of Meghalaya spoke and wished the conference a success. Others those who spoke include Rev Fr. Januarius S. Sangma, the Chief Patron of Web Conference, Shri Ram Singh, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills. In the Inaugural Programme, Rev. Fr Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal, Don Bosco College welcomed various dignitaries to the conference. Dr. Arindam Ghosh, IQAC Coordinator, Don Bosco College, Tura and Convener, IWCRAS 2020 gave an introductory speech and talked about the importance of the conference. Out of 102 abstracts only 62 were selected. On the basis of performance only 40 top presenters were selected.





•The Department of Education organized a National Webinar on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August, 2020 on the theme "Technology and Innovation on Education". About 850 participants registered in the Webinar. The two eminent resource persons Dr. Geeta S. Shelley, Associate Professor, St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai and Dr. Manju Gupta, Associate Professor of Meerut College, Meerut spoke on the theme that the lockdown has made everyone use technology which gives a sense of working on it and generates new technological knowledge and with technology comes innovation. The Webinar was spearheaded by the Head of the Department, Dr. Uma Bhowmik as the convener and Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal as the Adviser.





•In light of COVID 19 Pandemic that had been affecting all walks of life, the Department of English, Don Bosco College organized a National Webinar on 17 August,2020, on the theme "Sajinma-Sagop (Pandemic): COVID 19 and Culture". Over 250 registrants took part in the Webinar zealously as many attendees sent in their questions and key challenges. The Webinar was headed by Dr. Barbara Sangma, Convener, Head, Department of English and Rev. Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal of the college as an advisor. The Principal welcomed the participants and concurrently released the English Poetry Book entitled "String in a Lute" written by Dr. Barbara Sangma. The Resource persons were Prof. Kailash C. Baral, a retired academician from the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad who is currently the Vice Chairman of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata, under the Ministry of Culture, Gol and Prof. Jyotirmoy Prodhani, Department Of English, NEHU, Tura Campus. In the first session, Prof. Baral shared his ideas referring to the Epidemics in Colonial India that Colonialism was not only about control but also of exchange and the most devastating exchange was of disease. In addition, Colonial itself was like a contagious disease launched through contact. In the second session, Prof. Prodhani also spoke on the theme in a clear and concise manner. The feedback of the sessions was also collected to improve the webinar that will be conducted in the near future.



•On 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2020, Staff Meeting of the college was held. The meeting was started with a solemn prayer led by Madam Rubitha Sangma. The report of the previous meeting was read out by Dr. Meuller Buel M. Sangma and was approved. The meeting agenda such as Online Classes, Preparation of Timetable, Formation of Committee and Starting of Morning Shift were discussed in the meeting.



• On 28 August, 2020, the Department of Sociology, Don Bosco College conducted a National Webinar on the theme, "Approaches to Development: the Trajectory in International Development". The Resource Persons for the Webinar were Dr. Samantha Syiem Clark, Former Lecturer University of Sussex, UK and Guest Lecturer, Department of Sociology, NEHU, Shillong and Dr.Amiya Kumar Das, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Tezpur University. Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal gladly welcomed all the participants to the Webinar. Prof. Lakyntiewhun Sohtun, Head, Department of Sociology spearheaded the Webinar and introduced the speakers. Speaking on the theme, Dr. Samantha, stressed on the understanding of the term development and the various trajectory developments and how we interpret and conceive it. Prof. Amiya K. Das also spoke focusing on the concept of development and utilizing sociological science, knowledge and understanding in the process of development. The webinar came to a conclusion with the Thank you note proposed by Prof. Bikki Sangma.





◆The Department of Philosophy, Don Bosco College, Tura organized a National Webinar on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September,2020 on the theme " *Worldview of Tribes and Communities of North East*". The esteemed resource persons for the Webinar were Prof. Vanlalnghak, Head, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong, Prof Xavier P. Mao, Professor, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong, Dr. Prasenjit Biswas, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong and Dr Basil Pohlong, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, NEHU, Shillong. Out of 2,295 registrants only 600 participants avidly took part in the live Webinar. The first speaker, Prof. Vanlalnghak touched upon tribal people's belief in the existence of spirits that pervades, controls and influences all aspects of life. Prof. Xavier spoke on the topic "Ethical Thoughts and Ideas in Mao Naga Culture": An Exploration whereas Dr. Basil Pohlang and Dr. Prasenjit Biswas presented on the topics 'Conceptualising Tribal World View': A Khasi Perpective and 'Worldview of Tribes and Communities of North East' respectively. The Webinar was insightful and informative as the questions were answered in a satisfactory and concise manner.





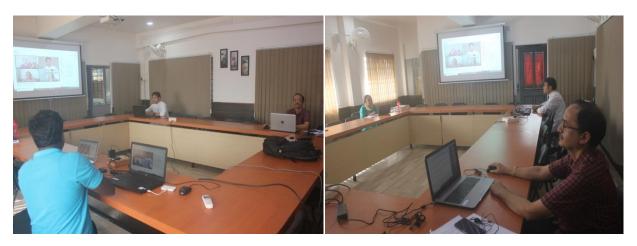
• On 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, the Department of Political Science, Don Bosco College, Tura conducted a National Webinar on the theme 'Journalism at the Crossroads'. At the start, in his welcome address, Fr Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal of the college accentuated the importance and advantage of disseminating correct information through media. The resource person for the Webinar was Mr. Sumit Dasgupta, former Deputy Editor, The Telegraph, Kolkata, and Editor, Metro,t2 and Young Metro and presently Media Entrepreneur, ALLCAP Communications. Pvt. Ltd, Kolkata, West Bengal. The Webinar aims at helping aspiring students and journalists of today with necessary skills in a competitive industry. Mr. Sumit said that on top of having good writing skills aspiring journalists should be a good storyteller with an analytical mindset, integrity and hunger for news and events. He further added that an aspirant should start learning and practicing the simple techniques like filming, video capturing, writing stories from the areas of personal interests and about the issues of public interests. The Webinar was headed by Prof Ipshita Roy, Head, Department of Political Science and concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Binendro N. Marak.



•The *Online Orientation Programme* for the newly admitted 1<sup>st</sup> Semester BA, B Com and B Sc students was conducted on 7 and 8 September, 2020. Students were formally welcomed and introduced to the culture of the college by Fr. Abhilash, Vice Principal, Don Bosco College and thereafter Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim, Principal of the college gave a talk on academic matters and social aspects of the college. Students were also then shown a brief presentation on the mission and vision of the college, its motto and were also motivated to excel in their studies and their respective fields.



•On September 12, 2020, the Department of Economics, Don Bosco College, Tura organized a webinar on the theme "Importance of Political Economy in Economics". The session kick-started with the welcome address delivered by Rev. Fr. Bivan R. Mukhim followed by the introductory speech by Prof Siddhartha Roy, Head, Department of Economics. The resource person for the Webinar was Dr. Pallavi Roy, Lecturer in International Economics at the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy at SOAS, University of London. The speaker, Dr. Pallavi put emphasis on the idea of market driven economics and the political changes in different parts of the western countries in the last decade. He further highlighted the contribution of Karl Marx, a prominent political economist and also explained the rise of capitalism in England and how economics influenced hierarchies and power structures.



•The NSS Volunteers of Don Bosco College organized an awareness programme on *Covid 19 and Japanese Encephalitis (JE)* collaboratively with the Babadam PHC at Chibrasongma village on the outskirt of Tura Town on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2020. Shri Ram Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills urged the participants as how to be aware of COVID 19 and to take precaution against the disease as the cases of infected people are increasing rapidly. He further encouraged children aged from 1 to 15 yrs to get the JE Vaccine. On the occasion, the Cleanliness Drive was also carried out in Chibragre Picnic Spot by the NSS volunteers.



•In a bid to reflect upon the key Gandhian ideologies as the world is moving through the phases of war marred by hatred, violence and terrorism, the NSS of Don Bosco College ,Tura on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2020 organized a National *Webinar on the theme 'The Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi for the Youth of Today.'* Dr.(Fr.) Kachappily Joy Joseph, SDB, Rector, Don Bosco, Boko, Assam who was the resource person for the programme highlighted the relevance of Gandhi's philosophy and teachings to the youth of today. Dr. Deigracia Nongkynrih, Programme Coordinator, NSS Cell and Professor, Department of Economics, NEHU, Shillong also spoke on the need of Mahatma Gandhi and his teachings in today's world.





•The Governing Body Meeting of Don Bosco College, Tura held on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2020. The meeting was attended by Rev. Fr. Januarius Sangma, Provincial, Salesian of Guwahati Province, Fr. Charles Sangma, Prof. Nikme Ch. Momin, Department of Education, NEHU, Sister Marcilina Sangma, the college representatives and other members. The Chairman presided over the meeting and extended the warm welcome to the members present. In the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and approved by the Governing Body. The agenda items were also discussed and deliberated upon.



•The Meghalaya Aids Control Society jointly with Don Bosco College, Tura organized a Zonal Level Red Ribbon Quiz Competition on November 11, 2020 at the college. Shri Ram Singh, IAS, Deputy

Comissioner, West Garo Hills, Tura lent grace and dignity to the occasion with his esteemed presence. In his speech, the Deputy Commissioner wished that the quiz competition would help young people to learn and become more aware of the disease as the disease is rampant amongst young people and has a tremendous impact on their career, life and psychology of a person suffering from the disease. Shri Alexander Kharkongor, Asst. Director (IEC) Meghalaya State Aids Control Society, Shillong also spoke on the avowed objectives of organizing the programme which was to help people lead a healthy and Aids free life.



•On 18 November, 2020, the State Level Red Ribbon Quiz Competition2020 was organized in Shillong by the Meghalaya Aids Control Society and National Aids Control Organization (NACO)in collaboration with Jaintia Eastern College, Khliehriat for Jaintia Zone, Don Bosco College and Doordarshan Kendra, Shillong. Two students, Agape P. Marak and Poonam Kumari represented Don Bosco College and brought accolade to the college securing the Third Prize in the competition. Altogether twenty colleges took part in the competition and the goals and objective of the programme was to actively engage members of the Red Ribbon Clubs in disseminating the information related to HIV/AIDS, adolescent health, mental health and any other public health threat etc. and make them discuss these issues through mode of quiz.





Dr. Barbara Sangma, Associate Professor, and Head, Department of English, Don Bosco College, Tura has been conferred upon a Certificate of Appreciation award for bagging the First Prize with 'A Grade' in the Open Category of the International Poetry Writing Competition conducted by All India Forum for English Students, Scholars and Trainers (AIFEST) on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, 2020.It was indeed a matter of pride that marked a significant milestone in the history of Don Bosco College.



## Congratulations Dr Uma Roy Bhowmik

Dr Uma Roy Bhowmik, Head of Department Education presented a paper in a  $4^{th}$  International Conference on "Genocide and Mass Violence in the Twenty First Century: Lessons from History" organised by the Centre for Genocide Studies University of Dhaka on 13-15 December, 2020.

Dr Uma Roy Bhowmik presented the paper titled "Role of Technology in controlling Genocide". The session was chaired by Mr. Robert Stoelman, Project Manager and Partnerships for a Tolerant, Inclusive Bangladesh (PTIB) and The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Bangladesh. The presentation was highly appreciated by all the participants.

Dr Uma Roy Bhowmik expressed her happiness at having presented the paper at the International Conference. Don Bosco College, Tura congratulates Dr Uma Roy Bhowmik at achieving this feat.

• On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020, the teaching faculty members and the office staff of the college came together for a Pre-Christmas Get-Together organised in the Bosco Hall. Fr. Francis Cheerambeen, Director Don Bosco College Higher Secondary Section, Tura started the gathering with a prayer. He also gave the message. Fr. Bivan Rodriques Mukhim, Principal wished all the staff a happy Christmas and said that the message of Christ should transform everyone. The staff members who shared Christmas message were Dr. Biswajit Paul, Dr. Arindam Ghosh and Dr. Barbara Sangma. The gathering was accompanied by the

singing of carols and fun games. The Pre-Christmas get-together ended with a lunch for all the staff members.

