



“We are all born with a divine fire in us. Our efforts should be to give wings to this fire and fill the world with the glow of its goodness.”

- Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

Message from the Director

Dear Readers,

My best wishes to the team of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research and Analysis (Dr. Kalam Centre) for this quarterly newsletter. The team has compiled an impressive list of events conducted over the past three months. I'm happy to see the Centre emerging and playing a pivotal role in knowledge dissemination and contributing to the Northeast. The “Policy Briefs” section of the newsletter will play a small yet crucial role in reaching out to larger sections of society. This will create an awareness of the central government's significant initiatives.

Prof. D P Goyal

Director, IIM Shillong

What's in the Issue

- Faculty Development Program (FDP) for the Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) of NER
- 5th Governing Body Meeting of Dr. Kalam Centre
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- G20 International Webinar on ‘Decentralizing Governance- Models & Methods’
- Interaction with the representatives of Civil Society Organization of North East
- Interaction with NITI Aayog

News and Events

Faculty Development Program (FDP) for the Higher Educational Institutions of NER

In its commitment towards developing a sustainable and conducive education ecosystem in the North Eastern Region (NER), Dr. Kalam Centre organized a 5-day Residential Faculty Development Program (FDP) on General Management and Research Methodology for NER young faculty members. The main objective of the programme was to facilitate the development of a proper approach to teaching-learning and research methodologies. The FDP also aimed to empower faculty members and encourage them to create a ripple effect in their respective institutions. The FDP was conducted between 8th May 2023 and 12th May 2023. It witnessed participation from 29 academicians from various NER Institutes like IIMC Aizawl, NEHU Shillong, Assam University, Cotton University etc.

During the inaugural session, Prof. D. P. Goyal, Director of IIM Shillong, emphasised the importance of becoming a good teacher and researcher. He also praised participants for choosing to teach as it is a noble profession and a selfless contribution to the nation's development. The subsequent sessions were handled by faculty members of IIM Shillong on topics such as Pedagogy, Ethics & Values, Quantitative & Qualitative Techniques, Leadership & Management, Design Thinking etc.



5th Governing Body Meeting of Dr. Kalam Centre

The 5th Governing Body Meeting of Dr. Kalam Centre was convened on 12th May 2023 at Conference Hall, North Eastern Council (NEC) Shillong. The meeting was chaired by Shri Moses K Chalai, Secretary, NEC and was attended by Prof. D P Goyal, Director, IIM Shillong, Shri Angshuman Dey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), Dr. Sanjeev K Ningombam, Centre Coordinator, Dr. Kalam Centre in the presence of other key officials of NEC Shri Gaigongdin Panmei, Financial Adviser and Smt. Sherry Lalthangzo, Economic Adviser. This meeting focused on the construction of the administrative building, the key initiatives taken by the Centre, Research & Consulting work, various training programs conducted over a year, and other knowledge dissemination activities carried out by the Centre. Among other topics discussed were the future plans and strategies for Policy Research, Engagement and Collaboration with Government Agencies.



Research Collaboration with UNICEF, NER

The team of UNICEF, NER visited IIM Shillong on 2nd June 2023 for an interaction with the research team of the Dr. Kalam Centre. The discussion focused on exchanging ideas and potential areas for collaboration. It was discussed to collaborate on research and consultancy work for the Government of Meghalaya in conducting rapid assessment and analysis for aspirational district programme in line with NITI Aayog's guidance. The assessment shall address barriers and inhibitors to optimize opportunities for multi-sectoral interventions in a community-driven approach.



Meetings with the representatives of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh

Col. Dinesh Adhikari, Chief Administrative Officer and Dr. Sanjeev K Ningombam, Centre Coordinator, Dr. Kalam Centre, IIM Shillong made an official visit to Tawang and Itanagar from 4-06-2023 to 7-06-2023. During their visit, they met with the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Tawang District and other DC officials. It was discussed to conduct a series of capacity-building programs, management development programs and leadership programs for officers of Arunachal Pradesh. The team also met with the Secretary of Personnel and Commissioner to Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh. The discussion focused on developing course modules aimed at addressing the training needs of officers across sectors and levels.



G20 International Webinar on “Decentralising Governance - Models and Methods”

Dr. Kalam Centre hosted an international webinar on “Decentralising Governance – Models and Methods” on 9th May 2023. The webinar was organized as part of G20 events, with Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) as the main organizer and Dr. Kalam Centre as an academic partner. The webinar had renowned personalities as speakers like Mr. Christian Raffer, Economist, German Institute of Urban Studies, Mr. Mathew Robinson, Director, EGIC: Chairman, Northern Ireland Conservatives, United Kingdom, Mr. Benedetto Zacchiroli, President, European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR), Dr. Yong Chang Jang, Chief Researcher Democracy & Environment, South Korea, Mr. Vas Shenoy, Founder, Dialogue on Democracy, Italy and Mr. Amrat Singh, Director, CUTS International. The panellists shared their views on decentralized models, methods, and democratic practices with examples. They highlighted the importance of decentralization in the current socio- political landscape and the need for increased public participation to ensure a more equitable system. They also discussed the benefits of decentralisation, such as increased transparency and accountability.

Interaction with the representatives of Civil Society Organization of North East

Dr. Kalam Centre hosted a group of Civil Society Organization (CSO) founders and representatives for an interaction and dinner on 18th June 2023. The group represents various organisations working on a variety of verticals and communities of NER. The interaction was attended by Shri Atul Kulkarni, Member, Board of Governors (BoG), IIM Shillong & CEO of Amazing Namaste Foundation, Prof. D P Goyal, Director, IIM Shillong, faculty members and Centre Coordinator. In the interaction, the team of IIM Shillong presented various ideas and initiatives taken by the Institute for the development of North East. One of the most significant discussions was on the Community Immersion Program of the Institute. The need and interest in working with CSOs were discussed in detail. The team expressed its willingness to collaborate with like-minded organizations. They also proposed to conduct joint events and workshops to enhance local knowledge and skills.



Interaction with NITI Aayog

Dr. Sanjeev K Ningombam attended a Roundtable on "Reimagining NITI Aayog to fulfil Amrit Kaal's vision". The roundtable was convened on April 25, 2023, from 11:30am - 02:00pm (Room No. 122) at National Institution for Transforming India Aayog (NITI Aayog) by Senior officials, including the Advisor and CEO of NITI Aayog. The roundtable aimed to generate ideas on how academic institutions can converge and forge to develop a robust roadmap for transforming India to fulfil Amrit Kaal's vision. The roundtable also discussed the role of NITI Aayog in the implementation of Amrit Kaal's vision. Ideas were exchanged on the need for convergence between the government, industry, and academia to create a unified roadmap. The roundtable concluded with a commitment to develop a comprehensive roadmap for the furtherance of Amrit Kaal's vision.

Policy Briefs: PM DevINE: Advancing Northeast

This edition of the newsletter is discussing about Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM DevINE) scheme, which was announced as a new Central Sector Scheme in the Union Budget 2022-23.

Objectives

To fund infrastructure convergently, in the spirit of PM Gati Shakti;

To support social development projects based on felt needs of the North East;



To enable livelihood activities for youth and women;

To fill the development gaps in various sectors.

Institutional Administration:

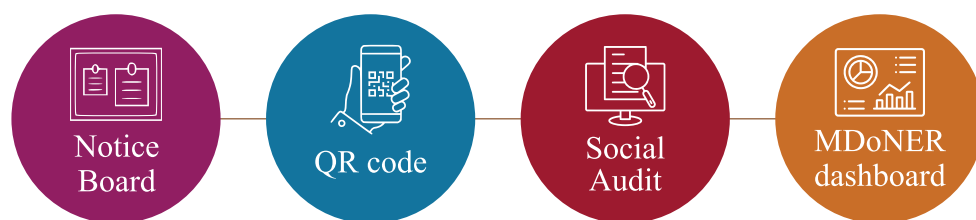
Allocation of fund - Ministry of Finance, GoI to Ministry of DoNER.

Projects to be taken by - Central Government/ Departments or State Government.

Implemented by - Central Ministries/ Departments or the North Eastern Council/ State Governments, through the Implementing Agencies identified project-wise

Screening, appraisal and recommendation - Empowered Committee chaired by Secretary, MDonER.

For publicity and transparency:



Approved Cost under Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM DevINE) scheme (2022-2023)

Sl. No.	Projects	Approved Cost (Rs. in crores)
1	Establishment of dedicated services for the management of pediatric and adult hematolymphoid cancers in North East India at BBCI, Guwahati	129.00
2	NECTAR Livelihood Improvement Project (Multi-State)	67.00
3	Promoting Scientific Organic Agriculture in North East India (Multi-State)	45.00
4	Construction of Aizawl By-pass on Western Side	500.00
5	Construction of Bamboo Link Road at Different Locations in Various Districts in the State of Mizoram	100.00
6	Gap funding for Passenger Ropeway system from Pelling to Sanga-Choeling in West Sikkim	64.00
7	Gap funding for Eco-friendly Ropeway (Cable Car) from Dhapper to Bhaleydhunga in South Sikkim	58.00
8	Transformation of 20 schools as Centre for Excellence, Govt. of Assam	132.86
9	New Shillong Township, Director of Urban Affairs, Govt. of Meghalaya	146.79
10	Livelihood projects relating to development of eastern Nagaland, Govt. of Nagaland	180.00
11	Establishment of solar micro grid for supply of reliable power to remote habitations in Tripura, Govt. of Tripura	80.79
12	Total	1503.44



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