

BISWANATH COLLEGE, CHARIALI

BISWANATH, ASSAM, 784176



IQAC STRATEGIC PLAN: 2020-22 BISWANATH COLLEGE

IQAC TEAM BISWANATH COLLEGE

Dr. Chinta Mani Sharma Principal & Chairman

Dr. Debashis Sarmah Asstt. Co-ordinator

Dr. Lalit Baruah Asstt. Co-ordinator

Mr. Chitaranjan Kakati Non-Teaching Staff Member

> Dr. Nabin Sharma Alumnus Member

Mr. Diganta Bothakur Guardian Member Dr. Nipam Kr. Saikia Coordinator

Dr. Ratul Nath Asstt. Co-ordinator

Mrs. Deepjyoti Nath Teacher Member

Mr. Tilak Deka Non-Teaching Staff Member

Mr. Neelam Dutta Alumnus cum Local entrepreneur Member

Mr. Nayan Nirban Kakati Student Member

1. Introduction

One of the premier higher education institutions in Assam, Biswanath College has come a long way since its establishment on 7th September in 1960 on the north bank of the river Brahmaputra. Named after the historical Biswanath temple, one of the oldest temples in the north-eastern part of India, our college stepped into the diamond jubilee year on 7th September of 2019. The concluding programme of the year-long diamond jubilee celebration on 7th September, 2020, would have been spectacular one from all sides had there been no lockdown constraints. Despite the lockdown constraints, the IQAC of the college organized an International Webinar on "Mahatma Gandhi and his Legacy" to make the day remarkable, in which internationally acclaimed writer, former visiting professor of London School of Economics, winner of SahityaAkademi award and Padma Bhusan, Professor RamachandraGuha participated as the resource person. The college got recognition as a member institute of United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) in 2020. The IIC of the college also received recognition as member of Innovation Cell of MHRD and got 2.5 star rating in the calendar year 2019-20. The college has signed MoU with Biswanath College of Agriculture, THB College, Koliabor College, Rangachahi College and Assam Startup the Nest, operated by IIM Calcutta Innovation Park and made collaboration with E&ICT Academy under IIT Guwahati, LGBIMH, TSA (NGO) and Forest Department of Assam to promote research, entrepreneurial and innovative works. Brought under deficit-grant-in-aid by the Government of Assam on 1st April, 1963, our college introduced the faculty of science in 1970, the faculty of commerce in 2012, the BCA in 2017 and PG course in Assamese in 2018. It has green sprawling 29.62 acres campus with builtup area of 14300 square metres. It has adequate infrastructure for all-round development of students. Today our college has four streams (arts, science, commerce and computer applications), 18 UG programmes, 1 PG programme, 3 certificate courses, and offers honours programmes in 13 subjects. Some of the college's alumni have made mark for themselves in various fields. This is enough proof of the college's pursuit for excellence.

2. Vision

Biswanath College was the brainchild of the socially conscious benevolent people of Biswanath Chariali with indomitable thirst for knowledge and strong desire to educate the masses of the locality at a time when Biswanath Chariali was considered to be an interior part of Assam. Away from Guwahati by around 254 kms, it is now headquarter of newly created Biswanath district. The people then firmly believed that education is the movement from darkness to light. The logo and the motto line, तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय (lead us from darkness to light), of the college capture the essence of enlightenment which is the avowed objective of Biswanath College. The motto line is taken from *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad*. The emblem of the college depicts a glowing sun in the innermost circle which symbolises the college's march towards enlightenment. Earlier the stated vision of the college was to impart liberal quality education and to produce intellectually sound, morally upright, socially concerned and spiritually oriented men and women to the service of the nation. But with the change of time, an institution has to make a specific goal than a generalised goal for its growth. The only thing that remains constant is change. Drawing inspiration from the aforementioned ancient Indian mantra in *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad*, the college now envisions itself to be a premier institution of learning in the country committed to excellence. The college firmly believes that the world is full of possibilities, and with this conviction it will persistently tryto transform itself from a mere institution of higher education on the north bank of the river Brahmaputra to an institute of excellence in the country in future.

3. Mission

- To empower the students with quality education, make them realise their potentialities and responsibilities so that they become the real human resources for the nation.
- To bring the underprivileged and socially disadvantaged sections of society, specially the womenfolk, to the fold of higher education.
- To take measures towards sustainable development of society and environmental care and to help the students form a holistic personality combining skills and values.
- To give the students an ideal platform for debates and discussions to cultivate democratic spirit.
- To train up the learners in a line that facilitates them to find avenues for selfemployment.
- To make students aware of rich cultural heritage of our pluralistic society where there is the much-coveted unity in diversity.
- To promote gathering and sharing of new knowledge among students through research activities and publications.
- To promote the effective use of information and communication technology in academics and administrative areas.

4. SWOC Analysis

Institutional Strength:

- Our college is UGC recognized, NAAC accredited with CGPA of 2.80 in 2015, ISO certified, and located at the heart of BiswanathChariali, headquarter of Biswanath district, on a clean and green 119900 square metres campus.
- The college has diverse student population belonging to almost all communities in Assam. It has been supporting the growth of the spirit of co-existence and cooperation among them in such a way that it is an example of unity in diversity.
- Through the competent and committed teachers and effective student support mechanism the college maintains academically encouraging atmosphere. After graduation, significant numbers of our students move to post graduation and research.
- ➤ We have a visionary and committed governing body.
- The college has signed MoU with Biswanath College of Agriculture, THB College, Koliabor College, Rangachahi College and Assam StartUp The Nest, operated by IIM Calcutta Innovation Park and made collaboration with E&ICT Academy under IIT Guwahati, LGBIMH, TSA (NGO) and Forest Department of Assam to promote research, entrepreneurial and innovative works.
- We have central library withILMS, good collection of books, journals and newspapers, Wi-Fi facility, open access system and spacious reading rooms which is the member of N-LIST.
- We have a democratically elected students' body to best represent the aspirations of the diverse student population.
- The vibrant Alumni Association organises development programmes and raises fund for the college.
- The college has a Bio-Tech Hub under the sponsorship of Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.
- The college offers a certificate course on tea husbandry and has a tea garden on 1.34 hectares of land which is a good source of income.
- It has adequate infrastructure for teaching, learning and extension activities with Wi-Fi coverage in almost major parts of the campus.
- Our students shine in cultural, literary, sports, NCC and NSS activities. The college enjoys confidence of stakeholders.

To turn a backward village into an ideal village, the NSS unit of the college in cooperation with NCC unit adopted an interior backward village KroArong, in Karbi Block of Biswanath.

Institutional Weaknesses

- According to the data produced by the Global Business Coalition for Education (GBC Education), the Education Commission, and UNICEF, approximately 50 of Indian youth are not on track to have the education and skills necessary for employment by 2030. Keeping this in view, the college needs to give more opportunity to the students to do skill-oriented courses to overcome the employment hurdle.
- There is the demand for more post graduate courses in face of rapid growth of students for it across the state. The college needs to introduce more PG courses.
- Weak English language skill poses a great challenge for our students as most of them are from Assamese medium schools.
- > The college needs to work in the mobilization of local industries supporting resources.
- The college needs to include greater variety of subjects which may pave the way for skill enhancement.
- > There is no accommodation facility inside the campus for the teaching staff of the college.
- The Faculty of Commerce and Faculty of Computer Science of the college are yet to be brought under provincialisation.

Institutional Opportunities

- The college has a big campus, so much so that if it is made a university, there will be no scarcity of area. For the time being the college can apply for autonomous status.
- > It can open more centres of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Incubation.
- The college can give the students more opportunities of social interaction through the activities of Teachers' Unit, BCSU, NCC and NSS.
- The college can produce compost manurefrom vegetable and food wastes from all the hostels of the college and the hotels of Biswannath town on a large scale for resource generation.
- The college can organise more and more FDPs on relevant academic topics with the participation of talented academicians as resource persons.

Realizing the importance of emotional well-being in students' lives, the college can engage psychological counseling professionals to impart awareness and training regarding the same.

Institutional Challenges

- UGC's 'Quality Mandate' lays much stress on skills and not on marks. The college needs to introduce more and more skill-oriented courses, develop self-employment schemes and entrepreneur coursesfor the new generation of students.
- > The alumni input and support in terms of academics and infrastructure is limited so far.
- Poor education backgrounds of the parents prevent even our high achievers from moving out for higher levels of learning or employment.Students are mostly first generation learners getting little motivation from the parents or the society.
- There is no effective mechanism for the execution of collaborations with institutions of excellence.

5. IQAC Strategic Plan-2020-22

As mentioned in the introductory part, the college stepped into the diamond jubilee year on 7th September of 2019. The stakeholders of the college decided to celebrate the success story in a befitting manner to honour the great souls and wellwishers who directly or indirectly contributed in making our college a throbbing centre of excellence. The year-long diamond jubilee celebration began with a spectacular cultural rally on 7th September, 2019. During the lockdown period the college decided to carry forward virtual academic activities as part of the year-long programmes. The college has the plan to organise at least one interactive programmes per month with eminent personalities from different fields, develop technologies unique to local environment in the field of health, hygiene and judicious utilization of local resources for the benefit of the region, increase the infrastructure, open more centres of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Incubation, equip the existing laboratories of different science departments with modernized materials, start an organic mushroom farm, continue psychological counselling to students by professionals, improve the quality of different audit practices, begin a new platform for faculty to share their expertise among other faculty members, organise training programmes for non-teaching staff, open coaching centres of IELTS and TEOFL, apply for autonomous status, and prepare a large athletic ground for different sport activities.

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