

# Jmc CHRONICLE

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## 13th Convocation Ceremony of Tripura University

*The knowledge and skills that gained at university campus will be the compass to face the challenges with strength and resilience*

– Vice Chancellor



**Suryamaninagar:** Tripura University has observed its 13th Convocation at Maharaja Bir Bikram Shatabarshiki Bhavan on 8th September 2024 with great enthusiasm and grandeur. The convocation ceremony commenced with a grand academic procession led by the Chancellor of Tripura University, followed by the Vice-Chancellor, deans, faculty members, and other academic leaders, typically dressed in formal academic regalia. The ceremonial regalia, including gowns, hoods and caps represents the academic achievements, pride and solemnity of the occasion. The dignitaries who has grace the dais were chief guest Shri Indrasena Reddy Nallu, Hon'ble Governor of Tripura, Hon'ble Chancellor of Tripura University Shri Ahmad Javed (IPS Ret'd), former Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and former Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, the Dean Faculty of Science, Prof. Badal Kumar Datta, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Management & Information Science, Prof. Chinmoy Roy, the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Music & Fine Arts, Prof. Sukhendu

Debbarma, Dean of the Faculty of Literature, Prof. Vinod Kumar Misra, Registrar, Dr. Deepak Sharma. The ceremony officially opened with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and followed by the University Anthem (Kulgeet). The dignitaries were felicitated with flower bouquets and mementoes. Vice-Chancellor Professor Ganga Prasad Prasain delivered the welcome address with a message that was both inspiring and reflective. He said that Tripura University have completed 37 years of journey and feel proud to be a witness and a part of the university's movement in time. Time as we know is never static and stands still. The movement is eternal as the poet T.S.Eliot brilliantly put it in his pathbreaking poem "Four Quarters". "Time present and time past, Are both perhaps present in time future, And time future contained in time past. If all time eternally present, All time is unredeemable." The poem speaks about the interconnection of our past, present and future. In this 37-years old journey, Tripura University has taken great strides to establish UG and PG programs in 44-disciplines. The new NEP 2020 has implemented successfully since June 2023. Vice-Chancellor Professor Ganga Prasad Prasain mentioned that this day not only a celebration of our academic success but also a celebration of our perseverance and strong foundation of knowledge that we have built during our time here at Tripura University. He said that the knowledge and skills we have gained here will be our compass as we may face the challenges with strength and resilience. Addressing the 13th Convocation ceremony, chief guest Shri Indrasena Reddy Nallu, Hon'ble Governor of Tripura urged students to use their knowledge to drive positive societal impact and contribute to the nation's development. In his speech, he emphasized the importance of adopting modern learning techniques alongside a strong foundation in traditional education. In his speech, Chancellor of Tripura University Shri Ahmad Javed (IPS Ret'd) said – a university convocation is not just an annual event in the academic calendar. It is a time-honored tradition, marking culmination of years of dedication and hard work. He urged the student that there is no alternative to hard work and there are no short cuts in life. A total number of 63-scholars from various academic disciplines received Ph.D. Gold medals and Certificates also distributed to the convocation ceremony. The 13th Convocation Ceremony of Tripura University has concluded with the vote of thanks speech by the Registrar, Dr. Deepak Sharma followed by the National Anthem. ■Daisy Debbarma, JMC

## Ahmed Javed believes that indigenous invention will inspire more scientists

■Alina Debbarma, Student JMC: Ahmed Javed, the chancellor of Tripura University and a former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, delivers a speech at his first visit to the institution on the occasion of 13th convocation held on 8th September, 2024, at the Maharaja Bir Bikram auditorium in the university campus. He began his speech by extending a warm welcome to all the attendees and emphasizing on the dedication of the university in providing quality education, nurturing talent and hard work and promoting research at various disciplines. He mentioned the importance of equipping the youth with the necessary skills for the scientific and technological development of the nation. Ahmed Javed described the significance of the convocation being merely a feature of the



calendar, that it is a " Time honored tradition, marking the culmination of years of dedication and hard work". He not only acknowledged the efforts of the university in bestowing quality education but also deemed it's involvement in community service as "praiseworthy", citing the example of the devastating floods that ravaged the entire state recently. Ahmed Javed mentioned that

the Invention of portable water purifier by a faculty member of Tripura University was very helpful for those effected by the ravaging floods. He believes that this invention will inspire many more scientists to " rise to the occasion, serve the community and thereby, the nation". Ahmed Javed realizes the fact that University education today is more skill oriented and outcome driven, yet he tells us to always remember the efforts of the teachers who spent hours on their research, their unwavering commitment in nurturing the growth and enhancing the knowledge and skills of the students. He instructs us to be cautious of the future of our planet and strive towards making our world a more safer and eco-friendly place. Ahmed Javed tells how we

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# Governor of Tripura talks of Research and Technology in innovation and education

■ **Alina Debbarma, JMC Student:** Sri Indra sena Reddy Nallu, the Hon'ble Governor of Tripura, was the chief guest at the 13th convocation of Tripura University, held on 8th September, 2024, at the Maharaja Bir Bikram Auditorium in the university campus. This was his second visit at the university. He commenced his speech by remembering Maharaja Bir Bikram and how the auditorium immediately evokes reverence towards the contribution of this important historical figure. He states how it is important to remember that life is not without its challenges, that life always welcomes us with hurdles, obstacles, and setbacks but it is in these moments that we remember our strengths, resilience and determination. The Hon'ble chief guest focuses on how it is important to develop cutting edge technology in today's digital era to eradicate digital crimes. He finds it a necessity to develop skills in artificial intelligence and that institutes should introduce skill development in AI and also keep up the holistic knowledge. He lays importance of research and how research is crucial in exploring innovative ways to convert all forms of life into digital form. Citing the example of Tripura and its richness in natural resources like agarwood, bamboo and rubber, the chief guest speaks on how research can be conducted on these materials to find the best way to turn them into economic assets and make Tripura a prosperous state. He also believes that by computerizing the production of their by-products, we can support the local artisans. He concludes his speech by laying the importance of education in empowering skills, knowledge and critical thinking. He says that with changing trends in education



and employment, it is imperative that we must adapt and evolve. Furthermore, he adds that there will be continuity in upgradation and leveraging technology in enhancing the learning process. Talking about creating world class universities with state-of-the-art facilities, he talks about fostering a culture of innovation, research and entrepreneurship and preparing the youth for an ever changing world. Lastly, he urges the students to use knowledge to create positive impact, drive progress and contribute to the growth of our nation.

## Face to Face



In a world where education often meets numerous challenges, the story of Mayanglambam Sana stands out as a testament to perseverance and dedication. A student from the Department of English, Sana embarked on her academic journey at Tripura University in 2016. Over the years, her path to success was anything but smooth. Like many others, the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted her studies, adding an unforeseen obstacle to her already challenging journey. However, this was not the only hardship she encountered. There were smaller, personal struggles that made the road ahead tougher. Despite these challenges, Tripura University provided Sana with the support she needed. The institution not only helped her navigate through the turbulence but also inspired her to remain committed to her studies. With determination and guidance, she overcame every hurdle, staying focused on her goal. Sana's efforts paid off when, after seven years of dedication to her PhD, she was honoured with an award at the 13th convocation of Tripura University. Her achievement marks the culmination of years of hard work and resilience, making her an inspiration to many students. Looking ahead, Sana

aspires to remain connected with academics, continuing her passion for learning and knowledge. In her message to the students of the university she offered invaluable advice: to approach studies with the mindset of entertainment. "Take your studies as something enjoyable," she says, urging her peers to stay focused and determined, no matter the challenges. Mayanglambam Sana's journey serves as a reminder that with perseverance, support, and a positive attitude, academic success is attainable, even in the face of adversity."

Please tell me your and your department name?  
Mayanglambam Sana from English department

**How was your journey at university?** I started my course in 2016, but despite the studies being slightly affected due to Covid, the university's WiFi and some other facilities helped us a lot. Campus life was pretty good. I was in a hostel. Safety and security were also quite good there.

**How do you feel today you were awarded with medals and certificates?** I am feeling good because I have got the result of my 7 years of hard work in my PhD in English through this award and medal.

**What kind of challenges did you face in setting up your academy?**

Despite not having much of a problem, the only problem I felt in the library was that my research topic was North East Literature but there were very few books related to it in the library.

**If I ask you right now what is your vision for the future?**

Because I am in academics, I want to remain in academics and I am happy with my profession.

**What advice would you give to other students who are currently studying in the university?**

During our academics most of the time we try to escape from our studies. I would suggest students to complete their studies on time and also keep up with their extra curricular activities because everyone is under stress and this generation is full of stress. Therefore, if we study with fun, then we can contribute to the betterment of our society.

■ Interviewed by Payal Roy, JMC Student

## From Dream to Success- An Insight from a Post Graduate



■ **Lagnajita Chakraborty, JMC Student:** In the realm from dreaming to achieving success, a postgraduate degree represents a significant milestone. Today, we dive into the experiences and insights of a recent postgraduate graduate during the 13th convocation day of Tripura University. Our interviewee is Deepak Dey, a recent graduate with a Master's degree in Bengali from Tripura University.

Through the interview, Deepak shares reflections on his academic experiences and his vision for the future. Let's explore the journey of a driven postgraduate and uncover the lessons learned along the way.

**Tell us a bit about your background and what led you choose Tripura University?**

My name is Deepak Dey. I am a resident of Subhasnagar. I have completed my Bachelor's in Bengali Honours from Ramthakur College by securing Gold Medal. And currently I have completed my Post-graduation in Bengali from Tripura University. While travelling with my parents for work i used to see Tripura university and dreamt of joining the it someday. A ray of interest and hope was present in my mind since so long to take admission in Tripura university. And here I am today.

**How was your academic journey here at Tripura university? Did you face any challenges?** No i didn't had to face any big challenges. It's just that finding few important books of Bengali literature during my masters was hard to get which I later got at the Central library of Tripura University.

**How are you feeling right now after being a part of this convocation and receiving the medal?**

I believe Everything cannot be described in words. Still i would say that it feels great here today receiving my Medal, especially with the presence of my mother and my favourite teacher Dr.Mridul Chakraborty.

**Do you want to mention anybody by whom you got inspiration and motivation throughout your journey?**

I first got inspired from my school teacher to choose Bengali subject as my main career. Eventually there were some amazing teachers from Ramthakur college too whose words impacted and motivated me a lot to continue my degree and achieve success.

It would have been impossible to stay motivated and secure the 1st position in M.A (Bengali) in Tripura university without the support and guidance of one of my favourite teacher Dr. Mridul Chakraborty. All the other professors, Asst. professors and guest faculties of the Bengali Department of TU have motivated me to study efficiently.

**What are your plans now as you have completed your degree?**

Currently i am working as a Guest lecturer in Ramthakur College and I am looking forward to do PhD to make teaching profession as my full time career in future.

**What advice would you like to give to the fellow students or the freshers who have just started their journey at Tripura University?**

I would advice my juniors to do the classes properly, and not to depend only on notes as it holds us back from exploring, try to explore the world practically. Work hard and do your best.

## Interview of a Teacher who lost his Job but didn't lose himself

■ **Neha Murasingh, JMC Student:** Dr. Abhijit Rudra Pal's journey through his Ph.D. in Synthetic Organic Chemistry is not just a story of academic achievement but one of resilience in the face of deep personal and financial adversity. As one of the 10323 teachers who lost their jobs in Tripura, Dr. Pal opens up about the emotional and financial hardships he faced during this turbulent period of his life. He recalls how the strain of losing his livelihood, while simultaneously embarking on the demanding path of Ph.D. research, often overwhelmed him. Despite these setbacks, he pushed forward, using this difficult phase as a stepping stone to a brighter future. His candid reflections on this transformative journey highlight not only the intellectual breakthroughs in his field but also the inner strength that allowed him to persevere through his most challenging moments.

**Q: Sir, could you please tell us your name?**

**A:** My name is Dr. Abhijit Rudra Pal, and I am from the Department of Chemistry. I have completed my Ph.D. in Synthetic Organic Chemistry.

**Q: Could you share the title of your research?**

**A:** My research topic is Studies on the Synthesis and Characterization of Some Novel Commercial Intermediates and Other Heterocyclic Direct Compounds.

**Q: Why did you choose to pursue a Ph.D. in Synthetic Organic Chemistry?**

**A:** I chose synthetic organic chemistry because it has a wide range of applications, especially in the development of synthetic medicines. Additionally, it allows us to prepare novel derivatives of organic compounds that are used in organic electronic devices. This field motivated me to conduct research in synthetic organic chemistry.

**Q: Under whose mentorship did you pursue your Ph.D.?**

**A:** I had the privilege of working under the supervision of Professor Supan Majumder, who is the Head of the Department of Chemistry.

**Q: What were some of the most significant challenges you encountered during your Ph.D., both academically and personally?**

**A:** It was very challenging for me, especially at the beginning of my Ph.D. I became quite emotional during that period because I had lost my job. I was a teacher under the 10323 scheme, and the financial strain was immense. Surviving during that time was tough, but I accepted the challenge and persisted. Completing my Ph.D. was a turning point that helped me overcome that difficult phase of my life, and it gave me a new sense of freedom.

**Q: How many years did it take you to complete your Ph.D.?**

**A:** I completed my Ph.D. in three years. I started in 2020 and finished within that period, despite losing my job during that time.

**Q: Was there a breakthrough moment in your research that particularly excited you? Any significant discoveries?**

**A:** Yes, I synthesized some organic compounds, specifically derivatives of Amarendra compounds. These derivatives are used in organic electronic devices, particularly memory devices, which have great potential. The breakthrough was in developing organic materials to replace harmful inorganic materials, thus contributing to environmentally friendly technologies.

**Q: What message would you like to share with aspiring Ph.D. students?**

**A:** I believe all researchers should focus on contributing to society and advancing science and technology, not just for personal survival or financial gain. Ph.D. students should aim to create something new that benefits the next generation.

**Q: What are your future research plans and goals?**

**A:** Now that I have completed my Ph.D., I plan to join a national institute. My goal is to continue my research in chemistry, and I hope to contribute further to the development of this field. If given the opportunity, I will definitely pursue research at a more advanced level.

## Chan'llor Ahmed Javed's words

**from p.1:** should be agents of positive change and disruption and support and uphold justice, equality and fair play. In his concluding remarks, he lays heavy emphasis on how there is no alternative to hard work and that learning is an ongoing process.

# PHOTO FEATURE OF THE 13TH CONVOCATION



## With a Focus on Tradition and Innovation

■ **Abel Debbarma, Student JMC:** The event, known as Dikshant Samaroh, was a blend of academic celebration and cultural reflection, bringing together the university's commitment to tradition, innovation, and excellence. Tripura University's decision to part ways with the conventional Western graduation attire of cap and gown was a significant feature of the convocation. Instead, the graduates were honoured with the Uttariya, a traditional Indian shawl symbolizing wisdom and knowledge. However, the traditional Risha, a shawl of the indigenous Tripuri people, which had also recently received a GI Tag for Tripura, was sidelined for a hybrid Uttariya-Risha combination for the guests, which caused some discontent among the local Tripuri people, who saw this as a missed opportunity to fully embrace and honour regional traditions. Both the Chancellor and the Governor spoke at length about the importance of research and innovation in modern education. Javed Ahmed highlighted the invention of a portable water purifier by a faculty member of Tripura University, which played a crucial role in aiding communities affected by recent floods in the state. This invention, he said, exemplifies how academia can directly contribute to societal welfare and will inspire more scientists to

pursue innovations that serve the nation. The convocation was not just a platform for celebrating academic success but also a moment for reflection on the university's broader mission. In a rapidly evolving world, both Chancellor Ahmed and Governor Nallu stressed the importance of adapting to new educational and technological trends while preserving the cultural heritage that grounds the institution. Governor Nallu, in his address, expressed his admiration for the university's sprawling campus, which he visited for the first time, remarking, "This university is one of the leading educational institutions in the country." His words underscored the vital role that Tripura University plays in shaping the nation's educational landscape. Governor Nallu, reflecting on the significance of the convocation, stated, "Life is not without its challenges, and it is in these moments that we remember our strengths, resilience, and determination." His call to the graduates was to use their knowledge and skills to create a positive impact on society and contribute to the nation's progress. Chancellor Javed Ahmed, making his inaugural visit to the university, spoke passionately about the institution's Swadeshi model of education. In his concluding remarks, Javed Ahmed

reminded the audience that hard work has no substitute, and learning is an ongoing process. He encouraged the graduates to be agents of positive change, uphold justice and equality, and remain committed to making the world a better, more eco-friendly place. His speech served as an inspiration not just to the students but to the entire academic community, reinforcing the idea that the true value of education lies in its ability to empower individuals to serve society. The Convocation saw many colourful performances from both cultures that resides in Tripura. The graduates belonged to 22 General Degree Collages, and from Tripura University. A total of 63 Ph.D. degrees were conferred, and 130 gold medals were awarded to outstanding graduates from both undergraduate and postgraduate programs for the academic year 2023. As the convocation drew to a close, it was clear that Tripura University is committed to balancing the weight of tradition with the demands of the future. With its focus on Swadeshi education, research, and technological innovation, the university is preparing its students to be leaders in a world where both cultural heritage and scientific advancement are equally valued.