



**A BRIEF REPORT ON THE LECTURE SERIES IN BLENDED MODE
HOSTED BY THE GEOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH FORUM IN MAY 2023
(For official use only)**



Shillong, Meghalaya, India

JV5W+X5G, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya 793022, India

**Geographical Research Forum
Department of Geography
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Acknowledgement

The NEHU Geographical Research Forum (NEHU-GRF) extends its heartfelt appreciation on behalf of the organising committee. We express gratitude to the Vice Chancellor of William Carey University (WCU) for graciously permitting the use of the conference room as the venue for the program and for providing financial support. Special thanks to the Patron - Vice Chancellor of North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), EC Members, and other NEHU-GRF members for their unwavering support.

The success of the program is indebted to the moral support received from the Head of the Department of Geography, Professor Laitpharlang Cajee at NEHU, and Dr. Ibabet Hynniewta at WCU, to whom we extend our special thanks. We also express our gratitude to the Department of Geography, William Carey University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India for collaborating in organising this unique program.

A sincere thank you goes to Professor D.K. Nayak and Professor Sunil Kumar De for not only accepting our invitation as Chief Guest and Guest of Honor but also for providing guidance and advice throughout. Special appreciation is extended to Professor Sunil Kumar De as an advisor who offered invaluable advice consistently.

The forum acknowledges the Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Project Director, and the Dean of the School of Sciences at WCU for their support throughout the program. Gratitude is also expressed to all forum members, teachers, faculty members of the School of Sciences and Humanities, Deans of different schools, and faculty members of WCU who supported the program by attending.

We extend our thanks to the non-teaching staff of WCU for their assistance in various ways, contributing to the success of the program. Special appreciation is directed towards all students and participants from institutions across the country who attended and actively participated.

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to the esteemed resource persons who generously delivered special lectures, enriching the learning experience. Professor D.K. Nayak and Professor Sunil Kumar De from NEHU provided scholarly insights that illuminated various aspects of the subject.

Professors V.S. Kale, formerly from Pune University, and Sachinanand Sinha, formerly from Jawaharlal Nehru University, made significant contributions, broadening perspectives on geography. Professors Milap Chand Sharma and Shahidul Islam, from

Jawaharlal Nehru University and the University of Dhaka, respectively, deserve special thanks for sharing their valuable ideas despite their busy schedules.

While regretting the absence of Professor S. Bandyopadhyay from the University of Calcutta, Professor Takashi Oguchi from the University of Tokyo, and Professor Muh Aris Marfai from Indonesia, we appreciate their initial acceptance of our invitation. Unforeseen circumstances can disrupt plans, and we value their willingness to be part of the program.

The program has been enriched by the contributions of these esteemed resource persons, adding immense value to the educational endeavour and inspiring a deeper appreciation for the field of geography among participants.

Subhajit Sarkar
President
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1. Introduction

The Geographical Research Forum at North-Eastern Hill University, in collaboration with the Department of Geography at William Carey University, hosted a two-day lecture series in a blended mode on May 18th and 19th, 2023. This initiative stands out as a unique endeavor, where eminent professors from South Asian countries shared their invaluable knowledge with participants not only from India but also from other parts of the region.

The focal point of this lecture series was the exploration of recent trends in geography. The program was conducted in a blended mode, incorporating both online and offline lectures. Its objective was to encourage the active participation of distinguished scholars and experts in geography, originating from India and abroad, to share their insights with a diverse audience, including individuals from India and beyond.

The primary goal of this initiative is to stimulate intellectual discourse and broaden perspectives on globally significant issues. The program has been crafted to familiarise students in the field with the global intellectual community, aiming to enhance their understanding of the discipline as a whole. In addition to participants from North-Eastern Hill University and William Carey University, a diverse group of students from various academic institutions attended the lecture series online, contributing to the program's inclusive reach and impact.

The lecture series showcased distinguished Geography professors who were invited to present lectures, highlighting their expertise and knowledge in the discipline. The comprehensive list of these esteemed professors who attended and delivered insightful lectures is as follows:

1. Professor Sunil Kumar De, North eastern Hill University, Shillong, India, President of International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG).
2. Professor Shahidul Islam, Chairman, Department of Geography and environmental studies, Dhaka university, Bangladesh.
3. Professor D.K Nayak, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, India.
4. Professor Milap Chand Sharma, Jawaharlal Nehu University, Delhi, India, He is a current President of Indian Institute of Geomorphologists (IGI).

5. Professor V.S Kale, Retired Professor, Savitribai Phule Pune University, India.
6. Prof. Sachidanand Sinha, Retired, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India.

2. Detail report of the Programme

I. Day 1: 18th May 2023

1) Inaugural Programme

The inaugural program, organised in a blended mode by the Department of Geography at the conference hall of William Carey University, garnered a distinguished gathering of attendees, underscoring the event's significance within academic and professional communities. The following esteemed individuals graced the occasion:

a) Dr. (Mrs.) Iabet Hynniewta, Chairperson of the event and Head of the Department of Geography, William Carey University. Dr. Hynniewta's leadership set the tone for the event, emphasising the department's commitment to academic excellence.

b) Prof. Soma Bhowmick, Honourable Vice Chancellor of William Carey University. Prof. Bhowmick's participation as a Guest of Honor demonstrated the university's support and highlighted its commitment to academic excellence.

c) Prof. D.K Nayak, Chief Guest of the event, representing North Eastern-Hill University. Prof. Nayak's presence added credibility to the occasion and enriched the discussions through his notable expertise.

d) Prof. Sunil Kumar De, President of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) and affiliated with North Eastern-Hill University. Prof. De's role as a Guest of Honor contributed to the event's specialisation in Geomorphology.

In addition to these distinguished guests, the event attracted a diverse audience, including a significant representation of faculty members from the Department and related departments within the university, showcasing the department's collaborative spirit. The presence of undergraduate and postgraduate students underscored their enthusiasm for academic events and their keen interest in geographical studies. The attendees also included researchers and scholars actively engaged in geographical research, contributing to the depth of discussions.

The inaugural program, initiated by Vice-Chancellor of WCU, Prof. Soma Bhowmick, commenced with a warm welcome extended to all attendees, including

distinguished guests, faculty members, students, and scholars from across the globe. Prof. Bhowmick expressed immense pride in the Department of Geography for its visionary initiative in organising the international lecture series, emphasising the university's commitment to fostering interdisciplinary learning and promoting international collaboration.

In his introductory speech, Dr. Repenstar Khongjee effectively conveyed the aspirations and significance of the international lecture series. He highlighted the importance of holistic understanding, collaboration, and the cultivation of knowledge in addressing global challenges.

Prof. D.K Nayak, the chief guest of the event, delivered a keynote address that left an indelible impact on the audience. His profound insights into global challenges, the transformative role of technology, the importance of community engagement, and interdisciplinary collaboration provided attendees with a deeper understanding of the complexities of modern geography. He concluded his speech by emphasising the significance of such events in fostering insightful discussions and promoting the advancement of geographical knowledge.

Prof. Sunil Kumar De, in his speech, provided a comprehensive overview of the intricate relationship between geomorphology and the Earth's dynamic landscape. His expertise as the President of the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) was evident throughout the session, inspiring attendees to appreciate the complex interplay between natural processes and human activities. The event deepened the audience's understanding of geomorphology and underscored the importance of continued research and collaboration in addressing the challenges our planet faces.

2) Technical session:

The technical session commenced with an illuminating lecture delivered by **Prof. Sunil Kumar De** on the topic "Impact of Human Activities on the Hydrogeomorphological Processes on River Basin Using Swat Model: An example of the Balasan river, West Bengal, India." The lecture delves into the intricate interplay between human activities and the dynamic processes of the river system, using the Balasan River in West Bengal, India, as a case study.

Prof. De initiates the lecture by acknowledging the crucial role that rivers play in shaping landscapes, ecosystems, and human cultures. This recognition emphasises

the necessity of understanding how human activities disrupt the delicate balance within river basins. The Balasan River basin in West Bengal serves as a pertinent case study, illustrating the effects of human activities on hydrogeomorphological processes, mirroring global challenges faced by river ecosystems.

The lecture introduces the Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) model, a sophisticated simulation tool. This model enables the prediction of the impact of changes in land use, climate patterns, and management strategies on water resources and related phenomena within a given river basin. Prof. De demonstrates significant alterations in the Balasan River watershed due to human activity, including increased sediment loads, changes in flow patterns, and degraded water quality. These changes pose threats to both the ecological integrity of the river and the socio-economic well-being of nearby populations.

Prof. De's presentation underscores the importance of implementing well-informed management practices grounded in scientific research. Recommendations for restoring the natural balance of hydrogeomorphological processes and mitigating negative impacts include reforestation efforts, the adoption of sustainable farming practices, and responsible urban development.

In essence, the entire lecture highlights the intricate relationship between human activities and the hydrogeomorphological processes that shape and develop river basins. Prof. De emphasises the significance of translating acquired knowledge into practical measures to safeguard these vital ecosystems for future generations.

Prof. V.S. Kale, formerly associated with the Savitribai Phule Pune University, India, and widely recognised as one of the preeminent geomorphologists in India, concluded the session with his lecture on "Active Tectonics and River Response." His presentation focused on investigating the intricate interplay between tectonic processes and river behaviour, offering insights into how geological forces contribute to the formation of river landscapes.

The lecture delves into the concept of "active tectonics," which involves the continuous displacement of tectonic plates, often resulting in seismic events, faulting, and changes in land configuration. This conceptual framework lays the groundwork for understanding the profound influence of these processes on river dynamics.

Prof. V.S. Kale provides an explanation of how active tectonics can alter river courses through various mechanisms. River channel incision, for instance, can be attributed to subsidence caused by tectonic forces, impacting sediment movement and overall river morphology. Conversely, tectonically-induced uplift has the potential to lead to the formation of river terraces and changes in drainage patterns.

The lecture also details the procedures and tools employed in research, including remote sensing techniques, geophysical surveys, and geological mapping methodologies. These methods aid in identifying tectonic features, monitoring land deformation, and examining the effects on river systems.

Prof. V.S. Kale's presentation explores the complex relationship between active tectonics and river dynamics, shedding light on the impact of geological factors on river landscapes, channel dynamics, and sediment transport. The lecture enhances our understanding of the dynamic processes occurring on Earth, emphasising the practical consequences associated with managing and adapting river systems affected by tectonic activity.

II. Day 2: 19th May 2023

1) Session II:

The session, moderated by Dr. Kulhiu Mero from the Department of Geography at William Carey University, Meghalaya, featured two enlightening lectures delivered by Professor Sachinanand Sharma and Professor Shahidul Islam.

Prof. Sachinanand Sinha's lecture, titled "Is Geography What Geographers do?," challenged conventional perceptions of geography as a field of study. He questioned whether the activities traditionally undertaken by geographers truly capture the essence and scope of geography. The lecture explored the multifaceted nature of geography beyond its conventional boundaries, highlighting its interdisciplinary collaborations with fields such as anthropology, economics, ecology, and political science. Prof. Sinha illustrated how geographers engage with global issues, contributing to discussions on climate change, migration, urbanisation, and social inequality. The lecture emphasised that geography extends beyond academic research, playing a crucial role in policy-making, sustainable development, and addressing complex real-world challenges.

Prof. Shahidul Islam's lecture, titled "Bangladesh Coast: Issues and Challenges," focused on the various challenges faced by the coastal region of Bangladesh. He highlighted the vulnerability of the area due to its low-lying nature and proximity to the Bay of Bengal. The lecture discussed complex issues such as sea-level rise, coastal erosion, cyclones, storm surges, saltwater intrusion, and the displacement of coastal communities. Prof. Islam emphasised the need to balance development activities with ecosystem conservation and highlighted the role of scientific research and interdisciplinary collaboration in understanding and addressing coastal issues. The lecture underscored the urgency of adopting a holistic and integrated approach involving scientific knowledge, policy interventions, community involvement, and international cooperation to address the challenges faced by the Bangladesh coast.

In summary, both lectures provided valuable insights into the diverse and interconnected aspects of geography. Prof. Sinha's lecture challenged traditional notions, presenting geography as a versatile and multidisciplinary field, while Prof. Islam's lecture shed light on the complex challenges faced by the Bangladesh coast and emphasised the importance of a comprehensive approach to ensure the resilience and sustainability of coastal communities and ecosystems.

2) Session III:

We sincerely thank Professor Sunil Kumar De from North Eastern Hill University, the esteemed President of the International Association of Geomorphologists, for graciously consenting to chair the session. During this session, two lectures were presented by Professor D.K. Nayak from North Eastern Hill University and Professor Milap Chand Sharma from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

The opening lecture by Professor **D.K. Nayak** addressed the subject of "Gender Disparity." Professor Nayak, a distinguished faculty member at North Eastern-Hill University, focused on examining gender inequality and disparity within societal frameworks. He emphasised the unequal treatment and opportunities based on gender, delving into the historical and cultural roots of gender inequalities. The lecture explored various expressions of gender disparities in education, employment, healthcare, and decision-making positions, highlighting their implications for individual welfare and societal well-being. Professor Nayak emphasised the need for collective efforts to challenge and dismantle gender disparities.

In summary, Professor D.K. Nayak's presentation on "Gender Disparity" aimed to enhance understanding and consciousness regarding the intricate factors contributing to gender disparities and promote transformative actions for a fair and equal society.

The session concluded with a lecture by Professor **Milap Chand Sharma** from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India, and the President of the Indian Institute of Geomorphologists. His lecture, titled "The Importance of Glaciers and Its Various Significant Impacts with Special Reference to the Himalayas," underscored the significance of glaciers in the Himalayan region and the wide-ranging effects of glacier change. The lecture covered topics such as the formation, characteristics, and distribution of Himalayan glaciers, factors impacting glacier dynamics, and the consequences of glacier retreat.

Professor Milap Chand discussed the increased risk of glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), altered river flow patterns, changes in ecosystem dynamics, and shifts in regional weather patterns resulting from glacier retreat and melting in the Himalayas. He emphasised the urgency of understanding and confronting climate change to mitigate its effects on Himalayan glaciers and the communities that depend on them.

In summary, Professor Milap Chand's lecture illuminated the unique role of Himalayan glaciers in the socio-environmental dynamics of the region. It highlighted the need for comprehensive approaches to address the challenges posed by glacier change.

The session and the event concluded with closing remarks by Professor Sunil Kumar De, expressing gratitude to all contributors and emphasising the program's potential for long-term benefits, inspiring students to embark on future research journeys. Professor De's closing remarks encapsulated gratitude for the collaborative effort that led to the event's success and a hopeful vision for its lasting influence on fostering a culture of learning, exploration, and research among students.

Programme Participation Analysis

This report presents a comprehensive analysis of the participants involved in the international lecture series organised by the Geographical Research Forum (NEHU-GRF) at North Eastern-Hill University, in collaboration with the Department of Geography at William Carey University in Shillong. As articulated from the outset, the

primary objective of the event was to foster the exchange of knowledge. The analysis delves into various factors, including the institutions registered for the program, the distribution of registrations across states, towns, and cities, and the overall impact of the event.

The international lecture series attracted participants from diverse corners of the globe, encompassing college students, university students, researchers, and professionals. The event served as a platform for meaningful interactions and discussions within the field of geography, resulting in a substantial exchange of ideas.

The attendees demonstrated a robust and diverse presence, reflected in the registration of 64 institutions, as illustrated in the table below. These institutions collectively represent a broad spectrum of intellectual pursuits, underscoring the program's wide-ranging appeal and significance. The participant list comprises various educational entities, including colleges, universities, research institutes, and government organisations. This diversity indicates a keen enthusiasm to actively participate in the program's offerings. The program's ability to engage a diverse range of interests is evident in the varied profile of participants, emphasising its role as a meaningful platform for engagement across different fields of knowledge and experience.

i. List of Institutions who have registered for the programme.

Table 1: List of Institutions who have registered for the programme

Acharya Brajendranath Seal College
Annamalai University
Assam Royal University
Asutosh College
Atal Bihari Vajpayee vishwavidyalaya
B Borooah College
Bhairab Ganguly College
Bhatter College, Dantan
Bhavan's NTPC Vidya Mandir
Centra University of Punjab
Central University of Karnataka
Central University of South Bihar
Chaitanya Science and Arts College Pamgarh

Chandrapur College
Cluny Women's College
Coochbehar Panchanan Barma University
Dewanhat Mahavidyalaya
Dhandai Arts & Science College
Diamond Harbour Women's University
Dinhata College
Diphu Government College
Dr Kanallal Bhattacharya College
Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)
Dr.C.V Raman University
Dr.kanailalbhattacharya college
Fakir Mohan University
Guest Lecturer
IIT Guwahati
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
Jadavpur university
Kalinga University
Kashipur Michael Madhusudan Mahavidyalaya
Krishnagar Women's College
Mahapurusha Srimanta SankaradevaViswavidyalaya
Malda College
Manipur University
University of Allahabad
National Centre for Earth Science
National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA)
National Taiwan Normal University
New Integrated Govt. School, Tapan
North Eastern Hill University
Onda Thana Mahavidyalaya
P.R.M.S Mahavidyalaya
Prabhu Jagatbandhu College
Presidency University, Kolkata

R.K.D. College, Patliputra University
Rajiv Gandhi University Itanagar
Ramkrishna more ACS College
Ravi Channamma University Belagavi
Royal Global University
SBSC, DU
School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
Sikkim University
Smt.N.N.C.ACS College
Tata Institute of Social Sciences
Umshyrpi College
University of Allahabad
University of Calcutta
University of Kalyani
University of North Bengal
Vardhaman PG college, Bijnor
Vidyasagar University
William Carey University

ii. State-wise Distribution of Registered Institutions:

The distribution of attendees for the program paints a vivid picture of diverse participation, as depicted in the table below. West Bengal takes the lead with a notable presence of 26 registered institutes, underscoring its significant engagement in the event. Assam and Maharashtra both actively participate, each contributing six institutes, demonstrating a well-represented presence from these states.

Chhattisgarh demonstrates commendable participation with four registered institutes, indicating a significant level of interest from this region. The program's international dimension is highlighted by the inclusion of an institute from Taiwan, emphasising its global appeal and reach.

The remaining states within India collectively contribute to the program's vitality, with 1 to 3 registered institutes each. This distribution exemplifies the program's ability to attract a wide array of participation from different corners of the country. The range of registered institutes, spanning from 1 to 3, signifies the program's

inclusive nature, accommodating both individual and collaborative participation. Overall, this distribution showcases the program's broad geographical impact and its success in fostering engagement across diverse regions, both nationally and internationally.

Table 2 : A state-wise number of Institutions registered for the programme

States	No. of Institutions
Arunachal Pradesh	1
Assam	6
Bihar	2
Chhattisgarh	4
Delhi	1
Karnataka	2
Kerela	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
Maharashtra	6
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	3
New Delhi	2
Odisha	1
Punjab	1
Sikkim	1
Taiwan	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Uttar Pradesh	3
West Bengal	26
Grand Total	64

iii. City-wise Percentage of Participants:

The program's participation distribution showcases a diverse and expansive geographic reach, as illustrated in the table below. Shillong has emerged as the predominant centre, constituting just over 46% of the overall participants. Cooch Bihar

exhibits a considerable proportion, contributing slightly beyond 8%, indicating a noteworthy presence.

Bhatinda's participation exceeds 6%, highlighting its significant influence. Kolkata has achieved a modest involvement level, accounting for slightly more than 5%. Notably, Kalaburagi and Darjeeling have contributed actively, surpassing 3% each.

Several additional cities collectively contribute, with each city individually representing less than 3%. The program's ability to attract a wide range of participants from different urban centres underscores its attractiveness and commitment to creating an inclusive atmosphere.

The fluctuating percentages observed in the statistics reflect the program's capacity to generate interest from diverse locations. The prominent representation of Shillong, coupled with the combined impact of other cities, contributes to a thorough geographical dispersion. Overall, this distribution highlights the program's effectiveness in involving participants from various cities, thereby enhancing the interchange of knowledge and ideas from many cities.

Table 3 : City-wise Percentage of Participants

Cities	No. of Participant (%)
Balasore	2.17
Bankura	0.87
Belagavi	0.43
Bhatinda	6.09
Bijnor	0.43
Bilaspur	1.30
Chadrapur	0.43
Chidabaram	0.43
Cooch Bihar	8.26
Dakshin Dinajpur	0.43
Dantan	0.43
Darjeeling	3.91
Dhule	0.43
Gangtok	0.43
Gaya	0.43
Guwahati	1.74

Howrah	2.61
Imphal	0.43
Itanagar	0.43
Jadavpur	0.87
Jalgaon	0.43
Kalaburagi	3.48
Kalimpong	0.43
Kalyani	0.87
Karbi Anglong	0.43
Kolkatta	5.22
Krishnagar	0.43
Malda	0.43
Midnapore	1.30
Mumbai	0.87
Nagaon	0.87
Nagpur	0.43
NCERT Campus	0.43
New Delhi	0.87
Pamgarh	0.43
Parganas	0.43
Patna	0.43
Prayagraj	0.87
Pune	0.43
Purulia	0.43
Raipur	0.43
Sagar	0.43
Shillong	46.09
Taipei	0.43
Thiruvananthapuram	0.43
Grand Total	100.00

iv. State-wise Percentage of Participants:

The program's participant distribution is characterised by a comprehensive representation from various states across India, covering a total of 18 states. Notably, the participation extends beyond national borders, with attendees from Taiwan contributing to the program's international dimension.

Meghalaya and West Bengal emerge as leaders in terms of representation, both recording the highest percentages of participants. These states demonstrate robust engagement, highlighting their keen interest in the program's offerings. Punjab, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Assam collectively contribute to a significant portion of participants, emphasising their active involvement in the event. Their noteworthy representation underscores the program's relevance across different regions of the country.

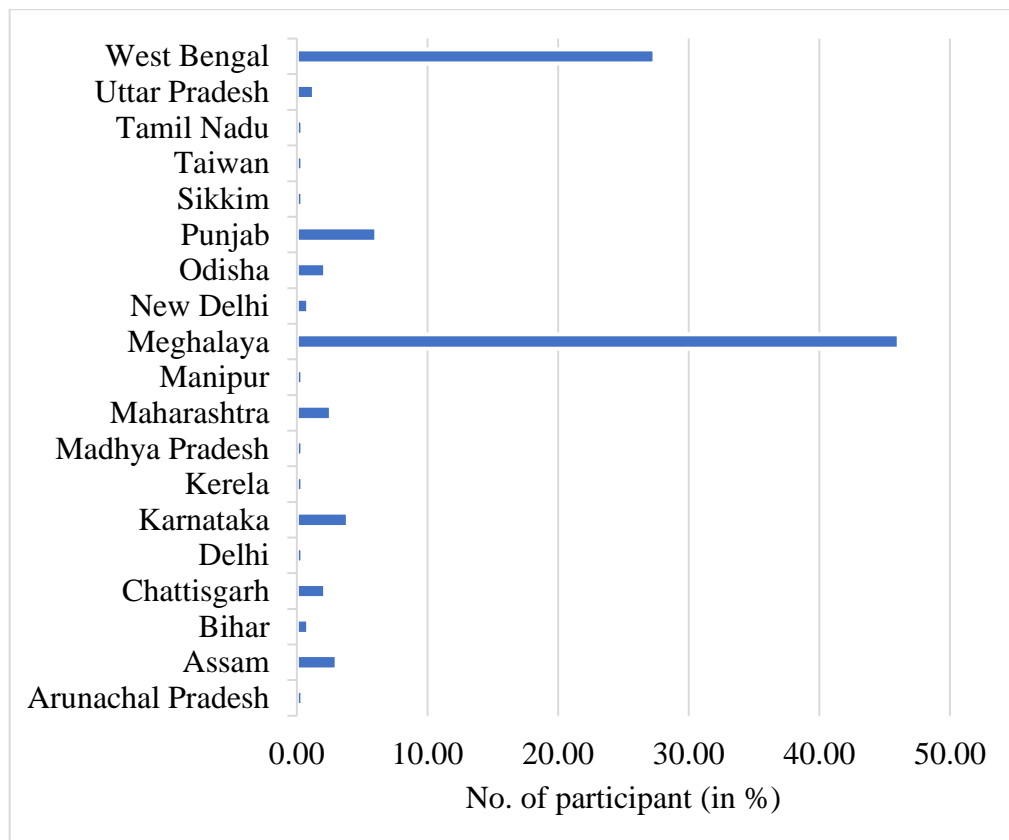


Figure 1 : State-wise percentage of participants

The program's inclusivity is evident in the participation from various states, creating a diverse mosaic of attendees. The combined impact of these distributions emphasises the program's nationwide reach and capacity to attract participants from a broad spectrum of states. The state-wise distribution of the program demonstrates

its success in involving participants from across India, fostering an enriching exchange of insights and experiences. The diverse array of states and their respective percentages underscores the event's broad appeal and its effectiveness in establishing a platform for knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

3. Summary and Conclusion

The International Lecture Series on Blended Mode, organised by the Geographical Research Forum, NEHU, in collaboration with the Department of Geography at William Carey University, proved to be a remarkable event that brought together distinguished scholars, renowned geographers, and enthusiastic participants. Held from May 18th to 19th, 2023, the series spanned a wide range of topics and insights, contributing to the advancement of geographical knowledge and fostering meaningful discussions.

a) Day 1 - May 18th, 2023:

The series commenced with a warm Welcome Address by the Vice Chancellor of William Carey University, setting the tone for the event's scholarly endeavours. The Keynote Address was delivered by Prof. D.K. Nayak, the esteemed Chief Guest, who enriched the audience with his profound insights. Prof. Sunil Kumar De, the Guest of Honor, graced the event with an address, marking the significance of the occasion. The first day's sessions included Prof. Sunil Kumar De's lecture on "Impact of Human Activities on the Hydrogeomorphological Processes on River Basin Using Swat Model: An example of the Balasan River, West Bengal, India." Following this, the renowned geographer, Prof. V.S. Kale, delivered a captivating lecture on "Active Tectonics and River Response."

b) Day 2 - May 19th, 2023:

The second day continued the intellectual journey with Prof. Sachinand Sharma's intriguing lecture, "Is Geography what Geographers do?". Prof. Shahidul Islam from the University of Dhaka contributed valuable insights on "Bangladesh Coast: Issues and Challenges," enriching the understanding of regional geographical dynamics. Professor D.K. Nayak commenced the final session by delivering a lecture centred on the topic of "Gender Disparity," thereby engaging with a significant societal issue. Professor Milap Chand

Sharma, a distinguished scholar from Jawaharlal Nehru University and the President of the Indian Institute of Geomorphologists, delivered a lecture on "The Significance of Glaciers and Their Various Impacts, with a Special Focus on the Himalayas."

Conclusion:

In summary, the International Lecture Series on Blended Mode was a dynamic platform for sharing information, bringing distinguished scholars and participants together for engaging and intellectually stimulating discussions. The event's intellectual richness was evident in the diverse subjects addressed by a distinguished group of speakers, showcasing the multifaceted nature of contemporary geography.

Prof. Sunil Kumar De concluded the event by expressing heartfelt gratitude to the resource persons and participants, recognising their pivotal contributions that ensured the lecture series's remarkable success. Beyond offering valuable insights into current developments in the field of geography, the series promoted collaboration, knowledge acquisition, and inspiration among both experts and enthusiasts. This underscores the resilience of geographical research in tackling present-day challenges and influencing the trajectory of the field.

A Glimpse of the Event



Picture 1: The Honourable Vice-Chancellor, WCU, Delivering a welcome speech.



Picture 2: Dr. Ibabet Hynniewta Chairperson and Head of the Department, WCU



Picture 3: Professor D.K. Nayak, the senior most professor at North Eastern-Hill University and the event's chief guest, addressed the audience.



Picture 4: Professor Sunil Kumar De, a guest of honour and the current president of the IAG addressed the audience.



Picture 5: Dr. Kulhiu Mero a faculty member of the Department, WCU



Picture 6: Dr. Repenstar Khongjee a faculty member of the Department, WCU delivering an introductory speech.



Picture 7: Honourable Vice-Chancellor, WCU, Prof. Soma Bhowmick (Guest of Honor), Prof. Sunil Kumar De, NEHU (Guest of Honor), Prof. D.K Nayak, NEHU (Chief Guest)



Picture 8: The programme was attended by various academic personnel and students, including the Registrar, Dean of the School of Sciences, Dean of Students Welfare, Project Director, Admission Officer, and students from the Geography Department.



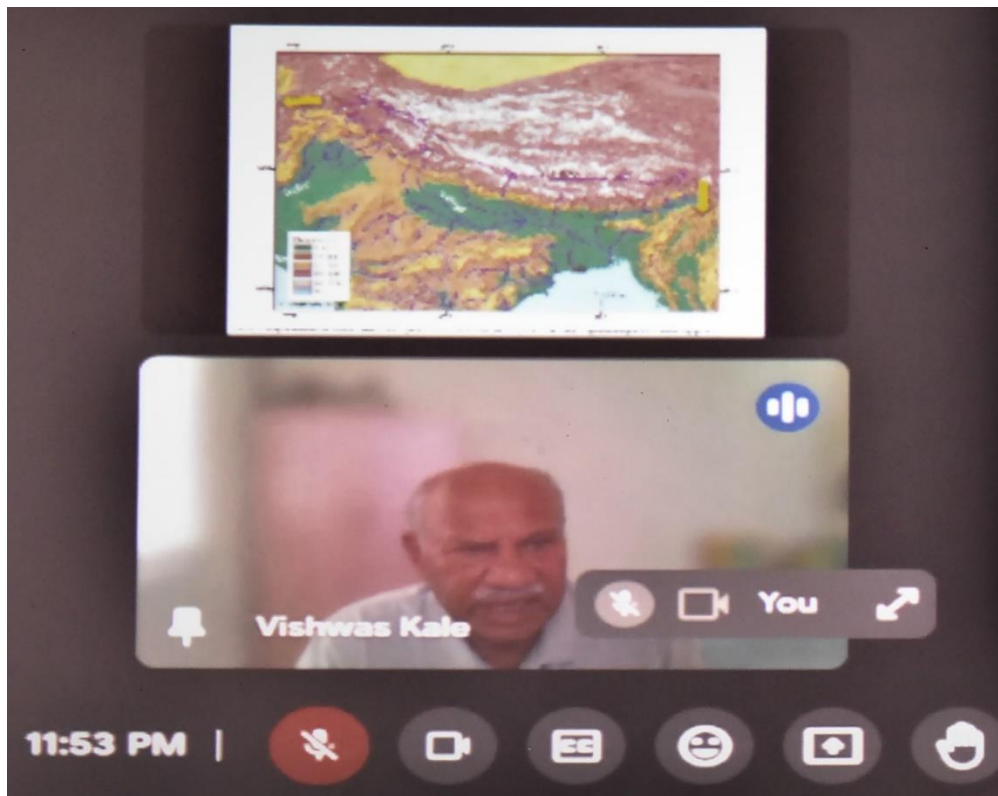
Picture 9: The Honourable Vice Chancellor of WCU, in a display of respect, presented a memento to Professor D. K. Nayak, a highly experienced professor at North Eastern-Hill University who was invited as the Chief Guest for the event.



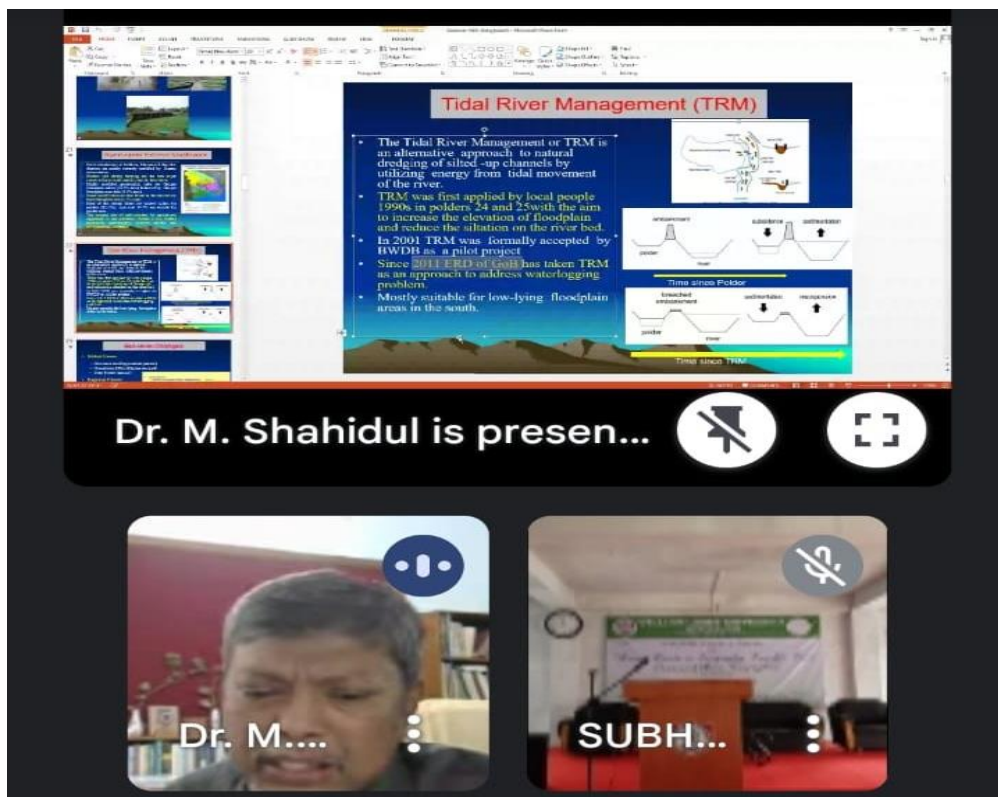
Picture 10: As a gesture of reverence, the Honourable Vice Chancellor bestowed a memento upon Professor Sunil Kumar De, who currently holds the prestigious role of President within the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG).



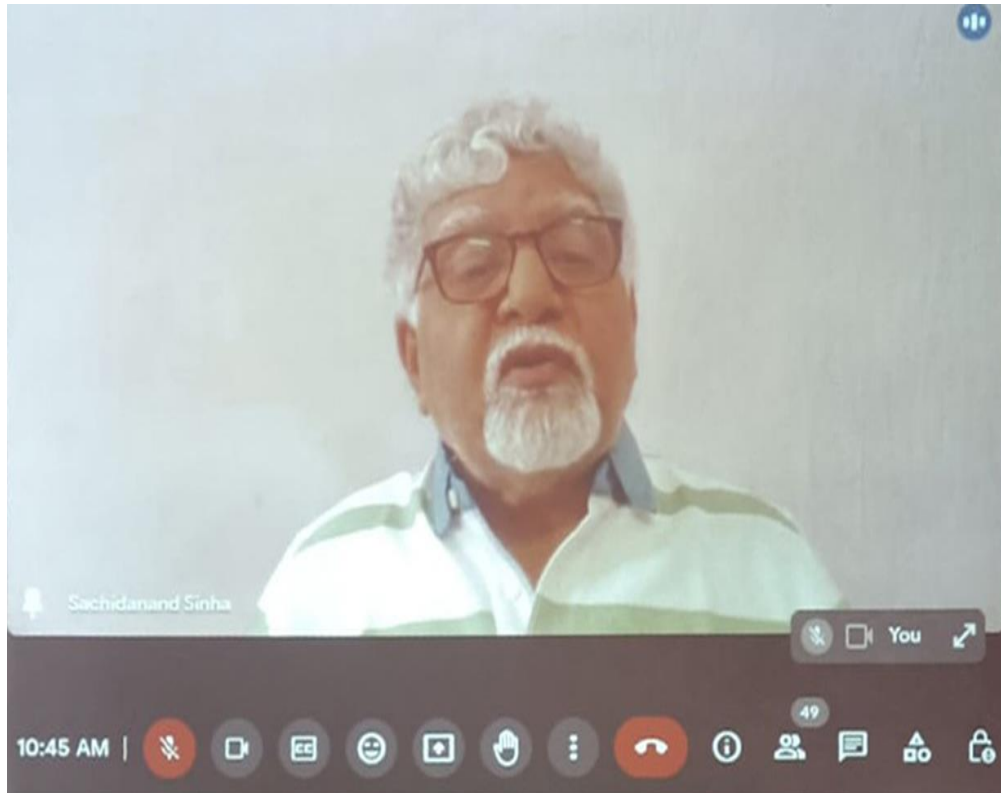
Picture 11: An offline lecture was given by Professor Sunil Kumar De, a guest of honour and the current president of the IAG.



Picture 12: Professor V.S. Kale, one of the most renowned geographers in India. Providing an online lecture.



Picture 13: Professor Shahidul Islam, who has a wealth of experience and is currently the Chairman of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Dhaka University in Bangladesh, delivered the online lecture.



Picture 14: Highly knowledgeable Former JNU professor Sachidanand Sinha was delivering an online lecture.



Picture 15: Professor Milap Chand Sharma, from Jawaharlal Nehu University in Delhi, India, and the current President of the Indian Institute of Geomorphologists (IGI), was delivering an online lecture.



Picture 16: The President of the Geographical Research Forum, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU-GRF) with the faculty members of the Department of Geography, William Carey University, Meghalaya



Picture 17: The President of The Geographical Research Forum, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU-GRF), Dr. Repenstar Khongjee a faculty member of the Department of Geography, William Carey University.



Picture 18: Faculty members and students of the Geography Department, WCU.

 Prof. V. S. Kale Formerly in Pune University India	 Prof. Sunil Kumar De President, International Association of Geomorphologists, North-Eastern Hill University India	 Prof. Takashi Oguchi University of Tokyo Japan
 Prof. Shahidul Islam University of Dhaka Bangladesh	 Prof. S. Bandyopadhyay University of Calcutta India	 Prof. Muh Aris Marfai University of Gadjah Mada Indonesia
 Prof. Milap C. Sharma Jawaharlal Nehru University India	 Prof. D. K. Nayak North-Eastern Hill University India	 Prof. Sachidanand Sinha Formerly in Jawaharlal Nehru University India

**Blended Lecture Series
on**

**"RECENT TRENDS IN GEOGRAPHY:
INSIGHTS FROM PROMINENT ASIAN
GEOGRAPHERS"**



Organised by:



Department of Geography,
William Carey University,
Nongmetsong, Umkdait,
Shillong, Meghalaya,
India - 793019

Geographical Research
Forum, Department of
Geography, North-Eastern
Hill University, Shillong,
Meghalaya, India - 793022

Date:
From 18th to 19th May, 2023

Venue:
**Conference Hall, Building III, William Carey University,
Nongmetsong, Umkdait, Shillong, Meghalaya, India - 793019**

Coordinators:

Dr. Repenstar Khongjee Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, William Carey University +91 9863866825 rkhongjee@gmail.com	Mr. Subhajit Sarkar President, Geographical Research Forum, North-Eastern Hill University +91 7001381684 subhajitsarkarnelhu@gmail.com
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Free Registration



Click Here

"The primary objective of this initiative is to foster intellectual discourse and expand viewpoints on matters of global significance"

Organising Committee: Dr. Repenstar Khongjee, Dr. Ibabet Hynniewta, Dr. Kulhiu Mero, Mr. Subhajit Sarkar, All EC members of the Geographical Research Forum

Picture 19: Asian Geographers Lecture Brochure Registration

Programme Schedule

Blended Lecture Series

On

"Recent Trends in Geography: Insights from Prominent Asian Geographers"

organised by

Geographical Research Forum, North-Eastern Hill University

in collaboration with

Geography Department, William Carey University

Shillong

Date: 18th to 19th May 2023

Venue: Conference Hall, Building-III, William Carey University, Shillong.

Programme Schedule

Day 1: 18th May 2023		
Inaugural Programme 10:00 am-10:30 am		
Chairperson: Dr. (Mrs) Ibabet Hynniewta Head of Department, Department of Geography, William Carey University		
Chief Guest: Prof. D.K Nayak North Eastern-Hill University		
Guests of Honor: Prof. Sunil Kumar De President, International Association of Geomorphologists, North Eastern-Hill University Prof. Soma Bhowmick Hon'ble Vice Chancellor William Carey University		
Timing (IST)	Event List	Mode
10:00 am – 10:05 am	Welcome Address: Prof Soma Bhowmick Hon'ble Vice Chancellor William Carey University	Offline
10:05 am – 10:10 am	Introductory Speech: Dr. Repenstar Khongjee Asst. Prof., Dept. of Geography, William Carey University	Offline
10:10 am – 10:15 am	Address by Chief Guest: Prof D.K Nayak North Eastern-Hill University, Shillong	Offline
10:15 am – 10:20 am	Address by Guest of Honor: Prof Sunil Kumar De, President of IAG	Offline
10:30 am - 10:50am -Tea Break		
Day 1: 18th May 2023		

Session I		
Chairperson: Dr. Ibabet Hynniewta Co- Chairperson: Dr. Repenstar Khongjee		
11:00 am – 11:45 am (Lecture) 11:45 am – 11:55 am (Discussion)	Prof. Sunil Kumar De, North Eastern-Hill University, Shillong, India.	Offline
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm (Lecture) 12:45 pm – 12:55 pm (Discussion)	Prof. V.S Kale, formerly in Pune University, India, on “Active Tectonics and River Response”.	Online
Day 2: 19th May 2023 Session II		
Chairperson: Dr. Kulhiu Mero Co- Chairperson: Mr. Subhajit Sarkar		
10:00 am – 10:45 am (Lecture) 10:45 am – 10:55 am (Discussion)	Prof. Sachidanand Sinha, formerly in Jawaharlal Nehu University, India, on “Is Geography what geographers do?”	Online
11:00 am – 11:45 am (Lecture) 11:45 am – 11:55 am (Discussion)	Prof. Shahidul Islam, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, on “Bangladesh Coast; Issues and Challenges”	Online
12:00 pm – 12:50 pm -Lunch break		
Session III		
Chairperson: Prof. Sunil Kumar De, Co- Chairperson: Mr. Subhajit Sarkar		
01:00 pm – 01:45 pm (Lecture) 01:45 pm – 01:55 pm (Discussion)	Prof. D.K. Nayak, North-Eastern Hill University, India, on “Gender Disparity”	Online
02:00 pm – 02:45 pm (Lecture) 02:45 pm – 02:55 pm (Discussion)	Prof. Milap Chand Sharma, Jawaharlal Nehu University, India on “The Importance of Glaciers and Its Various Significant Impacts with Special Reference to the Himalayas”	Online
03:00 pm – 03:10 pm	Closing remark from Prof. Sunil Kumar De	Online