



**ICSSR SPONSORED TWO-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR**

**PREVALENCE OF TRADITIONAL  
KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM FOR  
CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY  
AND CHANGE IN LIVELIHOOD  
IN THE PURVANCHAL HIMALAYAS**



**13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**

**Organised By  
Department of Geography**

**In Collaboration with  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**

**Sankardeva Mahavidyalaya**  
Reaccredited by NAAC with B+  
Pathalipahar, Lakhimpur, Assam, Pin : 784163



# INVITATION

**Respected Sir/Madam,**

It is our greatest pleasure to inform you that the Department of Geography in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Sankardeva Mahavidyalaya is going to organize a Two-Day National Seminar on **13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2026** on the topic “**Prevalence of Traditional Knowledge System for Climate Change Vulnerability and Change in Livelihood in The Purvanchal Himalayas**”. Therefore, the organizing committee would like to invite research papers from Faculty members and Scholars from your esteemed institution.

With Regards,

**Dr. Sonaram Kalita**  
Principal & Chairman

**Dr. Tejaswita Duarah**  
Seminar Coordinator

**Dr. Bijaya Konwar**  
IQAC Coordinator

**Mr. Rajib Pegu**  
**Mr. Mongolsing Bey**  
Co-Coordinators

**National Seminar Organising Committee**

Sankardeva Mahavidyalaya  
Pathalipahar, Lakhimpur, Assam





## THE COLLEGE IN BRIEF

Sankaradeva Mahavidyalaya was established at Pathalipahar under Narayanpur Revenue Circle, in Lakhimpur district of Assam on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1982. The people of the greater locality unanimously decided to set up a higher educational institution in the area on the hill top bordering of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. This place also has been merged under tribal sub-plan area with economic backwardness. Considering this bleak aspect and dreaming of a brighter prospect, the local inhabitants felt that this institution will create a new bridge of coordination between the two states, keeping all these view in mind "Pathalipahar Anchalik Unnayan Sewa Samiti" with the cooperation of eminent educationist of Lakhimpur district, organized a general meeting to establish this institution in the pious name of Mahapurush Sankaradeva the trend setter of Assamese nation.

## CONCEPT NOTE OF SEMINAR

The environment in the Himalayas limits accessibility to resources for mountain societies to carry out livelihood practices which mainly depend on nature. Surrounded by a fragile ecosystem, nature provides mountain societies with the bare minimalistic resources for a rural livelihood. This intricate relationship with nature hangs on the balance with contemporary climate change posing a threat to the survival of the people and its environment. Livelihoods in these regions develop upon a balanced coexistence of man and nature shaped by their interactions. The impact of climate change is seen in the loss of biodiversity and untoward calamities emerging from increasing anthropogenic activities. Such changes directly impact the fragile ecosystem and livelihoods of the people. Climate change comes as a major challenge to this fragile relationship, impacting both the environment and socio-economic conditions of the people. Vulnerability to such climate impacts depends on the communities' capacity to handle transition in adopting new livelihood options, by accessing present day infrastructure and facilities. However, accessibility to development measure is often limited by the terrain, marginalizing the community in various ways. Moreover, the strategic location of the Purvanchal Himalayas in Arunachal Pradesh (India), face a major challenge from being a significant geo-political frontier with rising development issues in the contemporary times. Variance in socio-economic conditions, gender discrepancies, age and educational attainment impact upon the behavior of each individual in the society in adapting to climate change and further adopting diversified forms of livelihood.

Climate change is inevitable and proper diversification of livelihood is necessary in a fragile mountain ecosystem. The capacity to endure change through proper resource management and accessibility to development measure is necessary for a transitioning society. Thus, vulnerability assessment must be inclusive and considerate of the fragility of not just the environment but also the variance within the society. Humans interact with its environment influence the cultural perceptions of a society in both space and time. Thus, communities living in an area culture the knowledge of the available natural resources surrounding them and develop distinctive socio-cultural practices involving those. Such communities develop an intimate relationship with its environment and for traditional knowledge systems that sustainable manages resources, which incorporates into their culture and belief system.

This ecological balance exhibits a symbiotic relationship between forest-based communities and their environment. Mountain communities face severe threat from climate change particularly due to their high dependence on agriculture-based ecosystems and natural resources. The Purvanchal Himalayas is susceptible to not just natural hazards but also anthropogenic activities. Prone to earthquakes and resultant landslides and flooding it triggers dramatic impacts on biodiversity, people and their livelihoods. The sensitivity to natural hazards hampers the fragile ecosystem which is further threatened by the increase in climate change. The crisis over availability and moribund resources has led to further conflicts over natural resources both locally and globally. The region demarcates a significant geo-political frontier between India and China, further enhancing the importance in global resource management. In recent years climate change has shown an adverse effect in North East India with erratic rainfall, droughts and even change in vegetation cover. Glacial retreat in rivers like the Brahmaputra, Subansiri and Jia-Bharali has decreased the water availability for agriculture and livelihood in lean seasons, whereas erratic increase in rainfall causes accelerated summer flows causing devastating floods and erosion. The Purvanchal Himalayas are hotspots of rare species and the people have been conserving this biodiversity over generations with their traditional knowledge and informal institutions. Integrating such traditional institutions into livelihood sustenance play a significant role in making communities less vulnerable to uncertainties. Climate change impact has alarmingly impacted livelihood among mountain communities as the economy here is mostly land and forest based. The loss in forest cover and biomass has left traditional agriculture with poor farm productivity and poor economic returns. The adoption of new agricultural practices molded by traditional knowledge practices has transformed the agricultural-biodiversity in the region. Further, government initiatives to inculcate traditional knowledge systems into policies and programs have further developed more resilient mountain communities which has to face climate change vulnerability and market exploitation. The seminar proposes to bring out the significance of traditional knowledge systems in overcoming climate change vulnerability in the Purvanchal Himalayas. It aims to discuss the exposure, sensitivity, resilience and adaptive capacity of both an individual and the society's vulnerability to climate change in the Purvanchal Himalayas of North East India, with reference to the existing practice of traditional knowledge and its implementation in policies and programs in contemporary times.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR**

1. To discuss the impact of climate change on the livelihoods of mountain communities and understand the relationship of mountain communities of Purvanchal Himalayas to its environment.
2. To discuss the differential impact of climatic factors on mountain communities and their capacity to resist or build resilience through traditional knowledge systems, for better target-oriented policy implementation.
3. To identify the disparities among different groups and their susceptibility to the transitioning economic space caused by climate change by assessing their resilience capacity through livelihood diversification and use of traditional knowledge.

## THEMES OF THE SEMINAR

1. Climate Change in Purvanchal Himalayas and its Impact on Livelihood
  2. Prevalence of Traditional Knowledge Systems: Vulnerability and resilience of mountain communities in Purvanchal Himalayas.
  3. Understanding exposure, sensitivity, resilience and adaptive capacity among mountain communities of Purvanchal Himalayas.
  4. Himalayan Ecology in the Purvanchal Himalayas and Man-Environment Relationships
  5. Sustainable management of natural and man-made disasters in the Himalayas through traditional practices.
  6. Environmental Transitions of the Purvanchal Himalayas and prevalence of traditional knowledge
  7. Environmental impacts on socio-economic and political aspects in North East India.
  8. Geo-political significance of climate change vulnerability in Purvanchal Himalayas
  9. Policy framework and innovative techniques for sustainability in Purvanchal Himalayas
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### Inaugurator

#### Prof. Vishwambhar Prasad Sati

Professor, Department of Geography and Resource Management, Mizoram University, Aizwal.



### Keynote Speaker

#### Prof. Nandita Saikia

Professor, Public Health and Mortality Studies, Indian Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai

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## INVITED RESOURCE PERSONS

- **Prof. Kalyan Das**, Professor, Department of Geography, Cotton University, Guwahati.
- **Prof. Sailajananda Saikia**, Professor, Department of Geography, Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh.
- **Dr. Shukla Acharya**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Studies in Geography Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh.
- **Dr. Chandra Kumar Dutta**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Studies in Geography Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh.
- **Dr. Swapnali Gogoi**, Associate Professor, Department of Geography North Lakhimpur University, Lakhimpur.
- **Dr. Girmallika Borah**, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography Cotton University, Guwahati
- **Dr. Luna Moni Das**, Assistant Professor, North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, Tezpur.
- **Dr. Bhaswati Das**, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography DCB Girls College, Jorhat.

## **GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER**

1. The Abstract (500 words) should be submitted to the google form link <https://forms.gle/EVVRqpgLEZqkynsR9> or send an email to [tejaswitaduarah18@gmail.com](mailto:tejaswitaduarah18@gmail.com)
2. Once the Abstract is accepted the word limit of the full-length paper should be 5000 to 7000 words
3. The full paper must accompany an abstract strictly between 300 to 500 words and 4 to 5 keywords
4. The full paper should have a title page containing the paper title, names of the author(s), affiliation, email address and mobile number of the corresponding author.
5. The main documents should be double-spaced with one-inch margins on all sides and the pages should be numbered consecutively.
6. The paper should follow Times New Roman, 12-point font, line spacing 1.5 and should be submitted in a Word document.
7. The paper should follow APA (American Psychological Association) 7<sup>th</sup> edition referencing style.
8. All submissions must be the author's original and unpublished work. Plagiarism reports of more than 10% will attract immediate qualification. Use of AI generative can lead to rejection of the paper.
9. Submission not adhering to the guidelines will not be considered.

## **SCOPE FOR PUBLICATION**

1. Selected papers will be published in an edited ISBN book.
2. Best paper Award under category of UG/PG Students and Research Scholars

## **REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION**

- College (UG/PG) Participants : INR 200
- PhD Scholars and Think Tank Researchers : INR 500
- Faculty : INR 700
- All participants authors for register for the event will get a participation certificate. Anyone of the authors can present a paper, however only those authors will be awarded the certificate of presentation who has registered for the event.
- At least one of the authors needs to present their paper on the day of the event.
- All the register participants will receive a certificate.

## **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

Sankardeva Mahavidyalaya is located at Pathalipahar in the District of Lakhimpur, Assam. The College is connected via Roadways and Railways from all the parts of the State.

- **Nearly Railway Stations** : Tipling- 3Kms, Harmoti- 6 Kms
- **Bus Stoppage** : Pathalipahar- 0Kms, Banderdewa Check Post- 2Kms
- **Nearest Airport** : Lilabari- 50 Kms, Hollongi - 59 Kms

## IMPORTANT DATES

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|---|--|
| <b>Seminar Date</b>                           | : 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 |
| <b>Last date of Abstract Submission</b>       | : 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026                    |
| <b>Intimation of acceptance of Abstract</b>   | : 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026                   |
| <b>Last date for Submission of full paper</b> | : 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026                   |
| <b>Publication of ISBN book</b>               | : 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 (Tentative)          |

## QUERIES AND CLARIFICATIONS

All queries must be directed to the following persons:

- 1. Dr. Tejaswita Duarah** (9560432830, tejaswitaduarah18@gmail.com)
- 2. Mr. Rajib Pegu** (9706579008)
- 3. Mr. Mongolsing Bey** (8011990971)

## SEMINAR ORGANISING COMMITTEE

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Advisors</b>         | : Mr. Birendra Nath Bhagawati<br>Dr. Rakesh Sharma<br>Mr. Gojendra Deori<br>Mr. Utpal Saikia<br>Dr. Nitul Gogoi  |
| <b>Chairman</b>         | : Dr. Sonaram Kalita   |
| <b>Coordinator</b>      | : Dr. Tejaswita Duarah   |
| <b>Co-Coordination</b>  | : Mr. Rajib Pegu<br>Mr. Mongolsing Bey   |
| <b>IQAC Coordinator</b> | : Dr. Bijaya Konwar  |
| <b>Members</b>          | : Mr. Brajen Saikia<br>Mr. Probin Borah<br>Mr. Probin Kakoti<br>Dr. Madhurjya Phukan<br>Dr. Nipan Haloi<br>Ms. Preetyrekha Bhuyan<br>Dr. Tarun Gogoi<br>Dr. Bhoirabjyoti Konch<br>Ms. Jusmita Konwar<br>Mr. Jogesh Kalita<br>Mrs. Rupanjali Bhuyan |

## ACCOUNT DETAILS

|                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Bank Name</b>       | : State Bank of India            |
| <b>Branch Name</b>     | : Banderdewa Branch              |
| <b>Name of the A/C</b> | : SANKARDEVA MAHAVIDYALAYA ICSSR |
| <b>Account Number</b>  | : 43993946208                    |
| <b>IFSC Code</b>       | : SBIN0015338                    |

### PAYMENT



QR Code  
for Payment

### REGISTRATION



QR Code  
for Google Form

### WHATS APP



QR Code  
for Joining WhatsApp Group