

NALBARI COMMERCE COLLEGE

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(Affiliated to Gauhati University)



Institutional Distinctiveness of Nalbari Commerce College:

Fostering Research & Innovations

The holistic and consistent approach of Nalbari Commerce College to fostering research and innovation makes the institution different. Its commitment to nurturing a research culture, mentoring budding entrepreneurs, and providing practical, real-world learning opportunities sets it apart from other provincialized colleges in Assam. Its blend of academic rigour and hands-on experience creates a dynamic learning environment that empowers students to thrive in the competitive world of entrepreneurship and innovation. This forward-thinking approach helps shape students not just as academics but as innovators and leaders who are ready to address real-world challenges.

Nalbari Commerce College located 1.5 kilometres from the district headquarters, has a distinctive feature regarding the fostering of research culture within the college. It is a provincialized college distinct from other colleges of the state of Assam in research culture. Despite the college's facing financial crisis it has been striving to promote an environment conducive to research and innovative learning approach. This is evident through many more instances that the institution is undertaking. One of the instances that the college is taking initiative is that the college is offering a research grant of Rs. 40000 to the faculty member working in the college itself. The research grant is offered after the name of the late Dr Nripendra Malla Buzar Baruah who happened to be the founder president of the college. Such an initiative not only promotes research culture but also inspires the faculty members to undertake research work in different fields. In the academic session 2022-23 Dr. Uddipana Gogoi was awarded the grant and successfully completed her project and submitted the report. Likewise, Dr. Rajat has been awarded the research grant for the academic session 2023-24 and is now pursuing his project. This is one of the major thrusts the college is performing that other colleges of the state of Assam are probably not.

Secondly, the college is dedicated to encouraging to enhancement of research skills among the students. It has been constantly offering 2 awards for the students who show excellence in research. The student carrying out research works at the postgraduate level and getting the

highest marks in the dissertation is offered the best dissertation award. In the UG level too, the student getting the highest mark in the project report is offered the best project report award. It deserves mentioned here that the awards are sponsored by the teachers working at the institution. The attempt brings competitiveness into the minds of the students and the students try to show excellence. Such an initiative is not probably undertaken by the provincialized college in Assam.

To promote the research culture among the students of the college, in addition to the research required under the syllabus, the postgraduate students carry out in-house research projects funded by the college. The students are grouped and assigned a relevant topic supervised by one or two teacher-supervisors. They accomplish their works collectively and the Research and Development Cell of the college patronises in writing the reports. While conducting their work they are provided financial, intellectual, and logistic support by the college.

Before conducting the in-house research projects, a 7-day workshop on research methodology in social science is conducted by the R&D Cell of the college. The workshop equips the students with the basics of research to carry out research. The students are allowed to participate in the workshop free of cost. A group of 10 students are made to conduct one research project. Teachers from the college and other higher education institutions are invited to participate in the workshop as resource persons. The college teachers serve the workshop without any remuneration.

Based on these initiatives, Nalbari Commerce College stands out due to its comprehensive approach to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. The college not only organizes a wide array of events—such as impact lecture series, mentoring sessions, and workshops on topics like fintech, IPR, and sustainable development—but also provides opportunities for students to engage directly with local entrepreneurs and professionals. This combination of academic guidance, practical exposure, and focus on community-driven entrepreneurship helps nurture both the skills and mindset required for future innovators, making it distinct from other institutions.

The college has been organising several calendar activities concerning business idea development, which were scheduled around the year. Workshops like “How to Develop New Business Ideas” (November 23, 2023), “Workshop on Design Thinking, Critical Thinking and Innovation Design” (February 27, 2024), and “Angel Investment or Venture Capital Funding Opportunity” (August 27, 2024) were very extensively conducted as scheduled quarter activities.

Celebratory events like a Speech competition on National Entrepreneurship Day, and a session on “India’s Initiative Towards Energy Conservation” (December 14, 2023) reveal the institution's commitment towards innovation. Novelties are also reflected in self-driven activities in creative competitions directly related to innovations and entrepreneurship. “Fundamentals of Fintech & Innovation” (September 28, 2023), “Spell Bee Competition” (March 12, 2024), and “IT Quiz on Innovation and IPR” (August 14, 2024) were able to demonstrate the innovative talents and critical thinking of the students.


The Mentoring Sessions on National Education Day (November 11, 2023) and others such as the “Startup Day Celebration” (January 16, 2024) and “Inter-Institutional Competition for Innovation and Entrepreneurship” (August 30, 2024) demonstrate the college’s continuous efforts to mentor budding entrepreneurs and facilitate their transition from conceptualization to real-world application. The college’s Entrepreneurship Skill Development sessions, including activities like “Entrepreneurship & Innovation as Career Opportunity” and “Achieving Problem-Solution Fit & Product-Market Fit,” aim to equip students with both the knowledge and mindset required to succeed in the dynamic field of entrepreneurship.

The college organizes competitions and inter-institutional meets to encourage students to apply their creativity and innovative thinking. Events like the Intra-College Business Plan Competition (May 30, 2024) and the Inter-Institutional Competition for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (August 30, 2024) provide platforms for students to showcase their entrepreneurial ideas and compete with peers from other institutions.

The college also organizes specialized contests such as “Innovative Ad Campaign Competition” (August 28, 2024) and the “Speech Competition on the Role of Innovation in Shaping the Modern World” (May 30, 2024), which further reinforces its commitment to fostering creativity and innovation. The college’s initiatives emphasize practical learning, offering real-world insights into the dynamics of starting and scaling businesses. For instance, events like “Angel Investment or Venture Capital Funding Opportunity” (August 27, 2024) and “Startup Day Celebration” provide students with the opportunity to interact with investors and successful entrepreneurs. Case study-driven learning is another strength of these activities, where real-life entrepreneurial stories and challenges are discussed, such as the “My Story – Entrepreneurial Journey” session (November 23, 2023) and the “Innovative Ad Campaign Competition” (August 28, 2024). The MIC-driven activities, such as participation in the “IIC Regional Meet 2023-24” (January 9, 2024) and the “Viksit Bharat @2047” (December 11, 2023), indicate that the college is involved in larger regional and national innovation ecosystems, allowing students to gain exposure to national-level discussions and initiatives in entrepreneurship and innovation.



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