

## **ACTIVITY REPORT OF MOU**



**Rajiv Gandhi University**

(A Central University)  
Rono Hills, Doimukh  
Arunachal Pradesh, India



**Directorate of Research**  
**Department of Cultural Affairs**  
Government of Arunachal Pradesh, India

## 1. About the Institutions

### 1.1 Rajiv Gandhi University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University), the premier institute of higher learning in Arunachal Pradesh, has completed thirty-seven years of its existence. Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on February 4, 1984. Subsequently, it started postgraduate courses from the Academic session 1988-89 in the sprawling and picturesque Rono Hills. The University was converted into a Central University on April 9, 2007 by a notification of Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education), Government of India. The RGU was ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup> in the country amongst the other central universities of India by the UGC (Ministry of Education), New Delhi based on the performances in 17 parameters. The only affiliating University in the state, has, its jurisdiction encompassing whole of the state. In total, there are 45 colleges affiliated to this university. The University offers academic programmes from certificate to doctoral degree through its different departments with its motto “*Vidhyaamritshnute*” i.e. “Excellence and Immortality through nectar of Education”. In a span of around four decades, the Rajiv Gandhi University has grown into an institution with proven academic excellence, social commitment and cultural interest with a clear vision for its future growth.

### 1.2 Directorate of Research, Department of Cultural Affairs, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

The history of the Directorate of Research, under the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, goes back to 1951 with the appointment of a Research Officer to conduct Historical Research of the then NEFA. Shri L.N. Chakraborty was happened to be the first Research Officer of the Department, who joined on 16th June, 1951. In the year 1954, the Department was organized and strengthens under the guidance and direction of Dr. Verrier Elwin, the then Advisor of Governor of Assam on Tribal Affairs of NEFA appointed by the Government of India. At the initial stage three sections mainly **Culture**,

**Philology** and **History** were created to conduct Research on their specialized fields. A group of dedicated Research Officers were appointed to conduct Research documentation of their culture and customs to enable the Administration for proper planning of their development and also to preserve and project of their life and culture to the outside world. Dr. Elwin was the Head of the Research Department till his death on 22nd February, 1964, who retired on 1973. During the period 1969 to 1996, besides the aforesaid three sections of the Department, **Reference Library, Archive, Registering unit and Publication Section** were added and two new section viz, **Museum and Archives, Archaeology** were created bifurcating the Culture and History Sections. The Department was declared as a major Department of Government in March 1989. The Department was functioning at Shillong since beginning to May 1986 and shifted to Itanagar, Capital of Arunachal Pradesh in June 1986. The Central Museum which was organized at Shillong in 1955 also shifted to Itanagar in later part of 1989 and renamed as **Jawaharlal Nehru State Museum**. The foundation stone was laid by Shri R. Venkataraman, the then President of India, on 3rd January, 1988 and the State Museum was formally inaugurated by Shri R.D. Pradhan, the then Governor of Arunachal Pradesh on 1st January, 1990. At present the Department has five sections namely – **Culture, Philology, History, Archaeology, Museum and Archives**; and two other associated sections are **Reference Library and Publication**. The Director is the Head of office and Commissioner/ Secretary (Cultural Affairs) is the Head of the Department under Hon'ble Minister of Cultural Affairs of the Government.

## 2. Programmes and Activities

Cultural policy of the State is being prepared at RGU. A grant of Rs. 55,24,000 have been sanctioned for the purpose.

The following academic activities are undertaken as per the mutually agreed provisions of the MoU:

### Activity Report (2021 – 2023)

6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 - An orientation meeting for the project was held in AITS by Mr. Moji Riba (Co-Principal Investigator). The research team was briefed about genesis of the project, need for documentation and policy formulation, project timeline.

9 -14<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 - The research team visited the RGU central library and other departmental libraries for literature review.

12<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 - A library visit was planned for accessing the Directorate of Research library, Itanagar. However, the intended objective failed due to Covid situation in the office during that time.

May to August, 2021 – The research team compiled the literature review of the cluster communities.

17<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 - A meeting was convened in the Principal Investigator's office with the research team to decide for compiling monographs of the assigned cluster communities for next three months.

September to December, 2021 – The monographs of the respective cluster communities were drafted and compiled.

26<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 – A meeting was held among the research team. Accordingly, the project fieldwork was divided into east and west zone to be carried out simultaneously covering the entire state.

January to March, 2022 The team drafted interview schedule comprising of around 40 – 45 research questions for each community. And then, the fieldwork was outlined in phase-wise considering the tribe settlement and area coverage. Accordingly, the required logistics were planned out.

April, 2022 – The first fieldwork was carried out among the initially selected cluster communities. But, some adjustments were made in the fieldwork phases due to bad weather conditions and inaccessibility of fieldwork areas at that point of time.

Phase	Research Team	Fieldwork Area	Tribes Covered	Date of Fieldwork	Total Days
I	Dr. Abang Pertin, Amos Ronrang & Toko Anu	Upper Siang	Memba & Khamba	12 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 2022	15 days
I	Nimo Dorjee & Jumi Jini	West Kameng	Aka,	14 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 2022	16 days
III	Teshmi Raji Tamin	Kurung Kumcy, Kamlo, Kra-Daedi, Papum Pare	Nyishi	17 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2022	34 days

May to September, 2022 – The research work was halted for five months due to re-appropriation of the previous budget heads.

October, 2022 – The second fieldwork was undertaken by the research team in their respective areas.

Phase	Research Team	Fieldwork Area	Tribes Covered	Date of Fieldwork	Total Days
III	Dr. Abang Pertin,	East Kameng & West Kameng	Miji & Puroik	17 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov, 2022	17 days
I	Nima Dorjee	Tawang & West Kameng	Bugun, Sartang, Monpa & Shordukpen	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2022	47 days
I	Toko Anu & Amos Ronrang	Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley, I nhit, Namsai & Anjaw	Idu-Mishmi, Taraon Mishmi, Kaman Mishmi, Khampri & Meyor	16 <sup>th</sup> Oct to 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2022	34 days
II	Jumi Jini	Shi Yomi, Leparada West Siang, & Lower Siang	Memba, Pailin (Adi) & Galo	12 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 2022 to 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2023	34 days
I	Teshmi Raji Tamin	Upper Subansiri	Tagin & Nah	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan to 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 2023	29 days

November 2022 to February 2023 – The research team engaged in transcription of collected field data and drafting the reports.

March, 2023 – The third fieldwork was carried out by the research team

Phase	Research Team	Fieldwork Area	Tribes Covered	Date of Fieldwork	Total Days
II	Dr. Abang Pertin,	Changlang	Lisu	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar to 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 2023	17 days
III	Amos Ronrang	Tirap & Longding	Nocte & Wancho	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb to 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 2023	20 days
III	Jumi Jini	Siang, East Siang & Upper Siang	Adi	1 <sup>st</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 2023	28 days
II	Teshmi Raji Tamin	Lower Subansiri	Apatani	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb to 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar, 2023	15 days

April to May, 2023 – The transcript work of fieldwork data and report writing is in progress.

Field reports completed – Aka, Monpa, Memba (Upper Siang), Memba (Shi Yomi), Pai Libo (Boh Ao), Khamha, Puroik, Khampri, Idu-Mishmi, Adi, Galo and Nyishi

Report writing to be done – Sajulang, Yobin, Bugun, Shordukpen, Sartang, Kaman Mishmi, Taraon Mishmi, Meyor, Tagin, Nah and Apatani