

A Report on the Outreach Programme on 2020-21 FULBRIGHT NEHRU FELLOWSHIPS FOR INDIAN ACADEMIA (15 March 2019)

> Organised by Internal Quality Assurance Cell Rajiv Gandhi University

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Outreach Programme on 2020-21 FULBRIGHT NEHRU FELLOWSHIPS FOR INDIAN ÁCADEMIA

15 March 2019

Acknowledgements



Rajiv Gandhi University

Rono Hills, Doimukh Arunachal Pradesh

Organising Committee

CHIEF PATRON



Prof. Saket Kushwaha Vice Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University

PATRONS



Prof. Amitava Mitra Director, IQAC Rajiv Gandhi University



Prof. Tomo Riba Registrar Rajiv Gandhi University

COORDINATOR



Dr. Rajesh Chakrabarty Member, IQAC Rajiv Gandhi University

PART 1: PREFACE

1.1 Background

The Fulbright-Nehru Fellowships are designed for outstanding Indians to pursue a master's degree program or research at select U.S. colleges and universities in the areas of Arts and Culture Management including Heritage Conservation and Museum Studies; Economics; Environmental Science/Studies; Higher Education Administration; International Affairs; International Legal Studies; Journalism and Mass Communication; Public Administration; Public Health; Urban and Regional Planning; and Women's Studies/Gender Studies.

These fellowships are for highly motivated individuals who demonstrate leadership qualities, have completed the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree, have at least three years professional work experience, and are committed to return and contribute to their communities. The fellowships are for one to two years.

- **Student awards** to pursue a master's degree or attend a U.S. university as a visiting student researcher
- Scholars and teacher awards for academics, teachers and professionals to teach or conduct research in the U.S.
- **Professional development programs** for university administrators to develop leadership and specialized skills.

The outreach programme was organised by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Rajiv Gandhi University to encourage students and teachers of Rajiv Gandhi University to apply and avail these prestigious fellowships.

1.2 Objectives

The outreach programme will be first of its kind to be organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Rajiv Gandhi University. The specific objectives of the pogramme is to:

- encourage students and teachers of Rajiv Gandhi University to apply and avail these prestigious fellowships.
- understand how the students and teachers can apply for the fellowships;
- increase the awareness and need for strengthening the research and innovation in the university;
- Foster a dialogue between the various stakeholders with a view to establishing long term, sustainable goal for achieving quality and excellence in research and innovation

1.3 Resource Person



Sumanta Basu is working in USIEF as Senior Program Manager. He has more than 14 years of work experience having worked in the Development and Corporate sector in India and beyond. Sumanta holds a post graduate degree in Business Management with specialization in International Business and a masters in Sociology.

1.4 Budget

Name of the Outreach Programme	:	Outreach Programme on 2020-21 Fulbright-Nehru Fellowships for Indian Academia
Schedule Date	:	March 14, 2019
No of resource person (National)	:	1
Expected No of participants	:	100

Proposed budget

SI. No.	Particulars		Amount <i>(in</i> <i>₹</i>)
1.	Refreshment (@ 50 × 100)		5000
2	Publicity (Banner etc.)		3000
3.	Contingency (Stage Preparation, felicitation materials etc.)		2000
		TOTAL	10000

(Rupees ten thousand only)

Expenditure Statement

SI. No.	Particulars	Amount <i>(in ₹</i>)
1.	Refreshment	3756
2.	Publicity (Banner, File cover, Pen, note pad etc.)	3505
3.	Contingency (Felicitation & Miscellaneous)	750
	TOTAL	8,011

(Rupees eight thousand eleven only)

PART 2: PROGRAMME DETAILS

2.1 Interactive Session

The United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) held an outreach program for its Fulbright-Nehru and other fellowships here at the RGU campus on Sunday. Speaking at the event, RGU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Saket Kushwaha said that human capital and building capacity are the two main pillars to make RGU an institute of repute. 'Our vision is to make RGU one of the better universities in the country and even if it is a small university, we can still aspire to make it an institute of repute,' the VC said. He further said that students in institutions of higher learning like the RGU aspire for a career in teaching and research and 'it is our responsibility to prepare them and give them exposure to avenues where they can learn and expand their horizons of knowledge.' It is not just about the fellowships, but also the associations that grow out of them that can make them better prepared for the future, he added.

Expressing his gratitude to the USIEF for coming forward to encourage the RGU fraternity to apply for the scholarships, he said, 'even if institutions do reach out to us, we too have to come forward and avail such opportunities.' Speaking on the occasion IQA Cell Director Prof. Amitav Mitra said that the Fulbright-Nehru scholarships is a very prestigious award and ranges from fellowships of 2-week upto 2 years. Welcoming the representative from the USIEF, he hoped that his presence on campus will inform, sensitise, motivate and encourage more applications from the University. Disclosing that he himself has been a fellowship alumni, Prof. Mitra expressed that these fellowships not only benefit the individuals but also the institution they come from, because the experiences and learning gained through the exchange add on to their contribution back at their own institution. "Not only that, even the host institution benefits because of the potential for international collaborations and signing of MoUs", he said. Sumanta Basu of the USIEF, in his presentation, said that the governments of US and India have awarded more than 20,000 fellowships since its inception in 1950, both out-bound and in-bound.

In addition to the Fulbright-Nehru fellowships, the Foundation also has other fellowships like the Fulbright-Kalam Climate Fellowship, which scholars and academic leaders can apply for, he pointed out, adding that Arunachal is one of the states in the nation from where the minimum number of applications are received. He expressed the hope that with the intervention, at least 1 person will be motivated to apply. He further informed that the Foundation additionally supports school teachers for exchange programs and appealed that this information may also be sent out to school teachers in the state to encourage them to apply. Dr. Rajesh Chakrabarty, Head of the Department of Chemistry and coordinator of the programme also spoke on the occasion. Among others, faculty members, research scholars and students attended the programme.

PART 3: OUTCOME OF THE PROGRAMME

3.1 Immediate Implications in the Context of Knowledge

The outcomes of this interaction programme include:

- understand how the students and teachers can apply for the fellowships;
- increase the awareness and need for strengthening the research and innovation in the university

3.2 Policy Implications

• Although there is no such policy implication per se, it is our belief that the programme will help encourage students and teachers of Rajiv Gandhi University to apply and avail these prestigious fellowships.

PART 4: ANNEXURES

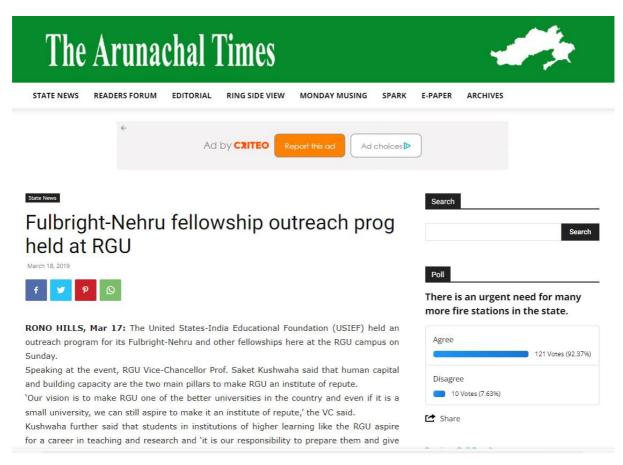
Annexure I: Programme Schedule

Programme

Date: March 15, 2019 Venue: AITS Conference Hall, RGU

02:30 – 02:35 pm	Arrival of Chief Guest & other Dignitaries
02:35 – 02:40 pm	<i>Welcome Address</i> Dr. Rajesh Chakrabarty Member, IQAC
02:40 – 02:45 pm	Felicitation of the Dignitaries
02:45 – 03:00 pm	Address by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Saket Kushwaha Rajiv Gandhi University
03:00 – 03:15 pm	<i>A few words from</i> Prof. Amitava Mitra Director, IQAC, Rajiv Gandhi University
03:15 – 04:00 pm	Presentation by Mr. Sumanta Basu United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF), New Delhi
04:00 – 04:25 pm	Discussions & Interaction
04:25 – 04:30 pm	<i>Vote of Thanks</i> Prof. Sumpam Tangjang Member, IQAC <i>Tea/Snacks</i>

Annexure II: Media Coverage



https://arunachaltimes.in/index.php/2019/03/18/fulbright-nehru-fellowship-outreach-progheld-at-rgu/