

# राजीव गाँधी विश्वविद्यालय

रोनो हिल्स , अरुणाचल प्रदेश

**Rajiv Gandhi University**

Rono Hills, Arunachal Pradesh



Report On

## **Celebration of 152<sup>nd</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**



Submitted by

**International Centre for Gandhian and Peace Studies (ICGPS)  
Department of History, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh**

*in collaboration with*

**Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS)  
Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh**

**&**

**Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD),  
NER Regional Centre, RGU Campus, Arunachal Pradesh**

March, 2021

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## Organizing Committee

### CHIEF PATRON



**Prof. Saket Kushwaha**

Vice Chancellor  
Rajiv Gandhi University

### PATRONS



**Prof. Amitava Mitra**

Pro Vice Chancellor  
Rajiv Gandhi University



**Prof. Sudhir Kumar Singh**

Dean  
Academic Affairs, RGU



**Prof. Tana Showren**

Dean  
Social Sciences, RGU



**Prof. Ashan Riddi**

Head, Dept. of History, RGU  
Director, IDE

### CONVENOR



**Prof. Shyam Narayan Singh**

Convenor  
Organising Committee



**Dr. Nabam Tadar Rikam,**

Registrar  
Rajiv Gandhi University

### ORGANISING SECRETARIES

1. Dr. Kottu Sekhar, Coordinator, RGNIYD, NER Centre, RGU Campus
2. Ms. Moyir Riba, IDE, Rajiv Gandhi University
3. Dr. Kaushalendra Pratap Singh, Dept of Social Work, RGU

### COORDINATORS

1. Prof. Prasanta Kumar Nayak, Deputy Coordinator, ICGPS, RGU
2. Mr. Punyo Chobin, Head, Dept of Music and Fine Arts, RGU
3. Dr. Ashok Barman, Dept. of Music and Fine Arts, RGU

## Acknowledgements

We are thankful to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of RGU, Prof. Saket Kushwaha for his unwavering support and continuous motivation without whom planning a programme that too in blended mode (both in online and offline), would not have been possible. His guidance and encouragement have contributed immensely in enduring learning to thrive against this globally challenging and unprecedented time. The moral and material support received from the office of Vice Chancellor have been more than instrumental and it is worth acknowledging the highest contribution of his highest office in successful organization of this programme for disseminating the message of Mahatma

Grateful acknowledgements are also due to the learned Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra for his continuous guidance and insightful motivation in hours of need and also the Registrar, RGU Dr. N.T. Rikam for his ever so welcoming gesture, guidance, affection and support along with his enormous contributions in the organization of this programme. Prof. Tana Showren, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences, RGU deserves due acknowledgement who as guide and mentor has always been a motivating factor behind all our initiatives and hence, heartfelt thanks are also due to him. Prof. S. K. Singh, Dean, Academic Affairs. We offer our sincerest gratitude to Shri Prasad Gollanapalli, Managing Trustee of Gandhi King Foundation for his highly efficient and encouraging session which has been instrumental in contextualizing the deliberations.

Our enormous gratitude are due to Heads of various Departments especially History, Social Work, Mass Communication, and Fine Arts & Music, Director, IDE, Chairperson, Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS), Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh & Coordinator, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), NER Regional Centre, RGU Campus, Arunachal Pradesh for their lively participation and immense contributions towards successful organization of the two-day national event.

Our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Moyir Riba, IDE, RGU, participants, younger colleagues, research scholars, and students who have enriched our programme through their lively and active

participations who also deserve our sincere acknowledgements and this is to put on record that we value the association of each and every participant as a key stakeholder in realizing the vision of the programme. In the end, a big thanks to each one of you going through this report for your interests and acknowledgements of our efforts.

**Programme Convenor**

## **1. About the University and Collaborating Centres**

### **The University**

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University) is the premier institution for higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh located at the picturesque tabloid of Rono Hills approximately 25 km away from the state capital Itanagar. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1984 at Rono Hills. Ever since its inception, the University has been trying to achieve excellence and fulfill the objectives as envisaged in the University Act. The University was recognized as a Central University in the year 2007 established under the Act of Parliament. Being the only Central University of the State at present there are Twenty-Six (26) Departments and Two (02) Institutes functioning under Nine (09) Academic Faculties. The Faculty members have been actively engaged in research activities. The University has been maintaining its academic excellence. The students from the University are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services, but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations.

### **About the International Centre for Gandhian and Peace Studies (ICGPS)**

The Department of History has completed 40 (forty) years of its existence in May 2020. Since its inception it has been successfully implementing its mission of providing quality and innovative education and carrying out research activities with thrust on innovation. Prior to the present location, the Department had been functioning since 1980 in Jawaharlal Nehru Government College at Pasighat, which was taken over by the erstwhile Arunachal University (now Rajiv Gandhi University) in 1988 from the Punjab University. Now the Department offers M. Phil. & Ph. D programmes on regular basis along with the Postgraduate programme. Apart from conventional areas it is giving special emphasis on the studies related to border trade, British-tribe relations, East and South East Asian Studies, North East India, Religious History, Women Studies, Buddhist Studies, Traditional Institutions and Oral Traditions. The prominent members who have contributed to the growth of the Department over the years include Prof.

Tamo Mibang (former VC, RGU), Prof. J. L. Dawar, Prof. P. K. Mandal, Mr. Ramachandran, Prof. Pritish Acharya and Prof. B. Tripathy (presently VC, Utkal University of Culture, Bhubaneswar). The Department also runs an International Centre for Gandhian and Peace Studies for the promotion of Gandhian values and ideas.

### **About the Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS)**

Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS) has been established through the vide notification no. AC-108/2007(Vol-II)/397 dated 11 July, 2017 at the Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University), Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh. It aims to address the issues and challenges, building capacities with a special emphasis on utilizing the energy of youth in the North East Region of India especially in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. Since its inception CYDLS is continuously working towards the betterment of youth through a host of extension activities, skill and capacity development programs, trainings, workshops, seminars, conferences, and instituting awards and scholarships to motivate the youth.

The vision of the CYDLS is to groom youth as potential leaders and contribute to sustainable development. The centre's mission is to create a platform for progressive engagement and empowerment of youth through professional training and guidance. Also, for nourishing leadership traits among youth through innovation, research, and skills development, the CYDLS has set following specific objectives as well:

- To promote psycho-social well-being of youth;
- To develop leadership qualities among the youth and orient them towards community building;
- To involve youth in community development by way of aligning them with developmental programmes; and
- To embark on training and research on youth development and leadership.

In order to operationalise the vision and mission of CYDLS, three specific Cells are working to achieve the objectives of centre:

- Counselling Resource Cell (CRC): CRC is working with the motto of offering “a hand to hold and a heart to understand” the helping youth, suffering from mental illness or symptoms of it both minor and/or severe. CRC shall provide immediate and long-term counseling services to the needy youth on weekly basis.
- Youth and Community Engagement Cell (YCEC): YCEC shall engage youth in community development through participatory approach. Under this cell youth involve themselves in the implementation of several government and non-governmental programs.
- Training and Leadership Research Cell (TLRC): TLRC is committed to augmentation of the capacity and leadership skills of youth by organizing need-based programs vis-à-vis workshops, training, symposium, capacity building programs, seminars, and research etc.

**About the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth development (RGNIYD), NER Regional Centre, RGU Campus, Arunachal Pradesh**

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, is an Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No. 35/2012 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. The RGNIYD was set up in 1993 under the Societies Registration Act, XXVII of 1975. The RGNIYD functions as a vital resource centre with its multi-faceted functions of offering academic programmes at Post Graduate level encompassing various dimensions of youth development, engaging in seminal research in the vital areas of youth development and coordinating Training Programmes for state agencies and the officials of youth organisation, besides the Extension and Outreach initiatives across the country.

The Institute functions as a think-tank of the Ministry and premier organization of youth-related activities in the country. As the apex institute at the national level, it works in close cooperation with the NSS, NYKS and other youth organizations in the implementation of training programmes. The Institute is a nodal agency for training youth as a facilitator of youth development activities in rural, urban as also tribal areas.



The RGNIYD serves as a youth observatory and depository in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor.

RGNIYD has established its NER Regional Centre at Rajiv Gandhi University Campus, Arunachal Pradesh. Presently, the NER Regional Centre is being headed by Dr. Kottu Sekhar as a Coordinator.

## 2. About the Programme

The programme for observance of Mahatma Gandhi's 152<sup>nd</sup> Birth Anniversary on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2021 has been conceptualized under following three-fold-sub-themes:

1. Remembering Mahatma Gandhi through Colours and Drawings by Painting Competitions among the Youths;
2. Reimagining Mahatma Gandhi through Lectures; and
3. Celebration of Gandhian Ideas through Spinning of Charkhas.

## 3. Resource Persons



The programme witnessed renowned speaker Dr. Prasad Gollanapalli, Gandhian Scholars from Gandhi King Foundation, Hyderabad.

## 4. Programme Beneficiaries

The intended target audience included every person who is directly or indirectly concerned about Gandhian principles and national icons and peace. The programme aims to directly benefit students, research scholars, academicians, social scientists and social workers.

## 5. Modus Operandi

The Programme was organized in the blended mode. Google Meet platform was used for Online broadcast whereas nearly 100 participants attended the event in person through offline mode.

## 6. Day Wise Deliberations

### 6.1. First Day: 1 October, 2021

Professor Shyam Narayan Singh started the programme by welcoming all the dignitaries present in the House. He welcomed the House on behalf of International Centre for Gandhian and Peace studies(ICGPS) as a coordinator of the programme. Various agenda of the programme and thoughts of Gandhi were highlighted. Prof. also spoke on the 75<sup>th</sup> years of Independence which is celebrated all over the nation as Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Programme was followed by Dr. Kottu Shekhar, he expressed his deep sense of appreciation in observing the event and speaks on important ideas of Gandhi in Various fields, further he requested to reimagine and revisit Gandhi for detail understanding of his life. A short film was shown as part of celebration of 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Registrar Dr. N.T.Rikam also spoke on the occasion. He spoke on idea of Mahatma Gandhi and narrated Jallianwala Bagh Massacre as the turning point in the life of Gandhi. He also highlighted on Gandhian Ideas and requests the house to follow the path of Gandhi. Dean, Academic Affairs, Prof. S. K. Singh referred the book, 'My Autobiography' and 'My Experiment with Truth', which is based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi; he also shares various important thought from the referred book. Prof. also dedicated patriotic songs which were composed by various artist of the nation.

Dean, Faculty of Social Science, Prof. Tana Showren emphasized on development of peace mind which is very important in today's world. With the world facing various issues like Covid pandemic, Global Warming and other natural disaster, Professor requested everyone to develop peace of mind and follow the Mantra of Non-Violence.

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra, congratulated Department of History and ICGPS for successfully conducting the program. He requested the audience to practice Gandhi's Ideas in near future.

A brief introduction of the invited Speaker Dr. Gollanpali Prasad was made by Dr. Tajen Dabi, Associate Professor, Department of History. Gandhi King Foundation, Prof. Gollanpali Prasad spoke on the birth anniversary of two great leader of the nation, Lal Bahadur Shastri, the most sincere Former Prime Minister of India and Father of Nation Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi. A document "Transfer of Power" were also discussed in the webinar. He requested to understand Gandhi and its important notion which is very important for our life.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Saket Khuswaha, Chief Patron, spoke on the importance of the Programme and India's 75 years of Independence (*Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*). Former Prime Minister of India, Lal Bahadur Shastri was also remembered and shared his views on his birth anniversary. Vice Chancellor asked the house to understand Gandhi in oneself and advised everyone to be sincere in their life. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Dr. P.K.Nayak, Associate Professor, Department of History followed by National Anthem.



## 6.2. Second Day: 2 October, 2021

The programme started with paying floral tribute on the birth anniversary of two great leaders of the nation, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Mahatma Gandhi. It was followed by welcome song from the Department of fine Arts and Music.

Professor S.N.Singh welcomed all the members present and reminds the audience on the importance of the day. The university also felicitated the guest present in the occasion. The programme went on with culture programme by the department of Fine arts and music, History and Social Work. A film was also played which depicts the struggles and freedom movements of Mahatma Gandhi. Spinning of Chakra was also done as part of the programme where Chairperson of Oju Welfare Association and Bishal Ji from Khadi Seva Sangh, Doimukh were also present.

Vice Chancellor also spoke on the occasion and appreciated the organizing team for successfully conducting the program. He also advocated for organizing more events in the coming days. The program ended with vote of thanks by Dr. K P Singh, Assistant Professor, Social Work and National Anthem was played as per the agenda of the programme.



# **Annexure**

## Annexure 1: Programme Details

### DAY 1

1st October, 2021 (Friday)

3.00 PM onwards (Online)

[Join the Meeting](#)

### DAY 2

2nd October, 2021 (Saturday)

3.00 PM onwards

Venue: Mini Auditorium, RGU



## Annexure 2: Photographs









### Annexure 3: Media Coverage

<https://arunachalobserver.org/2021/10/02/rgu-observes-mahatma-gandhis-birth-anniversary/>  
RGU observes Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary

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October 2, 2021

**RONO HILLS, Oct 01:** Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) Vice Chancellor (VC) Saket Kushwaha on Friday said that in order to understand Mahatma Gandhi, people have to look into themselves.

The VC was addressing a function organized to observe the 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Father of the Nation, Kushwaha urged the participants to read historical documents and also books like 'Gulamgiri' in order to grasp the underlying ideas of social phenomena.

The VC reminded the gathering that October 2 is also the 117th birth anniversary of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri who was an epitome of simple living and austerity.

He was also the architect of Green Revolution; the VC said and maintained that Gandhi is relevant for all times and all contexts.

The event was organised by the International Centre for Gandhian and Peace Studies, RGU, Centre for Youth development and Leadership Studies, RGU and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, a communiqué informed here.

The programme for observance of Gandhi Jayanti on Saturday has been conceptualised under three-fold sub-themes – Remembering Mahatma Gandhi through colours and drawings by organizing painting competitions among youth, reimagining Gandhi through lectures and celebration of Gandhian ideas through spinning of charkhas.

The entire thrust of the programme is expected to generate a profound impact on the generations – present and future, who need to reinvent, re-imagine and relive with the Gandhian ideas, precepts and doctrines in order to make our nation-state move from strength to strength, the communiqué added.

Coordinator of International Centre for Gandhian and Peace Studies Prof S N Singh in his introductory remarks, delineated the objective of the event and the need for revisiting and re-inventing the Father of the Nation.

Drawing on the statements and tributes paid to Gandhi by eminent personalities, Prof Singh quoted from Gandhi's autobiography.

Dr K P Singh, Chairman of Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies was the moderator of the programme. Dr Kottu Sekhar, Coordinator of the RGNIYD NER Centre listed out the subjects/topics with which Gandhi engaged himself.

Dr GVV Prasad, Director, Gandhi King Foundation, Hyderabad said that there is a need to emphasize on the Gandhian values of simplicity and humility. He revealed that Gandhi was not totally happy with the way the transfer of power was executed. His dreams to empower the poor have remained unfulfilled even till date.

RGU Pro Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Deans, Professors and students shared their views on Mahatma Gandhi, the communiqué added.