

Report on the Closing Function of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the College of Teacher Education (PGT) Shillong

The College of Teacher Education (PGT) Shillong celebrated its Diamond Jubilee with a closing ceremony held on October 22, 2024. The event commenced at 11:30 AM and featured a series of significant activities aimed at honoring the institution's legacy and achievements over the past sixty years.

The ceremony began with the felicitation of the Chief Guest and special guests. Although Shri. Rakkam A. Sangma, Minister of Education, Government of Meghalaya, was unable to attend, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, MLA and Chairman of the Meghalaya Handloom and Handicraft Development Corporation, represented him. Principal Dr. R. M. Tongper honored the Chief Guest, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, by garlanding her with a traditional stole. In addition to this gesture of respect, the Principal also presented a memento to Smti. Shylla, symbolizing appreciation for her presence and contributions to the event. The Principal, Dr. R. M. Tongper, extended greetings to other dignitaries, including Shri. W.L. Lyngdoh, IAS (Retd.), President of the Governing Body, Dr. (Mrs.) V. Kharmawphlang, Retired Principal, Dr. Mrs. M.P.R. Lyngdoh, Member of the Governing Body, and Dr. S. Lyndem, Member of the Governing Body.

Following the welcome, a lighting of the ceremonial lamp took place symbolizing enlightenment and the commencement of the celebrations. Dr. (Mrs.) Vanessa Kharmawphlang then offered a prayer.

The host then informed the gathering of the presence of a distinguished special guest, Shri George G. Pariat, former President of the Governing Body and was formally welcomed by Dr. (Mrs.) M.P.R. Lyngdoh, a member of the Governing Body, who graciously felicitated him by garlanding him with a traditional stole.

This was followed by a welcome address. Dr. (Mrs.) R. M. Tongper, Principal i/c, delivered a heartfelt welcome address. In her address, she warmly welcomed the Chief Guest, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, along with all distinguished guests and attendees, expressed gratitude for their presence at this significant occasion. Dr. Tongper highlighted the pivotal role that the College of Teacher Education has played in shaping future educators in the region. She acknowledged the institution's commitment to excellence in teacher education while also addressing the various challenges it faces. Among these challenges, she emphasized the immediate task of launching a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) course, which aims to expand academic offerings and to align the College with the New Education Policy 2020 to enhance educational opportunities for students.

The first-semester students then presented a welcome song at 11:45 AM, setting a festive tone for the gathering.

During the programme, a notable highlight was a speech by Shri. Aaron Warjri, President of the CTEPGT Alumni Association, which was read by Shri. P. Bhattacharjee, as Mr. Warjri was attending an international summit in Kenya.

Dr. M.A. Jyrwa, Associate Professor, presented a comprehensive overview of the history of the College followed by the release of the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir by Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, Chairman of the Meghalaya Handloom and Handicraft Development Corporation, Government of Meghalaya.

Shortly after the release of the Souvenir, the President of the Governing Body, Shri W.L. Lyngdoh IAS (Retd.), delivered a heartfelt speech that resonated with gratitude and reflection. He began by expressing immense appreciation for the founding members whose vision and dedication established the college, emphasizing their critical role in shaping its legacy over the past sixty years. He extended

congratulations to the current Members of the Governing Body, Principal, dedicated teachers, and all individuals associated with the institution for their unwavering commitment and hard work, which have been instrumental in nurturing countless educators. As he celebrated the achievements of the College, Shri. W. L. Lyngdoh, President of the Governing Body, also addressed the challenges that lie ahead, particularly highlighting the immediate need to initiate a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) course. He highlighted that this endeavor is essential for expanding academic offerings and meeting the evolving needs of students. In this regard, he urged Chief Guest Smti. Santa Mary Shylla to convey these concerns to the government, stressing that their support will be vital in overcoming these hurdles.

A significant moment of the closing function of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the College of Teacher Education (PGT) Shillong, was marked by the felicitation of distinguished recipients who have made notable contributions to the institution. The ceremony was coordinated by Mrs. F. Marbaniang, Assistant Professor, ensuring that the proceedings were conducted smoothly and with dignity. The Chief Guest, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, Chairman of the Meghalaya Handloom and Handicraft Development Corporation, along with Shri W. L. Lyngdoh, President of the Governing Body, presented mementos to various recipients in recognition of their exceptional service and contributions. The recipients of mementos are listed as follows:

Governing Body Members:

- Shri George G. Pariat: Honored for his 26 years of service as a member and President of the Governing Body.
- Dr. (Mrs.) M.P.R. Lyngdoh: Recognized for her 26 years as a member of the Governing Body.

- Shri W. L. Lyngdoh, IAS (Retd.): Acknowledged for his 16 years of service as a member and President of the Governing Body.

Special Recognition to Alumni:

- Shri Nicholas J. Kharnami (Batch of 2018 – 2020): Felicitated for his contributions to environmental protection and waste management.
- Shri Shemphanglin Khardewsaw (Batch of 2017 – 2019): Recognized for his innovative teaching practices.

Teaching Staff:

- Dr. (Mrs.) V. Kharmawphlang: Retired Principal, honored for her 38 years of dedicated service.
- Ms. Berylda H. Buam, Ph.D.: Associate Professor (Retd.), recognized for her 33 years of service.
- Dr. Mary Anne Jyrwa: Associate Professor, acknowledged for her 27 years of service.
- Dr. (Mrs.) R.M. Tongper: Associate Professor, honored for her 26 years of service.
- Shri Pronab Bhattacharjee: Part-time lecturer, recognized for his 30 years of dedicated service.

Non-Teaching Staff:

- Shri Ashoke Singha Roy: UDC, honored for his 35 years of dedicated service.
- Shri D. B. Lama: Mali, recognized for his 40 years of dedicated service.

- Shri Michael Mawlieh: LDC, acknowledged for his 35 years of dedicated service.
- Shri Sanjay Lama: Duftry, recognized for his 39 years of service.

The presentation of mementos served not only as a token of appreciation but also as a celebration of the enduring legacy and commitment shown by these individuals towards the mission of the College.

A vibrant cultural dance performance was presented by first and third-semester student-teachers. The captivating display of talent not only showcased the students' artistic abilities but also celebrated the rich cultural heritage of India, reflecting the diverse backgrounds of the student body of the College over the past sixty years. The performance commenced with a traditional Garo dance, setting an energetic tone for the event. Following this, students transitioned seamlessly through a series of regional dances, including Nepali, Naga, Bharatnatyam, Bihari, Mizo, Manipuri, Assamese, Jaintia, Bengali, Punjabi, and concluded with the Khasi dance. Each segment was infused with traditional attire representative of the respective cultures, enhancing the visual appeal and authenticity of the performance. The cultural medley was indeed a poignant reminder of the commitment of the College to inclusivity and diversity.

An important component of the programme was the speech by the Chief Guest, Smti. Santa Mary Shylla, Chairman of the Meghalaya Handloom and Handicraft Development Corporation. In her speech, Smti. Shylla, committed to conveying the request of the Principal i/c, Dr. (Mrs.) R. M. Tongper to Shri Rakkam A. Sangma, the Minister of Education, Government of Meghalaya, regarding the intention of the College to initiate the B.A. program in the upcoming session. She assured the gathering of her advocacy for this initiative, particularly emphasizing the Chief

Minister's prioritization of health and education sectors. Further, Smti. Shylla acknowledged the challenges faced by teachers and academicians, expressing gratitude for their role in shaping the future of the youth in the state. In her concluding remarks, Smti Shylla extended heartfelt congratulations to the College for its achievements and initiatives. She expressed her optimism for the institution's future, wishing it continued success in the coming years.

The closing program also highlighted a remarkable performance of the theme song by the third-semester student-teachers. Their performance not only entertained the audience but also effectively showcased the pivotal role of the College in nurturing future educators for the state. The heartfelt rendition of the theme song at the event served as a testament to the mission of the College towards shaping competent educators who will contribute positively to the educational landscape of our state.

Dr. B. Tron, Convenor of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration, delivered a formal vote of thanks that highlighted the contributions of numerous individuals and groups integral to the event's success. She began by expressing gratitude to the Chief Guest and the members of the Governing Body, particularly Shri W.L. Lyngdoh, the President, and former President Shri George G. Pariat, for their leadership and support. Dr. Tron also thanked Dr. (Mrs.) V. Kharmawphlang, a retired principal, for leading the prayer and for her continued support to the institution. Dr. Tron, further acknowledged the faculty from DERT, Shillong, as well as Ms. B. H. Buam, a retired faculty member of the College, for their presence and contributions. The Principal of Shillong College and Shillong Commerce College and the principals of internship schools were recognized for their presence, along with other invitees who added value to the celebration. Dr. Tron expressed appreciation for the principal in charge of the College for delivering a welcome speech that set a positive tone for the gathering. Dr. B. Tron also acknowledged Dr. M.A. Jyrwa for presenting an engaging

history of the College and thanked Mrs. F. Marbaniang for conducting the felicitation ceremony. Further, acknowledgments were made to all faculty members, non-teaching staff, and student-teachers from the first and third semesters for their vibrant performances that contributed to the celebratory atmosphere. A special mention was made to Nicholas J. Kharnami, an alumnus of the College, for his role in hosting the closing function with enthusiasm and professionalism. Dr. Tron concluded by thanking everyone who contributed directly or indirectly to making the Diamond Jubilee Celebration a memorable event, emphasizing a spirit of unity and collaboration within the College community.

As a final gesture to mark this significant occasion, all attendees were invited to stand for the College Anthem, followed by the ceremonial lowering of the Diamond Jubilee flag outside the auditorium as a symbolic closure to the celebrations.

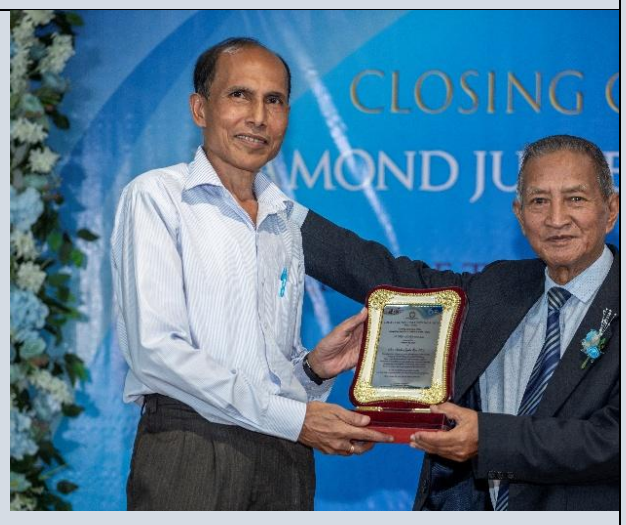
The event ended with an invitation for all guests and invitees to join for lunch, nurturing community spirit among alumni, faculty, students, and dignitaries present at this momentous occasion in the history of the College.

Glimpses of the Closing Function

















Prepared by,

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