The **Capacity Building Centre (CBC)** of Cotton University came into existence on the 1st of January, 2022 with **Dr Sangeeta Barthakur**, Head of the Department of Statistics, as the Director in charge. It was constituted with the aim of organising awareness and training programs for capacity building skill enhancement and personality development of faculty, students and non-teaching staff of Cotton University. The training and education of children of schools in and around Guwahati would also be taken up as an endeavour towards fostering social responsibility and community engagement.

The following is a brief report on the activities of the CBC till date (25.07.2023):

- 1. A workshop on "Preparation of Syllabus in LOCF Format" was jointly organised by the Capacity Building Centre and IQAC, Cotton University in blended mode, on 18.01.2022 where resource person Prof. Manuj Kr. Hazarika, of Tezpur University, gave an elaborate deliberation on the LOCF format and it was followed by active interactive session with the faculty members both from the 37 participants sitting offline at the Conference Hall, MCB building, Cotton University and also from among the 80 participants who joined online.
- 2. A Demonstration on Data Science Courses was conducted by the Capacity Building centre on 19.01.2022 at the Computer Centre of the Cotton University, in blended mode, in collaboration with EduViden Pvt Ltd, where the speakers from EduViden gave a detailed presentation on the following two courses which the CBC proposes to introduce as add-on Courses for the benefit of the students.
 - a) Data Analytics (6 month duration) and
 - b) Data Science (12 months duration)

The demonstration was attended by the Academic Registrar, the Coordinator, IQAC, the Director (i/c), CBC, along with Faculty members of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Computer Science, Cotton University.

3. The Capacity Building Centre, Cotton University organized a program **E-BAAT** (Electronic Banking Awareness and Training), in association with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Guwahati, on 10.03.2022 at the Seminar Hall 311, MCB building, Cotton University for the teaching and non-teaching staff of the University. Resource Person Mr Arun Borgohain from RBI gave an interesting account of how innocent people are cheated by digital frauds and what are the precautions that need to be taken by one and all in this regard. The program was largely attended and its importance was appreciated by the participants.





- 4. Under the initiative of the Capacity Building Centre, two members of faculty, Dr Indrani Sharma, (Sociology) and Dr Muktikam Hazarika (Mass Communication & Journalism) of Cotton University, were nominated to participate in a training programme named Capacity Building of faculty as Master Trainers for Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), organized and recommended by UGC during January to April, 2022, at Tezpur University. The programme is meant to train two members of faculty from different institutions, per batch, so that they in turn can train the other faculty of their respective institutions. It will be held in different zones, and in consecutive batches, this being the first.
- 5. The Capacity Building Centre, Cotton University conducted a **Short Term Computer Course** for the non-teaching staff of Cotton University for a duration of 10 days commencing from **07.04.2022**, in the laboratory of the Department Of Statistics, Cotton University. It was a hands-on training programme where a total of 5 non-teaching staff joined and successfully completed the course.



6. A workshop on World Class Strategies and Secrets to Land to a Dream Job was conducted by Enrich my Career, in association with the Capacity Building Centre and Placement and Career Counselling Cell, Cotton University on 19th May, 2022 at the Sudmerson Hall, Cotton University for the undergraduate and post graduate students of the University. The workshop which was of duration 2(two hours) was conducted by Nishant Sarawgi, Founder Enrich my Career. It was an interactive session.







7. The Capacity Building Centre and the Department of History, Cotton University jointly organized an Interactive Session on **Strategy to Crack Civil Services Examinations** in association with Lucent Institute of Advanced Studies Guwahati, at 1pm on 6th June, 2022 at Sudmersen Hall, Cotton University for the undergraduate and post graduate students of the university. The resource persons were Mr. Mukesh Kalita, Mr. Mridul Barman and Ms Shilpa Khanikar. The session was well attended by 90 under graduate and the post graduate students.





8. The Capacity Building Centre and the Department of History, Cotton University jointly organized an Interactive Session on Preparation for UGC-NET, SLET and JRF at Sudmersen Hall, Cotton University Guwahati, on 30th June, 2022 for the undergraduate, post graduate students and research scholars of the university. The resource person was Mr. Bijan Debbarma. The session was well attended by the under graduate, post graduate students and research scholars, the number of participants being 75.



9. For the benefit of the student community, the Capacity Building Centre, Cotton University Guwahati has taken up the initiative to conduct the UPSC/APSC Civil Service Coaching in collaboration with a certified coaching institute Civil Services Achievers' Point (CSAP) at Cotton University. It is to be noted that this institute had provided similar coaching at Cotton University under the "PROYAX" program in 2019 and has commendable feedback from the participants. A committee formed for finalising the modalities of the coaching program, consisting of the Dean (Research and Development), Academic Registrar, IQAC Coordinator and CBC Director, Cotton University met on 15th July 2022 to revise the former MOU signed with CSAP on 18.07.2019 in the lines with the new modifications. The revised MOU was signed between the Cotton University and Civil Service Achiever's Point at the office of the Registrar, Cotton University on 27th July,2022. Thereafter a notification about the registration process for the students commencing from 5th August, 2022 till 16th August 2022 was uploaded in the University website. As all of the 100 seats were not filled up by Cottonians, the registration link was made open to the students of other educational institutions as a part of the community service program of Cotton University. The Inaugural cum Orientation programme was organized on 31st of August, 2022 at Seminar Hall 311, MCB building, Cotton University for the civil service aspirants. Prof. Bhabesh Chandra Goswami, Vice Chancellor, Cotton University graced the occasion along with the Guests speakers Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS, former additional Secretary to the Govt. of Assam and presently the Vice Chancellor of Assam Skill University, Mangaldoi and Shri Diganta Barah, IPS, Secretary to the Government of Assam, Home and Political department. Shri Rajdeep Lekharu, founder Director and chief mentor, CSAP drew an outline of the coaching programme. The Inaugural session was well attended including Academic Registrar, the Dean, Students' Welfare, the coordinator IQAC, the Director CBC and faculty members of Cotton University along with the participants. The participants interacted with the guest dignitaries who shared their own experiences and encouraged the participants.











10. The Capacity Building Centre, CU organised a Seminar on Learning Japanese: Benefits and Opportunities in association with JACEEX on 20th September, 2022 at the Seminar Room no. 311, MCB Building Cotton University. it was an interactive session conducted by Sri Rajiv Gupta and was well attended by 103 student participants. This initiative was a forerunner to the credit course on Japanese language which is proposed to be started at Cotton University at Cotton University under the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) program. It will be an Add on course for other students of Cotton University.





11. The Capacity Building Centre, Cotton University conducted a **Short Term Course on Programming in C** for the school students of the neighbouring Panbazar Higher Secondary School for a duration of 15days commencing from **02.07.2022**. It was a hands-on training programme well attended by the students. Post completion of the course an award giving ceremony was organised by the CBC, CU at the school premises. The ceremony was attended by the Principal and Faculty members of the school along with the Director and Assistant of the CBC.





The Capacity Building Centre and the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell, Cotton University jointly organized an interactive workshop "Igniting Hearts and Minds for Social Action" on 28th October, 2022 at the Sudmerson Hall, Cotton university in collaboration with Buddha Institute, to create social awareness amongst the students of various disciplines of Cotton University. The objective of the workshop is to create a sense of social responsibility among the students so that they become socially more conscious and keen on exploring issues happening in the rural areas and get motivated to immerse themselves in the general life of rural areas. The workshop is in line with the mandate of NEP 2020 and the mission of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan initiative of the Govt. of India to enable higher educational institutions to work with community members and identify the challenges and seek appropriate solution for accelerating sustainable growth. This workshop conveyed the spirit of UBA in creating a virtuous cycle between society and an inclusive academic system by providing an opportunity to the students to become capable change agents in society. Distinguished speakers from different fields of specialization graced the occasion and encouraged the students. The speakers were Mr. Pradyut Bhattacharyya, Theme Lead , Buddha Institute Ms. Runa Rafique, Founder, Blue Planet Amalgamated, Mr. Parag Boruah, Managing Director, Ayanant Ventures Pvt. Ltd, Mr. Ranjan Deb, Executive, Buddha Institute, Ms. Priyanka Saikia and Ms. Babli Basumatary North East Network. The workshop was flagged off by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof R.C. Deka in presence of the Registrar, Academic Registrar, Coordinator of IQAC and the Director, Capacity Building Centre. More than 100 students participated in the program.









13. The Constitution day of India was celebrated on 25th November 2022 with a talk on "India: The Mother of Democracy." at Seminar Room No. 311, MCB Building, Cotton University. Miss Kankhita Sharma, Assistant Professor, Arya Vidyapeeth College was the speaker of the event which was coordinated by the Director, CBC and Dr Paramita Dey, Head, Dept. of Political Science, Cotton University. Dr Santanu Chakraborty, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences also gave an introductory lecture on Indian constituion. It was attended by the Academic Registrar, members of Faculty and over 50 students of Cotton University.









14. An interactive session on "Science, Technology and Livelihood" was organised by the CBC, CU at 2:30pm on 08th December 2022 at the Seminar Room 311, MCB Building. The speaker for the session was Dr Arun Kumar Sarma, Director General, NECTAR. The

interactive session was attended by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Cotton University, Professor Ramesh Ch Deka, the Deans of various faculties, the Heads and the members of faculty of the different department of Cotton University. Dr Sarma spoke on several schemes for possible collaborative projects between NECTAR and Cotton University.





15. A seminar on "Learn and Earn in Japan" was organised for the students by CBC,CU in collaboration with JACEEX at 2pm on 7th February 2023 at Seminar Room 311,MCB Building, Cotton University. The guest speaker of the seminar was .Mr. Shuichiro Mumura, the Head of International Education Planning Office, Tokyo Kokusai Gakuen and Tokyo Foreign Language College and also the Director, Tokyo-Asia Relation Channel. The program was also attended by Mr Rajiv Gupta, CEO of JACEEX.





16. An awareness workshop on examinations conducted by APSC was organised by CBC in collaboration with the Assam Public Service Commission (APSC) on 18th March 2023 in the KBR Auditorium, Cotton University. Shri Bharat Bhushan Dev Choudhury, Hon'ble Chairman, APSC was the keynote speaker on the occasion. Shri Dev Choudhury gave an illuminating lecture on the preparations needed for clearing APSC Examinations, the hurdles, the solutions and several other aspects with a smattering of humour and examples which attracted the attention of the audience who remained captivated for two long hours. The event was marked by the presence of three other members of APSC Shri Ghana Kanta Pegu, Dr Padma Sharma and Ms. Nazreen Ahmed as also the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Cotton University, Prof Ramesh Chandra Deka, several members of Faculty, around 400 students of Cotton University and other distinguished guests.











CYBER SECURITY
AWARENESS
WORKSHOP

An awareness workshop on cyber security was organised jointly by CBC and IQAC, Cotton University in collaboration with GRATIA Technology Pvt. Ltd., under the initiative of the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Assam on 28th March 2023 at Seminar Room 311, MCB Building, Cotton University. The resource person for the workshop was renowned cyber security expert, Mr Biju Pegu, CEO of GRATIA Technology Pvt. Ltd. The event was marked by the presence of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Cotton University, the Academic Registrar, members of Faculty and a notable number of students.







COTTON UNIVERSITY, GUWAHATI

is launching

A YEAR LONG HUNDHOURS LECTURE SERIES

ON

PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND PERFECTION OF PERSONALITY IN THE LIGHT

OF THE TEACHINGS OF SRI AUROBINDO AND THE MOTHER



18. The CBC is presently in discussion with

Sahitya Academy Awardee Sri Diganta Biswa Sarma in connection with a yearlong hundred hours online lecture series on "Psychological Health and Perfection of Personality in the lines of the teachings of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother" which is a programme incorporating the ideals of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS). It is supposed to be launched on 15th August 2023.

19. A Talk on "UGC CARE for pursuing quality research", for Members of Faculty of Cotton University, was organised by CBC on 10th April. 2023 at the Sudmersen Hall of the University. The talk was delivered by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof Ramesh Chandra Deka, who deliberated at length about the importance of research in academics and the need to publish research work in proper journals having high impact factor. The event was attended by 116 members, including the Deans of various faculties and the Heads and faculty members of different departments. It was followed by an informal get together with refreshments and healthy interaction amongst the attendees.





20. A "Mainstorming Seminar" on APSC/UPSC Mains Preparation Strategies was organised by CBC in collaboration with Civil Services Achievers' Point (CSAP) for the civil service aspirant students, who had already cleared the Prelims examination, on 25th April 2023, at the Sudmersen Hall of the University. The Resource Person was Shri Anil Swarup. IAS (Retd.) who deliberated an extremely beneficial, informative and inspirational lecture and interacted at length with the packed hall of 233 students. The event was also attended by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof

Ramesh Chandra Deka, the Dean Students' Welfare, the Coordinator of IQAC, the Director CBC and some other faculty members.





21.

shop on "Preparation of Syllabus in LOCF Format" was organised by CBC jointly with

IQAC, Cotton University on 27th April, 2023 in the HB Conference Hall, MCB Building, Cotton University. This workshop was held in order to create a team of Master Trainers who could then be able to guide the members of the different departments in framing their syllabuses as per rules of LOCF, properly incorporating the Program Outcomes, the Program Specific Outcomes and the Course Outcomes. The Resource Person for the workshop was Prof Utpal Sarma, former IQAC Coordinator and Faculty of the Department of Instrumentation & USIC, Gauhati University, who deliberated elaborately on the topic giving relevant illustrations. The workshop was successful in creating a pool of 30 members intended for the purpose.





22. A Workshop on "Rural Futures Fellowship" was organised by CBC in collaboration with the Balipara Foundation on 27th April, 2023 at the Sudmersen Hall, Cotton University. The Workshop was intended for the final year students of UG and PG courses of the University. Resource persons Ms Ananya Parashar and Mr Joe Dawson spoke at length about the Fellowship which is given after the clearing of an examination and the realm of opportunities that open up thereafter in the field of community services and rural involvement. The event saw the participation of 67 students, most of whom seemed to have been highly motivated to go ahead for such an experience.









23. On the evening of 27th April, 2023, an



Interactive Meet between the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof Ramesh Chandra Deka and the Non-teaching staff of Cotton University was organised by the CBC at the Sudmersen hall of the University. The Honourable Vice Chancellor deliberated on the relevance of the teachings of Sri Sri Sankardeva in modern Science in Assamese, the topic being "Bigyanor dristit Sri Sri Sankardev". In the course of his lecture, the Honourable VC pointed out the necessity of hard work, dedication, sincerity and respect for one's work place. He also explained many health related issues and the proper organic and natural food that need to be incorporated in our diet, the importance of yoga, acupressure and exercise, and the hazards of alcohol abuse. The talk was greatly appreciated by the non-teaching staff of the University. It was followed by tea and refreshments which the Honourable VC enjoyed in their company.



24. A Follow-up Workshop on "Preparation of Syllabus in LOCF Format" was organised by CBC jointly with IQAC, Cotton University on 28th April, 2023 in the HB

Conference Hall, MCB Building, Cotton University. This workshop was held in order to



take stock of the progress made by the team of Master Trainers which was created to guide the members of the different departments in framing their syllabuses as per rules of LOCF. The problems encountered in the process were addressed and feasible

solutions were discussed. This was an in-house workshop amongst the members of IQAC including the Coordinator, the group of Master Trainers, the Academic Registrar and the Director, CBC.

25. An awareness program cum Interactive Meet titled "Know More About GATE and JAM Examinations" was organised by CBC on 26th May, 2023 at the Sudmersen Hall for interested students. Mr Pratik Das from IISc, Bengaluru gave a detailed overview of the subject and addressed the queries of the participants.









26. World No Tobacco Day was celebrated jointly by CBC and the Department of Statistics, Cotton University, in collaboration with RODALI, a Centre for Cancer Awareness and Counselling and the Indian Medical Association (IMA), Assam State Branch on 31st May, 2023 at Seminar Room 311, MCB Building, Cotton University. Renowned ENT specialist Dr Gautam Khaund and Oncologist Dr Satirtha Barman spoke elaborately about oral cancer, its precautions, early symptoms, diagnosis and treatment. They also stressed on the psychological aspect of a cancer patient and the remedial measures. The meeting was well attended by members of faculty and students of various departments and Members of RODALI and IMA, there being 110 participants. The Honourable Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof Ramesh Chandra Deka flagged off the program with a talk on the importance of abstaining from alcohol and tobacco.









27. An Int

eractive Meet on "Cotton University Guidelines for Promotion under CAS as per UGC Regulation 2018, was organised by CBC in association with the IQAC, Cotton University, on the 12th of June, 2023 at Seminar Room 311, MCB Building, Cotton University to create an awareness on the entire procedure of promotions under Career Advancement Scheme (CAS). Coordinator of IQAC Prof Santanu Sarma presented a detailed lecture on the various points required to be noted about promotion into various stages under CAS, the procedure of filing applications, the criteria that need to

be fulfilled at various stages, etc., and also addressed the confusions and queries of the faculty members. The program, which was flagged off by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Cotton University Prof Ramesh Chandra Deka saw the participation of 50 members of the Cotton teaching fraternity. All appreciated that this was a very essential and important initiative on the part of CBC.





28. The CBC conducted a significant Awareness Programme on the Conduct Rules of the





institution on 20th June 2023 at the KBR Auditorium, Cotton University. The event was specifically tailored for all teaching and non-teaching staff, with an impressive turnout of 120 and 63 participants, respectively. The programme aimed to instill a strong sense of adherence to the university's Conduct Rules among the staff, emphasizing the significance of ethical behavior, professionalism, and mutual respect within the campus community. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Dutta, the esteemed Academic Registrar, delivered an insightful and engaging lecture accompanied by ppt presentation, providing comprehensive guidance on the various aspects of the Conduct Rules. The presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellor added prestige to the event, highlighting the significance the university places on promoting ethical standards and values. The interaction and discussions that followed the talk fostered a deeper understanding of the Conduct Rules which are also available in the University website. Overall, the awareness programme proved to be a valuable opportunity for the staff to reinforce their commitment to uphold the university's reputation and work collaboratively towards a positive and respectful environment for all.

 On 28th June 2023, CBC organized an Awareness Programme on Professional Ethics, aimed at all faculty members of the institution. The event featured an enlightening





lecture by Prof. Utpal Sarma, former IQAC Coordinator of Gauhati University, who provided valuable insights and guidance on the importance of upholding ethical standards in academia. A total of 152 faculty members actively participated in the programme, showing their keen interest in promoting professionalism and ethical conduct within the university's academic community. Some others expressed regret as they were unable to attend being occupied with examination duties. The presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellor at the event added prestige and demonstrated the university's commitment to fostering a culture of integrity and

professional values among its faculty members. The lecture was engaging and interactive, allowing faculty members to raise queries, share experiences, and discuss challenges related to professional ethics in their respective roles. The awareness programme served as a crucial platform for the faculty members of Cotton University to enhance their understanding of ethical practices and reaffirm their dedication to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in their academic pursuits.







