



**Nālandā**  
UNIVERSITY

An Institution of National Importance



विदेश मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

# Nālandā University

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**2024-25**

[nalandauniv.edu.in](http://nalandauniv.edu.in)





Nālandā  
UNIVERSITY

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः

Let noble thoughts come to  
us from all directions







**Smt Droupadi Murmu**

Hon'ble President of India  
(Visitor, Nālandā University)



**Professor Arvind Panagariya**  
Chancellor



**Professor Sachin Chaturvedi**  
Vice Chancellor





# The Governing Board



**Professor Arvind  
Panagariya**

Chancellor, Nālandā University  
Chairman, Governing Board



**Shri Anand  
Mahindra**

Member from amongst the  
persons being renowned  
academician or educationist



**Shri Venu  
Srinivasan**

Member from amongst the  
persons being renowned  
academician or educationist



**Shri Periasamy  
Kumaran**

Secretary (East),  
Ministry of External  
Affairs



**Professor Manjul Bhargava**

Member from amongst the persons being  
renowned academician or educationist



**Shri Prasoon Joshi**

Representation from India

**Ex-Officio  
Member**

Additional Secretary  
(Higher Education),  
Ministry of Education



**Dr S Siddharth**

Member Representing the  
State Government of Bihar



**Shri Anand Kishore**

Member Representing the State  
Government of Bihar

**Representation from  
five Member States**



**Professor Sachin Chaturvedi**

Vice Chancellor,  
Nālandā University

# The Academic Council



**Professor Sachin  
Chaturvedi**

Vice Chancellor, Nālandā University



**Professor Kapil  
Kapoor**

Expert Member



**Professor Karam  
Tej S Sarao**

Expert Member



**Professor B V  
Uma Devi**

Expert Member



**Professor Mala  
Lalvani**

Expert Member



**Professor Anjoo  
Sharan Upadhyaya**

Expert Member



**Professor Varun  
Sahni**

Expert Member



**Professor Vasant  
Shinde**

Expert Member

# The Academic Council



**Professor Abhay  
Kumar Singh**

Professor and Dean,  
SHS



**Professor Godavarisha  
Mishra**

Professor & Dean  
SBSPCR



**Professor Sushant  
Kumar Mishra**

Professor & Dean  
SLL/H



**Dr Satyanarayan  
Shashtri**

Associate Professor & Dean (In-Charge)  
SEES



**Dr Kishore  
Kumar Dhavala**

Associate Professor, SEES



**Dr Rajeev Ranjan  
Chaturvedy**

Associate Professor, SHS/SIPS



**Dr Anand  
Kumar**

Assistant Professor  
SMS



**Dr Rajeshwar  
Mukherjee**

Teaching Fellow  
SBSPCR



**Dr Ramesh Pratap  
Singh Parihar**

Registrar (Member-Secretary)



**Dr S. Shyam  
Sunder Rao**

Deputy Librarian



# Participating Countries



Australia



Bangladesh



Bhutan



Brunei Darussalam



Cambodia



China



India



Indonesia



Mauritius



Myanmar



Lao-PDR



New Zealand



Portugal



Singapore



South Korea



Sri Lanka



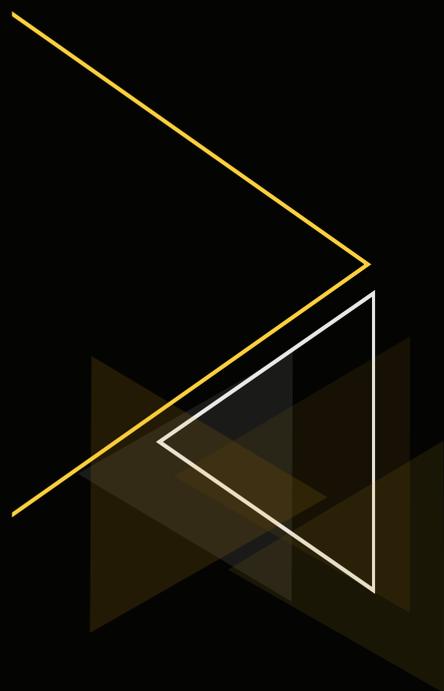
Thailand



Vietnam

# YEAR AT A GLANCE

## 2024-25



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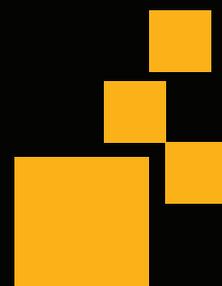
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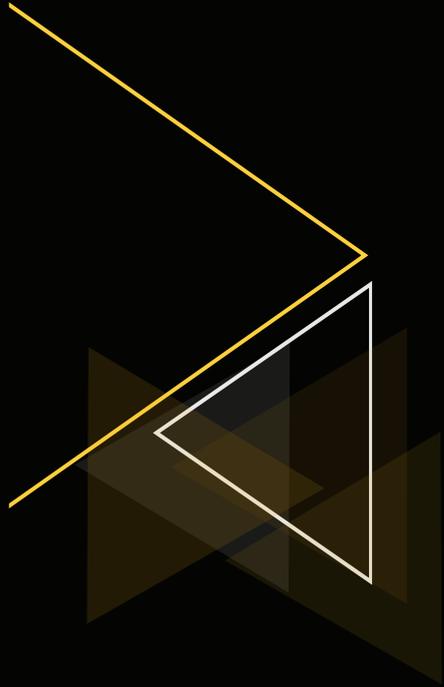
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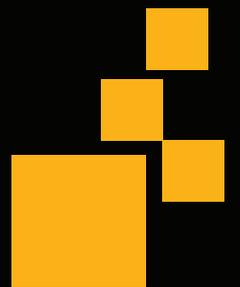
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# Message from the Chancellor

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In the present era, as India progresses towards realising its Viksit Bharat ambition, Nālandā University seeks to renew and carry forward the legacy of its illustrious predecessor. Along with the revival of classical disciplines once taught at the ancient Nālandā, the University is equally committed to promoting excellence in contemporary fields of study, advancing interdisciplinary research, and promoting global dialogue rooted in shared civilizational values.

During my recent visits, I was moved to observe the University's ongoing evolution, reflected in its deepening intellectual pursuits, academic collaborations, and international reach. In line with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the re-establishment of Nālandā University is a long-term institutional endeavor, grounded in a vision of sustained academic and infrastructural development. As Nālandā continues to grow, it aims to catalyse the transformation of Rajgir into a vibrant and evolving university town. With a commitment to infrastructural advancement, intellectual engagement, cultural interchange, and sustainable development, we aim to reaffirm its historical role as a hub for learning and ideas.



“ With a commitment to infrastructural advancement, intellectual engagement, cultural interchange, and sustainable development, we aim to reaffirm Nālandā's historical role as a hub for learning and ideas.

As someone who has spent much of my life studying economic development and global cooperation, I view Nālandā as a dynamic continuum that links the heritage of the past with the progressive ambitions of the future. My best wishes to the Vice Chancellor, faculty members, staff, and students for carrying forward this timeless legacy with humility, purpose, and hope.

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**Professor Arvind Panagariya**  
Chancellor

# Message from the Vice Chancellor

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As we reflect upon the past year, it is evident that Nālandā University is undergoing a period of purposeful transformation, characterised by academic vitality, infrastructural development, and renewed engagement with its founding ideals, as it continues to bridge its ancient heritage with the imperatives of contemporary scholarship. Having had the honour of joining this institution back in May 2025, I was moved by the vibrant spirit of inquiry, collaboration, and compassion that pulses at the heart of this community. The academic year 2024 - 25 has seen Nālandā evolve with a renewed sense of purpose, through pioneering research, dynamic global engagements, and dialogues that connect civilizational wisdom with today's contemporary challenges.

Our Schools have continued to embody the essence of Nālandā's ancient yet timeless mission, exploring history, ecology, management, philosophy, and literature with depth, diversity, and dedication. Each endeavor has reaffirmed our belief that knowledge, when guided by empathy and ethical purpose, becomes a force for global harmony. Further, the University has also initiated steps to connect with the neighbouring village communities, following the footsteps of its ancient predecessor. Anchored in this vision, and with the steadfast commitment of our faculty, researchers, students, and administrative teams to work with Nālandā Spirit, the University aspires to position itself as a vital



“Nālandā University aspires to position itself as a vital center from the Global South, addressing the pressing challenges and opportunities of an emerging multipolar world order.”

center from the Global South, addressing the pressing challenges and opportunities of an emerging multipolar world order.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the Chancellor Dr Arvind Panagariya, the Governing Board, and the Academic Council for their continued guidance and encouragement. I acknowledge with deep appreciation the support extended by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and the Government of Bihar in enabling the University to pursue its vision with renewed vigour. I also convey my heartfelt appreciation to the earlier Vice Chancellors, and in particular to Professor Abhay Kumar Singh, for leading the work as Interim Vice Chancellor for the year under review.

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**Professor Sachin Chaturvedi**  
Vice Chancellor

# School of Historical Studies

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SHS  
SHS



The School of Historical Studies is rooted in the rich historical legacy of the ancient Nālandā. It is shaped by a community constituting faculty members, postgraduate and doctoral students, and postdoctoral fellows, all of whom are engaged in a systematic and rigorous enquiry into some of the fundamental issues that concern the field of historical studies. The School has two M.A. programs in History and Archaeology. The year 2024-25 was marked by academic vibrancy. Faculty and students opened up new frontiers of knowledge and experience in Asian and global contexts through a multidisciplinary approach that allowed historical inquiry to focus on cultures, connections, and civilisations.

## Historical Studies

SHS projects a deep interest in Asian and global history, cultural history, history of civilisational linkages, environmental history, maritime and economic history, social and religious history, among others. One of the salient features of the School is its pedagogical focus on critical thinking, leading to the creation of experiential learning that links textual scholarship with field experience. The School trains students in the core principles and methods of the discipline, along with the practice of undertaking rigorous enquiry and research – resonating with the tradition of ancient Nālandā – through the mandatory dissertation component. The School is committed to cutting-edge research that begins with its faculty members. Students acquire the knowledge and skills of reading and writing through a rigorous engagement in methodological and theoretical perspectives critical for multidisciplinary historical research.

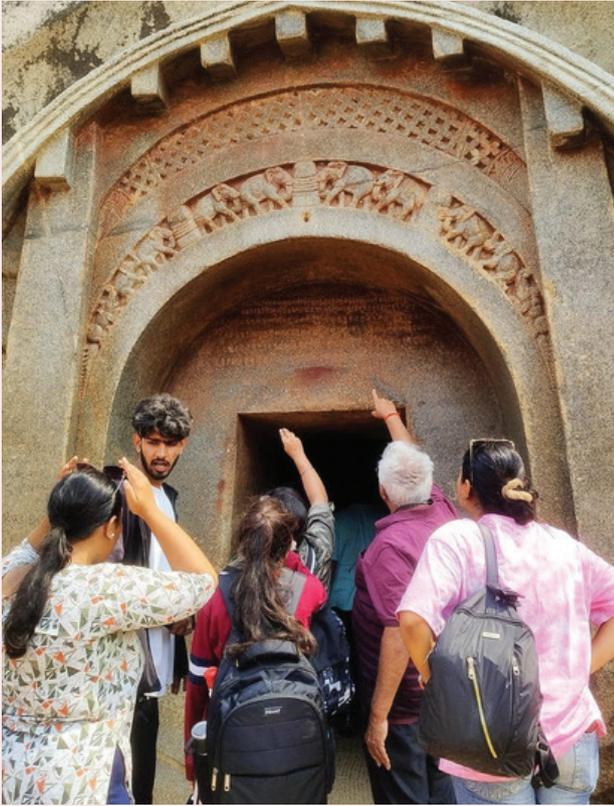
During the academic year of 2024-25, SHS offered a wide-ranging and intellectually stimulating bunch of courses. These reflected chronological depth combined with thematic diversity. Foundational courses such as Birth of Civilisations and World History introduced students to ancient societies, and how major historical processes were shaped by the wider contexts of the globe. Courses like the Cultural History of India, Archaeology and History, and Historical Archaeology introduced students to the rich tapestry of Indian culture, and cross-disciplinary methodological connections. The curriculum emphasises further on specialised

and regionally focused studies, like Maritime History of India, Maritime Interconnections in the Indian Ocean, and Routes in Asia and Beyond, foregrounding India's historical role in the Indian Ocean network of exchanges, and overland routes of Uttarapatha, Dakshinapatha. Complementing these are courses India and Southeast Asia and International Relations of India Over the Ages that underscore India's civilisational and transregional influence.

In addition, courses like Sufism and Bhakti in India and Contemplative Traditions: India and China engage with the spiritual, devotional and philosophical dimensions of India's rich history; while Nālandā through the Ages offers students an opportunity to explore the rich historical, cultural, and philosophical traditions of ancient Nālandā. The curriculum also includes course offerings like Indian Art, Aesthetics and Architecture, Economic History, Indian Renaissance, and Environmental History that enable students to study at the intersections of visual history, economic history, and critical concerns of ecology. Advanced courses on Historiography, Proto-Historic Archaeology, and Buddhist Historiography encourage critical engagement with history writing itself, along with Buddhist sources, and connections of history and archaeology. SHS undertook significant research activity with faculty members and postdoctoral scholars contributing to a diverse range of scholarly publications from monographs, to journal articles, and book chapters.

Dr Kashshaf Ghani published his monograph from



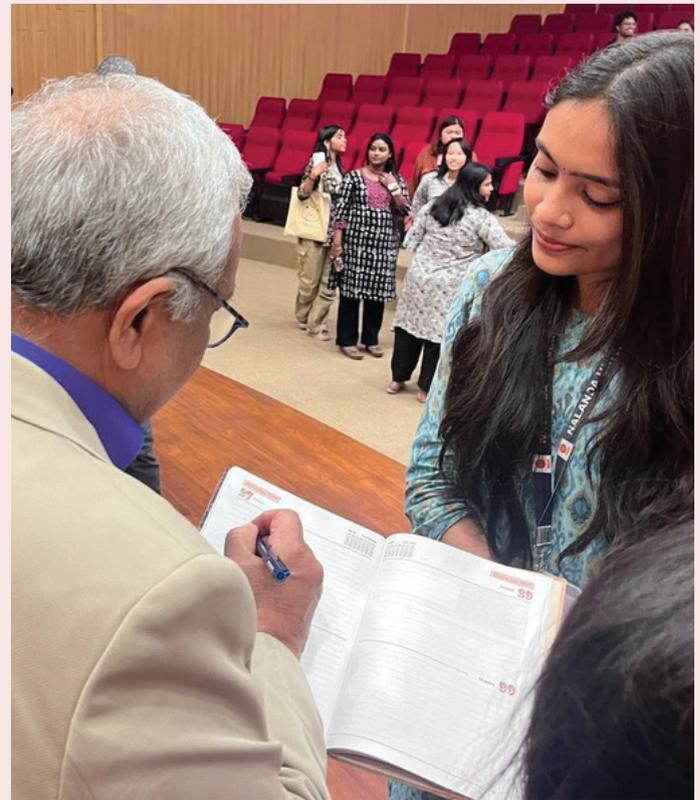


▲ Students of SHS during Field-work in Barabar Caves

Oxford University Press UK, that captured his research on the history of Sufi rituals and devotional practices in medieval India; his other publications explored the history of Sanskrit-Persian multiculturalism through the translation and adaptation of Indian epics like Mahabharata in early modern India. Dr Elora Tribedy published two research papers that explored participatory models of heritage conservation and its history within Southeast Asia; and examined the history of cross-cultural representations of compassion in Buddhist traditions. Dr Tosabanta Padhan published on the history of hunting-gathering in western Odisha that situated archaeological data within a broader discussion on ancient systems of subsistence.

SHS had a vibrant year of academic engagement, where members actively participated in national and international conferences, seminars, workshops and lecture series, in varied platforms. As presenters and session moderators, these activities have widened the intellectual spectrum of the School, allowing it to create and share research on ancient, medieval and early modern history, maritime history, archaeology, heritage conservation, and inter- civilisational dialogue.

Professor Abhay Kumar Singh participated in many forums including UN Headquarters, New York, Allahabad Museum, Banaras Hindu University, Pataliputra University, Pondicherry University, Lumbini Buddhist University, Nepal, and National Maritime Heritage Complex, Lothal, among others. He spoke on knowledge traditions and their transmission, education system, ancient Indian languages, Buddhism, practice of peace, India's neighbourhood. Dr Kashshaf Ghani delivered invited talks at IIT-Bombay, Ashoka University, that explored themes related to the history of Sufism, Indo-Persianate history of India, cultural interactions in medieval and early modern India, and the understanding of the everyday through cultural practices.



Students of SHS Interacting with Professor Osmund Boppearachchi during the Workshop ▲

Dr Elora Tribedy presented her research in many national and international fora, like the University of Leipzig, University of Jambi, Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues, Melbandhan Trust, Kolkata, where she shared her research on sustaining heritage in India and Indonesia, Buddhist practices at Devarama Sangha, civilisational significance of Nālandā, among others.

Dr Elora Tribedy is engaged in a research project that explores the critical role of Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara as the patron and protector of seafarers, supported by ENS-CNRS Paris, University of California, Berkeley USA, and the Department of Archaeology, Govt. of Sri Lanka.

Dr Pranshu Samdarshi's research reflected a sustained engagement with the intellectual, historical, and cultural dimensions of Buddhism and its transregional dissemination. His work examined Nālandā's influence on Tibetan Buddhism, the tantric traditions, and the sacred geography of Krimila within the broader Nālandā landscape. He explored comparative insights into Buddhist and Hindu architectural symbolism. Dr Tosabanta Padhan participated in workshops and conferences, in the domain of archaeological research, at the Archaeological Survey of India, World Archaeology Congress, Global Heritage Conclave. He shared his research on flint knapping in archaeology, prehistory and archaeology, India's prehistory with a focus on regions, historical archaeology of Rajgir.

The academic and intellectual environment of SHS was also fostered through a series of distinguished lectures, workshops, and academic collaborations.

SHS is bringing together scholars from India and overseas faculty, researchers and students to engage with diverse themes of history, art, archaeology, heritage, and culture. Professor Monika Zin from Leipzig University offered critical insights into the visual dimensions of symmetry and mirroring as the philosophy of artistic production in India and Central Asia. A workshop on art, iconography, and numismatics was conducted by Professor Osmund Bopearachchi from ENS-CNRS Paris and University of California, Berkeley USA. Professor David Geary from University of British Columbia lectured on Buddhist heritage and diplomacy.

Such discussions offered interdisciplinary approaches to history, art history, and archaeology – which are critical components of SHS. The commitment of the School to inter-civilisational dialogue was furthered through a special lecture series on Greek History, Heritage and Culture. It featured distinguished scholars from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Greece who offered rich insights on Indic traditions within Greek thought, representations of East in Greek literary imagination, and cross-cultural osmosis through the works of modern writers.

The School of Historical Studies trains students in the core principles and methods of the discipline, along with the practice of undertaking rigorous enquiry and research. One of the salient features of the School is its pedagogical focus on critical thinking, leading to the creation of experiential learning that links textual scholarship with field experience. SHS is bringing together scholars from India and overseas allowed faculty, researchers and students to engage with diverse themes of history, art, archaeology, heritage, and culture.



The School also organised a series of extension lectures connected to the taught course on Indian Renaissance, by Professor Amit Dey, University of Calcutta. These lectures covered a broad range of topics related to the evolution of modern Indian history and nationalist thought, particularly through the perspective of the historiographical debates on the Indian Renaissance. The pathbreaking contributions of social stalwarts, and social practices were emphasised upon which contributed significantly to the reawakening of colonised India in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. These academic events provided students and faculty with a nuanced understanding of the social, cultural and political history of India.

SHS continued to strengthen its academic and institutional linkages through the active participation of its faculty members in various capacities with organisations, institutions, publications and research platforms among else. Professor Abhay Kumar Singh was invited as advisory board member to the National Maritime Heritage Complex, Lothal (Gujarat), and Bihar Museum Patna. Dr Kashshaf Ghani was invited as member of editorial advisory board for a book series on Religion and Society in South Asia by Primus Books, and as an academic reviewer for international journals. Dr Tosabanta Padhan was invited as an academic resource person by the Archaeological Survey of India, Maharaja College Ernakulam, Kochi, and Fakir Mohan College, Balasore.

Students of SHS undertook their Master's dissertations on a range of historical, archaeological and cultural themes foregrounding interdisciplinary focus and global perspectives. Dissertation themes ranged from Indian spice trade, piracy in the Indian Ocean, Buddhist contemplative traditions, state and sangha in pre-modern Sri Lanka, Buddhist art in India, historical and cultural significance of prayer flags in Bhutan, representation of the holocaust, archaeological study of petroglyphs and geoglyphs, India's diplomatic relations in the neighbourhood among else.

## Archaeology

Indian epistemologies of the past were never confined to linear chronicles or dated textual corpora, that dominate much of Euro-American historiography. Rather, they embraced oral traditions, ritual practices, ethical lifeways, and ecological wisdom, forming enduring regimes of memory and evidence. Archaeology embodies this plural and integrative spirit by extending beyond disciplinary boundaries, drawing insights from history, anthropology, geology, biology, and research. The Lab is expanding its capabilities through the procurement of advanced equipment, including microscopes, a 3D scanner, survey instruments, and GIS workstations.

The research covers wide arenas of evidence and themes. Dr Tosabanta Padhan has carried out research on prehistory and human-environment interaction. Research undertaken by Dr Elora Tribedy analyses sculptural programmes at Nālandā and their diffusion to neighbouring monastic centres in Bihar, tracing how sculptural programmes and ritual spaces at Nālandā materialised philosophical concepts, and how these forms travelled through pedagogy, pilgrimage and patronage from Bihar's monastic



Students of Archaeology During Field work in Udaygiri Hills

heartland to Spiti valley and Ladakh, to Sri Lanka, and across Southeast Asia. Her ongoing research on Nālandā, Kurkihar, Telhara and Bodhgaya chart the evolution of artistic traditions across Bihar, Bengal, and Odisha. She is currently investigating the iconographic transmission of Buddhist Goddess Tara in Southeast and East Asia as part of the International collaborative project on maritime Buddhism.

As part of the programme, lectures were also delivered by visiting professors from IIT, IISER, Deccan College, NIAS, and MSU, among others,

as well as talks by distinguished scholars such as Professor Osmund Bopearachchi (EFEO-CNRS/UC Berkeley) on numismatics, art, and archaeology; Professor Monika Zin (University of Leipzig) on connections between Indian art and Central Asia/China; Professor K. Krishnan (MS University of Baroda) on Harappan archaeology; and Professor K. P. Rao on digital technology (University of Hyderabad). The World Heritage Week (November 2024) was also celebrated with student-led exhibitions, international cultural displays in collaboration with neighbouring schools, and heritage debates.

- ▼ Students and Faculty Members of SHS During the Workshop on Art, Iconography and Numismatics with Dean, SHS and Professor Osmund Bopearachchi



# Academic & Research Highlights

## Publications:

- Ghani, Kashshaf. **Sufi Rituals and Practices: Experiences from South Asia, 1200–1450.** Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2024.
- Ghani, Kashshaf. 2025. “**Dramatic War, Fabulous Stories, and Legendary Kings: Persian Adaptation of Mahabharata as Razmnama.**” In *Contemporaneity of the Mahabharata Narrative: Epic of the Moment*, edited by Anirban Bhattacharjee and Dhruvjayoti Sarkar. Abingdon and New York: Routledge.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. “**Heritage for Tomorrow: Sustainable Conservation through Community Engagement in Vietnam and Indonesia.**” *The South East Asian Review* 49: 71–90. ISSN 0257-7364.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. “**Infinite Compassion: The Evolution of Kuan Yin as Embodiment of Karuṇā in Buddhist Practices.**” In T. D. Thien and Thich Nhat Tu, eds., *Mindfulness in Education for a Compassionate and Sustainable Future*, 1–18. Ho Chi Minh City: Hong Duc Publishing House.

## List of Conferences and Invited talks

- Ghani, Kashshaf. Invited talk on **Sufism and South Asia’s Indo-Persianate Past**, Department of History, Ashoka University, March 20, 2025.
- Ghani, Kashshaf. Invited talk on **Negotiating the Melting Pot: Sufism and Religious Interactions in South Asia**, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay, March 18, 2025.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. “**A Review of the Prehistory of Chhattisgarh.**” 55th Joint Annual Conference of IAS, ISPQS, and HCS, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, March 7–9.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. “**Archaeology of the Cyclopean Walls of Rājgir.**” World Archaeology Congress (WAC-10), Flinders University, Australia, June 22–28.

- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2024. “**Archaeological Investigation in Rājgir Hills and Adjoining Areas.**” 3rd Global Heritage Conclave, Ranchi University, July 27–28.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. “**Historical Archaeology of Rājgir and Its Surrounding Regions.**” National Seminar, Bihar State Archives Directorate, Patna, February 8–10.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. Invited lecture series on Prehistory, Post-Graduate Diploma in Archaeology, Archaeological Survey of India, Greater Noida, February 13–15.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2024. “**Prehistory of Odisha and Sambalpur Region.**” 5th Paleoschool Online Lecture Series, November 9.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. “**Palaeolithic and Rock Art Investigation in Eastern Gujarat, India.**” World Archaeology Congress (WAC-10), Flinders University, Australia, June 22–28.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2024. Resource person, Workshop on **Flint Knapping in Archaeology**, University of Kashmir, December 9–13.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2025. Resource person, National Workshop on **Stone Tool Knapping**, Fakira Mohan University, Balasore, July 18–21.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2024. Co-author, “**Bhutan Prehistory.**” Lithic Studies Society Conference (online), United Kingdom, October 11–12.
- Padhan, Tosabanta. 2024. “**Evolution of Prehistoric India: Stone Tool Technology to Rock Art.**” Saint Thomas College, Pala, Kerala, July 23.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Nālandā Tradition and the Dissemination of Buddhism in Tibet.**” Paper presented at the seminar *The Himalayan Borders: India’s Relationship with Its Neighbours – China and Nepal*, Central Command of the Indian Army, March 25, 2025.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Organizing the Esoteric: The Historical Classification of Buddhist Tantras in Tibet.**” Paper presented at the International Seminar on Indian Knowledge Tradition and the Āgamic Scholarship, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Regional Centre, Varanasi (online), March 28, 2025.

- Samdarshi, Pranshu. **“Reassessing Krimila: Sacred Geography, Art, and Its Connection with the Nālandā Tradition.”** Paper presented at the seminar organized by the District Administration, Lakhisarai, and Bihar Tourism, Government of Bihar, May 2, 2025.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. **“Stūpas, Maṇḍalas, and Yantras: Insights from the Buddhist and Hindu Architectural Traditions of Ancient India.”** Online lecture as resource person for the Multi-Disciplinary Refresher Programme, UGC-MMTTC, Assam University, Silchar, April 11, 2025.
- Singh, Abhay Kumar. Keynote Address, **From Golden Mean to Global Peace**, at the panel discussion Teachings of Gautam Buddha: A Path to Internal and External Peace, organized at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, by the Permanent Mission of India (PMI) to the UN, May 15, 2025 (Online)
- Singh, Abhay Kumar. Special Address, **Itihās Darśan ke Pariprekṣya aur Sabhyatā ke Sampark**, K. C. Chattopadhyay Memorial Lecture, Allahabad Museum, October 23, 2024.
- Singh, Abhay Kumar. Valedictory address, **The Concerns of Muhammad Iqbal: The Buddha and Swami Vivekananda**, at the International Conference on Javaidnāma, Institute of Persian Studies, India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi, October 6, 2024.
- Singh, Abhay Kumar. Paper presented at the International Conference **India–Nepal Ties**, South Asia Centre, India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi, February 26–27, 2025.
- Singh, Abhay Kumar. Paper presented, **Forgotten Indian Heritage in the Persian Gulf Coastland**, at the Indian Maritime Heritage Conclave, Lothal, December 11–12, 2024.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2024. **“Exiled Steles and Forgotten Memories: Buddhist Practices at Devārama Saṃgha.”** 26th International Conference of EASAA, University of Leipzig, Germany, September 18.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. **“Beyond Monuments: Sustaining Heritage through Community in India and Indonesia.”** 7th Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues, Deshkal Society, New Delhi, March 29–30.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. **“Civilizational Significance of Nālandā.”** Nālandā Saṃvāda Symposium, National Book Trust, Patna Book Festival, Patna, March 21–27.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2024. Chairperson, Session **“Recent Advances in Eastern India.”** 26th International Conference of EASAA, Saxon Academy of Arts, Leipzig, September.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2024. **“History and Antiquity of Rainwater Harvesting in World Civilizations.”** Workshop organized by Melbandhan Academic Trust, Kolkata, December 27–28.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. Lectures on **Art and Iconography Course**, Post-Graduate Diploma in Archaeology, Archaeological Survey of India, Greater Noida, April 1–5.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2025. Panellist, **“Unity and Inclusivity for Human Dignity.”** United Nations Day of Vesak 2025 Conference, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (online), May 6–8.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2024. **“Towards a Sustainable Shared Future: Heritage Conservation and Community Roles.”** 5th Green Development International Conference (GDIC), in collaboration with LPPM Universitas Jambi, Indonesia (online), October 9.
- Tribedy, Elora. 2024. Participated in Conference, Vihāra Project Conference: **“Monastic Institutions and Secularity from the Gupta Period to the 15th Century”**, Hamilton College, Mie University, and Bihar Museum, Patna, December 18–19.

### Distinguished Lectures and Academic Activities

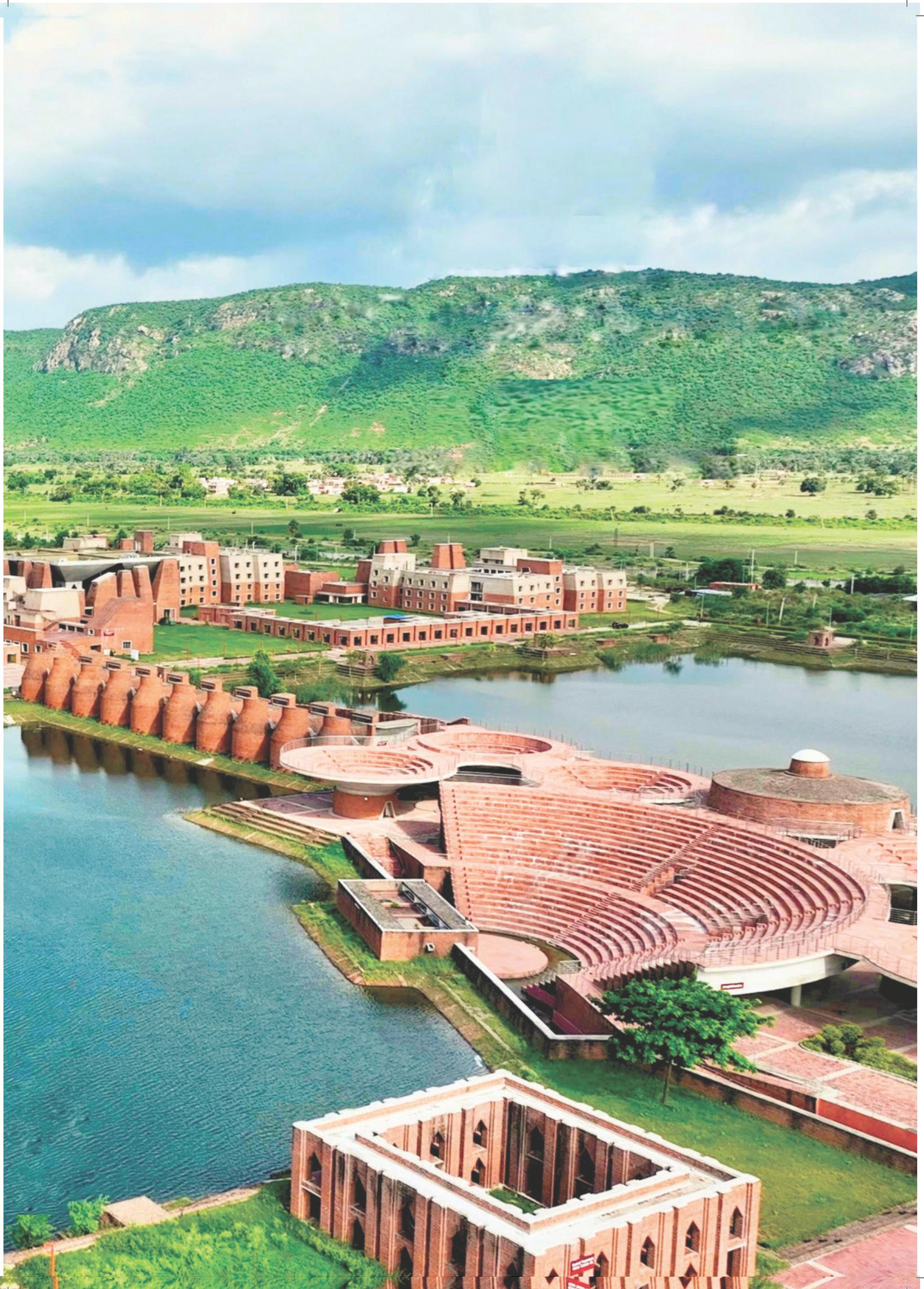
- Dr David Geary, University of British Columbia — Distinguished Lecture on **“Heritage Diplomacy and the Infrastructure of Buddhist Memory.”** November 20, 2024.
- Professor Monika Zin, University of Leipzig — Distinguished Lecture on **“Symmetry and Mirroring as Defining Principles of Art in India and Kucha.”** January 31, 2025.

## Academic & Research Highlights

- Professor Angeliki Ziaka, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki — Special Lecture on **“The Knowledge of Hinduism and Buddhism in Greece.”**
- Professor Shaker Moussa, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki — Special Lecture on **“The Orient in Greek Literature: Review of Ancient and Modern Greek Literary Texts.”**
- Dr Ioanna Naoum, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki — Special Lecture on **“Constantinos Theotokis, an ‘Enchanted’ Modern Writer: Cross-cultural Osmosis and Social Concerns.”**
- Professor Osmund Boppearachchi, Honorary Fellow, French Academy (ENS-CNRS) and UC Berkeley — **Three-Day Workshop on Art, Iconography, and Numismatics.** February 10–13, 2025.
- Professor Amit Dey, Head, Department of History, University of Calcutta — **Extension Lecture Series.** April 27 – May 7, 2025.



▲ Students and Faculty Members of SHS with Visiting Faculty, Professor Sheila Mishra during a Field Visit for Geo-archaeology Course in the Jethian Valley



# School of Ecology & Environment Studies

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The School of Ecology and Environment Studies (SEES) is one of the first schools started at Nālandā University, commencing its programmes in August 2014. The school offers holistic systems of interaction between human populations and their environments. SEES is designed to redefine ecological learning by rooting its scholarship in the philosophical wisdom of the past while intensely focusing on the future of sustainability. The school offers a two-year, full-time residential Master's programme and a four-year Doctoral programme in Ecology and Environment Studies. Both programs are research-intensive, combining rigorous scientific inquiry with critical policy perspectives to equip students for advanced scholarship and leadership in sustainability.

## Ecology and Environment Studies

The School's focus on generating meaningful and practicable solutions for pressing global, regional, and local environmental concerns, particularly those unique to Asia, means its academic output is intentionally shaped to inform India's strategic policies and foster collaboration among East Asia Summit participating countries. This focus ensures that research in thematic areas like climate change and marine environments directly supports regional knowledge exchange and sustainable governance.

A central distinguishing mandate of the School is its deliberate effort to bridge the conceptual gap often found in environmental discourse between the Western and the Eastern perspectives. This involves generating critical understanding that benefits the globe while also catering to the specific needs of Asia.

The operational backbone of SEES is its strictly interdisciplinary nature. The School seeks to holistically combine knowledge drawn from the basic sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. This interdisciplinary investigation is considered essential for transcending the traditional disciplinary barriers and silos that have historically fragmented the understanding of complex socio-ecological problems.

Furthermore, SEES acknowledges that in Asia and the Global South, environmental challenges overwhelmingly exist within human-dominated landscapes and waterscapes. This focus on human-dominated systems ensures that research into

concepts like biodiversity conservation and adaptive management takes on a distinctly relevant and socially pertinent connotation, aligning the School's work with contemporary needs for environmental justice and culturally appropriate conservation strategies. Rooted in scientific inquiry and policy perspectives, the programme empowers students to explore climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, environmental justice, and sustainable development.

The School's research agenda is deliberately holistic and is guided by four designated thematic areas, chosen specifically to address the most urgent environmental-development challenges within the Asian context. This strategic cluster of research areas, Ecology, Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change, Energy Studies, Circular Economy, Atmosphere & Earth Sciences, Toxicology & Biotechnology, Disaster Management, Geo Informatics, and Marine Environments, provides a cohesive framework for tackling the environment-development nexus. These pillars collectively address the social dimensions, systemic risks, developmental drivers, and geographic vulnerabilities prevalent across the globe.

The Master of Ecology and Environment Studies is a comprehensive two-year, 64-credit programme designed for pedagogical rigor. The curriculum framework employs a holistic view of knowledge, structuring courses to build comprehension, analytical abilities, and synthesis skills, while recognizing practical application opportunities. Pedagogically, SEES adopts a "concentric circle



## IUINDRR - NIDM Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Ministry of Home Affairs has nominated Nālandā University as a IUINDRR - NIDM Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction. The students at the University have undertaken dissertation research on major disaster events such as landslides, earthquakes, floods, and other hazards across South and Southeast Asia.

approach," promotes research into issues starting from life in the campus, and scaling outward to life in the broader biosphere.

Learning is emphasized over simple teaching, achieved through elaborate classroom participation, group projects, tutorials, seminars, and essential fieldwork.

The curriculum is structured to transition students from foundation to specialization. The first semester focuses on foundational knowledge critical to environmental studies, including core concepts in ecology and environment studies. The second semester acts as a bridge, dedicated to core interdisciplinary knowledge in related areas. This early exposure to policy ensures that students develop a robust governance framework alongside their scientific understanding.

Ecology and the Pursuit of Equitable Sustainability: focused on the holistic systems of interaction between human populations and their environments. Research in this area spans human health and behavior, ecological and sociological processes, and conservation practices at bio-regional and global scales. The core strategic objective of this thematic area is explicitly centered on moving toward the sustainable use of natural resources in an equitable fashion.

Climate Change Policy, Mitigation, and Adaptation: research focus is heavily on climate change science, national and international climate policies, and the economic assessment of both adaptation and mitigation strategies. Sustainable Energy Systems: examines the complex confluence of scientific, political, environmental, and socioeconomic factors that influence energy regulation and policies.

The School has demonstrated exceptional research productivity and innovation in recent years, with a strong emphasis on applied environmental science, sustainability transitions, and interdisciplinary inquiry. Faculty members have published widely in high-impact international journals such as *Science of the Total Environment*, *Molecular Cancer*, *BioScience*, *New Phytologist*, and *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, reflecting the school's growing global footprint. The research spans critical domains including climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, pollution mitigation, renewable energy systems, and sustainable policy frameworks. Two Indian patents granted in 2025 on biochar-based water purification technologies underscore SEES's commitment to translational research and eco-innovation addressing real-world environmental challenges.



Students of SEES during Field-work of Species Distribution ▲





▲ Students and Faculty Members of SEES

Faculty members at SEES contribute substantially to advancing frontiers in environmental biotechnology, seed ecology, bioremediation, and climate policy. The publication of edited volumes such as *Biotechnological Interventions in the Removal of Emerging Contaminants* (Springer-Nature, 2025) and multiple book chapters with Taylor & Francis, Elsevier, and Springer highlight SEES's academic leadership in addressing pollution control and resource recovery through nature-based and microbial solutions. Concurrently, research on wetland ecosystem services, citizen science for biodiversity monitoring, and sustainable energy transitions in the Global South demonstrates the school's integrated and globally relevant approach. Several studies from SEES have proposed novel frameworks such as the Ecosystem Services Vulnerability Index and trait-service linkage models that bridge ecological theory with environmental policy and community-based management practices.

The School's research culture is strengthened by active international collaboration, capacity-building engagements, and student-led inquiry. Faculty have delivered invited lectures and served as resource persons at international conferences and training programmes organized by institutions such as ICIMOD, JNU, IITs, BHU, IISc, NIDM, ISRO, NCCR, University of Reading, and the Ministry of Earth Sciences (GoI).

Doctoral and master's research under SEES has addressed emerging topics ranging from groundwater mapping and ecotourism sustainability to carbon storage and climate-resilient livelihoods, contributing valuable regional insights from South and Southeast Asia. Awards, government-funded projects, and appointments to expert committees (ICSSR, NCCR, MoES) further reflect SEES's recognition as a thought leader in environmental research and policy. Collectively, these achievements illustrate the school's vision of blending scientific excellence with sustainability praxis, rooted in both global partnerships and India's ecological heritage.

**A central distinguishing mandate of the School is its effort to bridge the conceptual gap often found in environmental discourse between the Western and the Eastern perspectives.**

**This focus ensures that research in thematic areas like climate change and marine environments directly supports regional knowledge exchange and sustainable governance.**

# Academic & Research Highlights

## Publications

- Aung, Kelvin Mutugi Kithaka, Kumar Abhishek, Nidhi Mourya, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Application of Water Hyacinth in Toxic Metal Phytoremediation with Special Reference to Arsenic.”** In *Nature-Based Wastewater Treatment Systems: Emerging Approaches with Potential Resource Recovery Options*, edited by A. Kumar, S. Kumar, and S. Ratna, 273–284. England: Taylor and Francis, 2025. ISBN 978-1-003-44114-4.
- Bhattacharya, Sayan, and Satarupa Dey, eds. **Biotechnological Interventions in the Removal of Emerging Contaminants** (Edited Book). Singapore: Springer Nature, 2025. ISBN 978-981-97-9921-3.
- Chakraborty, Sudipta, Avishek Talukdar, Satarupa Dey, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Role of Fungi, Bacteria, and Microalgae in Bioremediation of Emerging Pollutants with Special Reference to Pesticides, Heavy Metals, and Pharmaceuticals.”** *Discover Environment* 3 (2025): 91.
- Chakraborty, S., Avishek Talukdar, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Positive and Negative Impacts of COVID-19 on the Environment: A Critical Review with Sustainability Approaches.”** *Hygiene and Environmental Health Advances* 12 (2024): 100107.
- Dey, Satarupa, Avishek Talukdar, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Microbial Degradation and Valorization of Food Wastes: Waste to Wealth Approaches towards Sustainability.”** *Discover Chemistry* 2 (2025): 147.
- Dhavala, K. **“Managing the Commons: Roles of Governance, Markets, and Communities.”** *Ecology, Economy and Society – the INSEE Journal* 8, no. 1 (2025): 153–156.
- Gairola, S., A. Alketbi, S. S. Phartyal, F. Alketbi, and T. Mahmoud. **“Interpopulation Variation in Seed Dormancy of *Dipterygium glaucum*.”** *Seed Science and Technology* 52, no. 3 (2024): 367–378.
- Isingoma, Charles Lwanga, Avishek Talukdar, Sudipta Chakraborty, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Bioremediation of Fluoride: Potential of Bacteria, Plants, and Plant-Microbe Interactions in Fluoride Removal from the Environment.”** *Geomicrobiology Journal* 42, no. 9 (2025): 818–838.
- Isingoma, Charles Lwanga, Sayan Bhattacharya, Satarupa Dey, Sayanti Mandal, Kaushik Gupta, Jayanta Kumar Biswas, Shubhalakshmi Sengupta, and Michael Watts. **“Phytoremediation of Arsenic: A State-of-the-Art Review with Special Emphasis on Modern Biotechnological Approaches.”** *Total Environment Engineering* 2 (2025): 100014.
- Kundu, Pritha, Nalok Dutta, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Application of Microalgae in Wastewater Treatment with Special Reference to Emerging Contaminants: A Step towards Sustainability.”** *Frontiers in Analytical Science* 4 (2024): 1513153.
- Mishra, Sarvesh Kumar, Tapojyoti Sanyal, Pritha Kundu, Rupesh Kumar, Dipanjan Ghosh, Gopal Chakrabarti, Nilabja Sikdar, Sayan Bhattacharya, Santanu Paul, and Amlan Das. **“Microplastics as Emerging Carcinogens: From Environmental Pollutants to Oncogenic Drivers.”** *Molecular Cancer* 24 (2025): 248.
- Parida, Tamanna, Shaik Riyazuddin, Suresh Kumar Kolli, Anindita Chakraborty, Namuduri Srinivas, Pritha Kundu, Sayan Bhattacharya, Chandra Shekhar Seth, and Jayanta Kumar Biswas. **“Phytoremediation of Heavy Metal(loid)s with Integral Involvement of Endogenous Metal-Chelators: Present State-of-the-Art and Future Prospects.”** *Discover Environment* 2 (2024): 139.
- Satarupa Dey, Sayan Bhattacharya, and Avishek Talukdar, eds. **Biotechnological Interventions in the Removal of Emerging Pollutants.** *Interdisciplinary Biotechnological Advances*. Singapore: Springer, 2025.

- Shome, Arkajyoti, Sayan Bhattacharya, Deep Chakraborty, and Satarupa Dey. **“Heavy Metals (As, Cd, Hg, Pb) Contamination and Bioaccumulation in Estuarine and Marine Ecosystems with Special Reference to Asia.”** In *Biotechnological Interventions in the Removal of Emerging Pollutants*, edited by S. Dey and S. Bhattacharya, 271–288. Singapore: Springer, 2025.
- Shome, A., A. Kumar, A. N. Singh, and S. S. Phartyal. **“Assessing the Importance of Indian Wetland Plants for Multiple Ecosystem Services Using Trait-Service Linkage Framework.”** *Wetland Ecology and Management* 33 (2025): 23.
- Shome, A., S. S. Phartyal, P. Maharana, H. Yadav, and A. Verma. **“Ecosystem Services Vulnerability Index: A Novel Framework to Assess the Vulnerability of Species Delivering Ecosystem Services.”** *Wetland Ecology and Management* 33 (2025): 8.
- Shivhare, V., A. Kumar, R. Kumar, S. Shashtri, J. Mallick, and C. K. Singh. **“Flood Susceptibility and Flood Frequency Modeling for Lower Kosi Basin, India Using AHP and Sentinel-1 SAR Data in Geospatial Environment.”** *Natural Hazards* 120, no. 13 (2024): 11579–11610.
- Sinha, R. K., R. Kumar, S. S. Phartyal, and P. Sharma. **“Interventions of Citizen Science for Mitigation and Management of Plastic Pollution: Understanding Sustainable Development Goals, Policies, and Regulations.”** *Science of the Total Environment* 955 (2024): 176621.
- Talukdar, Avishek, Ayantika Banerjee, Satarupa Dey, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Critical Insights on the Applications of Microbes in Microplastic Degradation.”** *Cambridge Prisms: Plastics* 2 (2024): e27.
- Talukdar, Avishek, Sayan Bhattacharya, Saptarshi Pal, Pracheta Pal, and Soumyajit Chowdhury. **“Positive and Negative Impacts of COVID-19 on the Environment: A Critical Review with Sustainability Approaches.”** *Hygiene and Environmental Health Advances* 12 (2024): 100107.
- Sharno, M. A., and M. Hiloidhari. **“How Can We Make Plant-Based Jet Fuels Sustainable?”** *Social Science Journal for Kids* (2025).
- Verma, A., Anand Kumar, P. Sharma, A. Sharma, R. K. Sinha, and S. Phartyal. **“Hydrogeochemical Processes and Anthropogenic Impacts on Groundwater Quality in the Middle Gangetic Plains.”** *Journal of Hazardous Materials Advances* (2025): 100818.
- Talukdar, Avishek, Sangay Wangmo, Nalok Dutta, Annet Nabumpenje, Jeewen Kumar Bastola, and Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Biosensors in Heavy Metal and Metalloid Detection: Genetic, Cellular, and Nanomaterial Applications.”** In *Development in Waste Water Treatment Research and Processes: Applied Technologies for Clean Up of Environmental Contaminants*, edited by M. Shah, 721–735. Elsevier, 2025.

### Other Academic Engagement

- Kishore Dhavala. **“Sustainable Energy for Rural Bhutan: An Economic Assessment of Household Biogas.”** Online lecture at the International Seminar on Clean Technology as a Driver of Sustainable Development: Learnings from Indian and Malaysian Experiences, jointly organized by the Department of Management Sciences (DoMS), IIT Kanpur, and the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Universiti Malaya on May 2025.
- Kishore Dhavala. **“Building Cultural Gaps in Higher Education through International Partnerships and Exchange Programs”** Online lecture at the 18th NEWS Conference, Lumbini, Nepal, April 2025.
- Kishore Dhavala. Member. Project on **“Ecosystem-Based Approach for Conservation of Coastal and Marine Areas.”** NCCR, MoES–GoI, IP Division–MEA, and ASEAN–India Research Network. 2025–28.
- Kishore Dhavala. **“Climate Change Impacts on Fisheries: Pathways to Sustainable Resource Management and Policy.”** Lecture presented at the Conference on Advances in Environment Management for Sustainable Fisheries and Livestock Production, College of Fisheries, Kishanganj, November 2024.

## Academic & Research Highlights

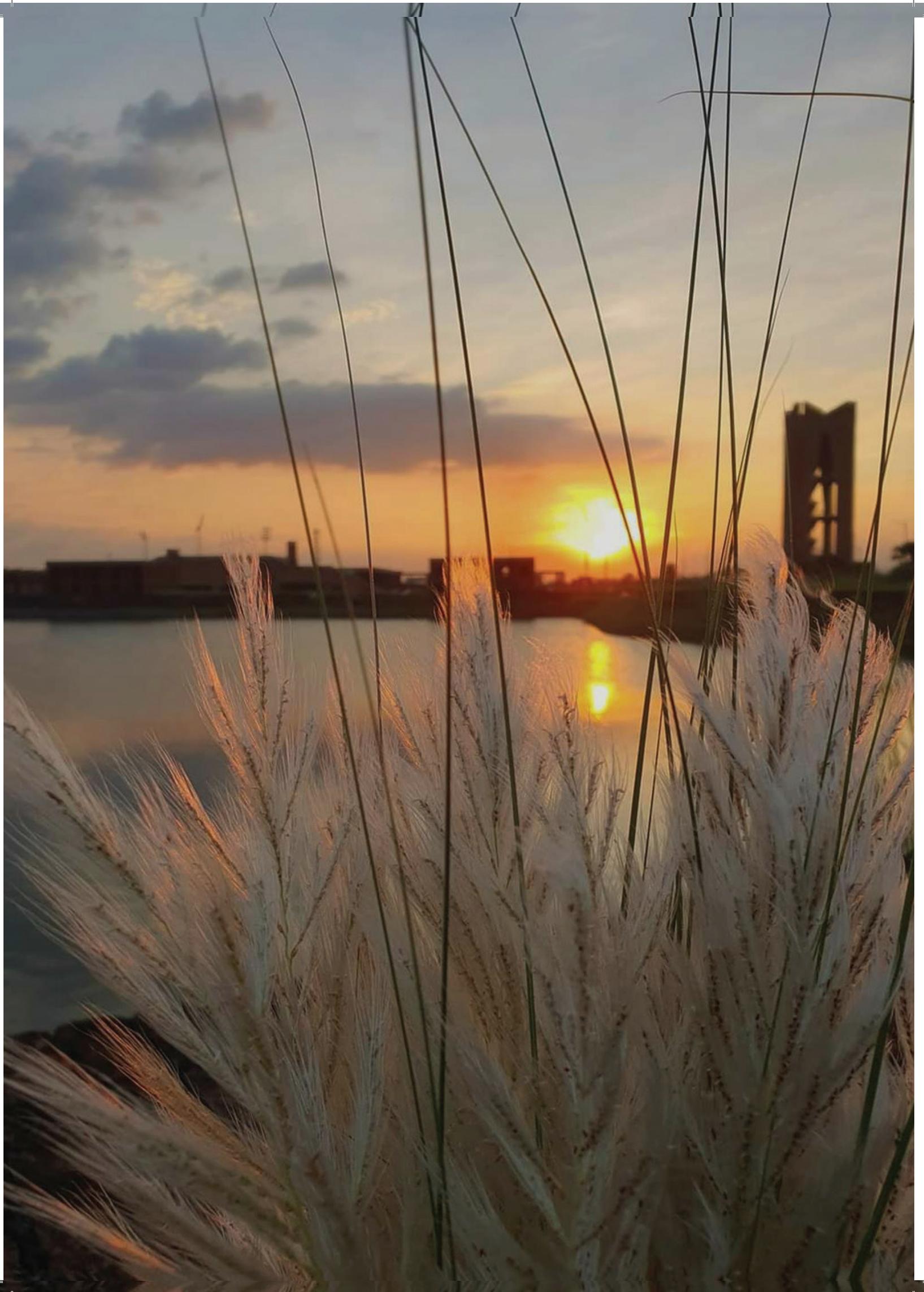
- Kishore Dhavala. **“Improving Access to Finances in Fisheries.”** Lecture presented at the Regional Training Course on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), organized by BOBP-IGO, CIFR, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, IIFT, and FAO, Chennai, November 2024.
- Kishore Dhavala. **“Facilitating Insurance Services to Fishers.”** Lecture presented at the Regional Training Course on CCRF and EAFM, organized by BOBP-IGO, CIFR, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, IIFT, and FAO, Chennai, November 2024.
- Kishore Dhavala. Expert Member. Project on **“Ecosystem Services and Accounting – Coringa Mangroves.”** NCCR, MoES–Gol. 2024–26.
- Kishore Dhavala. ICSSR Research Grant Recipient. Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Project, **“Assessing the Impact of the ‘Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal’ Program in the Districts of Gaya and Nālandā.”**
- Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Microplastic Pollution in the Mountains.”** Online lecture presented at the one-week Faculty Development Program on Microplastic Pollution: Sources, Analysis, and Remediation, organized by the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Jalandhar, India, February 2–7, 2025.
- Sayan Bhattacharya. **“Arsenic Contamination in the Bengal Delta and Remedial Measures.”** Online lecture presented at the Refresher Course on 21st Century Development and Environmental Challenges, organized by the Department of Environmental Science, University of Calcutta, January 15, 2025.
- Sayan Bhattacharya. Lecture at the International Conference on **Recent Advances in Sustainable Environment (RAISE–2024)**, organized by Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, India, November 22–23, 2024.
- Sayan Bhattacharya. Online lecture at the **International Sustainable Tourism Congress 2024**, organized by Aksaray University, Turkey, October 3–5, 2024.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. Lecture at the Roundtable on **Sustainable Futures: Transforming Higher Education in India through Global Collaboration**, organized by the University of Reading, UK, New Delhi, India, March 22, 2025.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. **“Climate Variables, Climate Change, IPCC AR Reports, and Sustainable Development.”** Online lecture as Resource Person at the Faculty Induction Programme–09, organized by the UGC–Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC), Gorakhpur University, February 19, 2025.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. Expert Member. **Evaluation of Research Project Proposals for the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)** under various schemes. ICSSR, New Delhi, January 12–18, 2025, and October 21–22, 2024.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. **“The Vision of Nālandā University and Its Sustainable Net-Zero Campus Infrastructure.”** Lecture presented at the International Conference on India–Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: Towards the Vision of Vietnam 2045 and Viksit Bharat @2047, Hanoi, Vietnam, November 7, 2024.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. **“Climate Analysis.”** Online lecture at the Faculty Induction Programme–17, organized by the UGC–MMTTC, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi, September 12, 2024.
- Satyanarayan Shashtri. Expert Member. **Evaluation of Collaborative Research Projects on Longitudinal Studies in Social and Human Sciences.** ICSSR, New Delhi, August 25–28, 2024.
- Shyam S. Phartyal. **“Citizen Science: The Key to Smarter Disaster Risk Reduction.”** Lecture presented at the National Seminar on Disaster Risk Reduction in the Himalayas: Recent Advancements, organized by the Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSR), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), India, September 20–21, 2024.

## Lectures by Invited Scholars

- Professor S. P. S. Kushwaha, Former Group Director, Dean (Academics), and Head, Forestry and Ecology Department, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (ISRO), delivered a lecture on **“Aerospace Technology for Natural Resource Management and Environmental Monitoring”** on January 23, 2025.
- Professor Mark D. Usher, University of Vermont, USA, delivered a lecture on **“Umwelt and Ethos: How Animals Make Us Human”** on February 26, 2025.
- Mr Rishabh Mahendra, researcher, University of Missouri, USA, delivered a lecture on **“Ecosystem Cooperatives: A Path to Strengthen Restoration and Conservation Efforts.”**



▲ Students of SEES during the Celebration of Onam Festival



# School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions

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SBSPCR



The School has had another year of academic achievement and scholarly contribution since its establishment in year 2016-17. The School continues to thrive for weaving Bhāratīya Jñāna Paramparā with contemporary research approaches and worldwide relevance, exhibiting its commitment to rigorous engagement in Buddhist, Hindu, and comparative religious traditions.

## **Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions**

The School offers MA programmes in Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions and Hindu Studies (Sanātana Dharma), alongside a Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religion and Hindu Studies (Sanātana Dharma), that embody the spirit and philosophy of the ancient Nālandā while addressing modern scholarly concerns. Like the ancient Nālandā welcomed scholars from across globe and created a culture of rigorous debate and integrated model of study, our programmes bring together students from diverse cultural, linguistic, and religious backgrounds to critically analyse India's philosophical and religious traditions through contemporary lenses. The cafeteria model draws students from multiple disciplines and traditions, mirrors Nālandā's role as a centre of learning where philosophy, logic, linguistics, history, environmental studies, and other sciences were studied in an integrated manner. Through this integrated approach, students engage with the wider social-historical-cultural-religious-linguistic contexts of Hindu and Buddhist traditions, weaving Indic jñāna paramparā with novel cross-disciplinary research methodologies. The School aligns Nālandā 's holistic educational vision - textual scholarship, research, meditative practice, philosophical analysis alongside mind cultivation—cultivating not mere scholars but compassionate, and proactively engaged intellectuals who can contribute to society and address global challenges through India's timeless wisdom.

Integrating Indian philosophical traditions with contemporary implications through rigorous text-based study and comparative religious analysis, the Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions programme offers mastery of classical languages, Pali, Sanskrit, and Tibetan in order to enabling direct engagement with primary philosop-

hical treatises essential for intensive research. The course progresses from foundational courses — Fundamentals of Buddhism: Historical Evolution and Philosophical Traditions, Schools of Buddhism, Buddhist Ethics, and Introduction to Indian Philosophical Systems, to advanced philosophical terrain including Buddhist Psychology, Mahāyāna Buddhism: Texts and Traditions, Buddhist Logic and Epistemology, and the Philosophical Tenets of Mādhyamika Traditions, with analysis of Abhisamayālaṅkāra, Bodhicaryāvatāra, Mūlamadhyamakakārika, and Pramāṇavārttika, comparative studies of Advaita Vedānta, Tantric Non-Duality, and contemporary dialogues in Quantum Physics, Consciousness and Buddhism, balanced with contemplative practices through Mahā Satipaṭṭhāna Sutta and social engagement via Nālandā Treatises reflections.

The cafeteria model curriculum fosters cross-disciplinary explorations spanning social, historical, cultural, religious, and linguistic landscapes with systematic language training across all four semesters, preparing graduates as Indologists, philologists, philosophers, scholars in Religious and Philosophical Studies, intercultural translators, and commentators on Indian intellectual traditions with applications in peace studies and cultural analysis.

The Hindu Studies programme offers immersion in Hindu philosophical traditions through rigorous textual scholarship of the Vedic corpus, major and minor Upaniṣad-s, epics Rāmāyaṇa and Mahābhārata, and Puranic texts including Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Agni Purāṇa, and Bhāgavata-Purāṇa, progressing through deep philosophical exploration of the Six Darśanas—Sāṃkhya, Yoga, Nyāya, Vaiśeṣika, Mīmāṃsā, and Vedānta—with intensive textual analysis of Bhagavadgītā and Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa.





The curriculum balances theoretical inquiry through *Yogasūtra* of Patañjali, aesthetic consciousness via *Kāvya-mīmāṃsā* and Indian Aesthetics, Kashmir Śaivism, Upanisadic philosophy of *Chāndogya* and *Bṛhadāraṇyaka*, *Sūtra*, *Vārtika*, and *Bhāṣya* commentarial literature, political philosophy through Kauṭilya's *Arthaśāstra*, and Swami Vivekananda's Vedantic expositions, with Sanskrit instruction across all four semesters.

The faculty form the bedrock of the School's intellectual vitality and transformative impact, bringing together diverse areas of expertise and a deep scholarly commitment to making India's philosophical and religious traditions relevant to contemporary inquiry. The School is led by Professor Godabarisha Mishra, Dean, and its core faculty includes Dr Pranshu Samdarshi, Dr Kumuda Prasad Acharya, Dr Ven. Brenda Huong Xuan Ly, Dr Ven. Pooja Dabral, Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee, and Geshe Lungtok Sherap. The School's scholarship is further enriched by distinguished visiting faculty who contribute their specialized expertise from institutions such as IIT Delhi, University of Hawai & Ashoka University, the University of Delhi, Tibet House (New Delhi), and CIHTS, Sarnath. The faculty has demonstrated scholarly productivity and academic leadership throughout

the 2024-2025 academic year through their scholarly contributions spanning book publications, journal articles, conference presentations, editorial work, and institutional service.

Professor Godabarisha Mishra has made notable contributions to philosophical scholarship through publications, lectures and editorial works as well as contributed to institutional development through enriching programmes and securing grants. Dr Pranshu Samdarshi has made contributions to Buddhist scholarship through publications, lectures, and research activities in his area of Buddhist Tantra and historiography. Dr Kumuda Prasad Acharya also exhibited academic engagement to Sanskrit studies and Hindu philosophical traditions through his publications and research presentations. Dr Ven. Brenda Huong Xuan Ly has made contributions to Buddhist studies and psychology through her research, lectures, and editorial work. Dr Pooja Dabral showed scholarly engagement across research, editorial works and presentations in Nālandā Buddhist philosophy, psychology and their contemporary applications. Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee contributed to the academic and research environment of the school through public-

ation like *Avasthātraya: Deeper Insights* and scholarly presentations. Ven. Geshe Lungtok Sherap has made contributions through his presentations, translation work, and teaching in Tibetan language, literature and Buddhist philosophy.

Throughout the 2024-2025 academic year, the School has engaged in a diverse array of activities that enhanced academic life while extending the relevance of knowledge traditions of India beyond the confines of campus boundaries. Recognising the School's academic prowess and present relevance of its research to national and global concern, the School secured substantial grants from esteemed funding agencies including ICPR, ICHR, and IAUS.

Student research, seminar presentations, and dissertations demonstrate integrated explorations of *Bhāratīya Jñāna Sampadā* with contemporary scholarship across the thematic diaspora of academic disciplines, exhibiting the continuous impact of Indian philosophical heritage on global scholarship, culture, and practice.

MA in SBSPCR students critically analysed the philosophical, cultural, and textual legacy of Indic thought through research examining *Mahāyāna Sūtras'* authenticity, protective deities in tantra,

philosophical foundations of Buddhist tantric practices like *chöd* in Ladakh, comparative analysis of *Śrāvakayāna* and *Mahāyāna* perspectives, and meditative practices like *Vedanānupassanā*, demonstrating the enduring relevance of diverse Buddhist traditions' theoretical and practical frameworks. Research examined how Indian philosophical frameworks shape governance, spirituality, and society across Asia, including *Nālandā* philosophers *Nāgārjuna* and *Śāntideva's* impact on Bhutan's Gross National Happiness philosophy, Tibetan reincarnation traditions, *Dependent Origination* and its Implications, *Examining Birth and Death*, Vietnamese Pure Land practices, *Nāga* mythology's impact on Lao spiritual practice, and comparative analysis of *Asanga* and *Vasubandhu's* exposition of mind with Western psychology.

MA in Hindu Studies demonstrated deep engagement with classical Indian knowledge systems through research on *ānvīkṣikī's* implications for knowledge-based governance, *garbhādhāna* to *jātakarma saṃskāras* with *dharmaśāstra* and *āyurveda* perspectives, and *Nāṭyaśāstra's* reflection of theatrical tradition, showing how Indian philosophical and ritual knowledge informs ethical, social, cultural, and governance practices. This body of diverse research

▼ Faculty- members of SBSPCR at an Evaluation Event



embodies the school's mission: sustaining and expanding Nālandā's intellectual heritage through inquiry, debate, and intercultural exchange. By strengthening scholarly connections between India and nations including Bhutan, Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Tibet, students demonstrate that Bhāratīya Jñāna Sampadā remains not merely historical treasure but a vital force for addressing contemporary questions and fostering global understanding.

In strengthening Nālandā's commitment to academic excellence, the school organized diverse academic events, symposia, conferences, and lecture series that significantly enriched the University's scholarly environment. The three-day ICHR-supported National Symposium on "Rediscovering the Civilizational Self: Essentials of Dharmapal on Indian Culture, Philosophy and History" convened eminent scholars including Gita Dharmapal, J. K. Bajaj, Radhavallabh Tripathi, Pawan Gupta, Ankur Kakkar, Sreejit Datta, M. D. Srinivas, and others for critical dialogue on India's civilizational thought and Dharmapal's intellectual legacy.

The ICPR Study Circle Lectures featured presentations on "Contemplative Traditions of Early Buddhism: Theories and Practices of Samatha and Vipassana Meditations" by Professor Angraj Choudhary, "Vipaśyanā Meditation: Insight Into The Ontology of Madhyamaka View of Śūnyatā" by Venerable Geshe Dorji Damdul, "Swami Vivekananda's Vedānta of Love" by Professor Arindam Chakrabarti, "Samādhi in Trika Yoga" by Professor Rajnish Kumar Mishra, and "Cultivation of the Four Sublime Attitudes (Brahmavihāras)" by Professor Pradeep P. Gokhale, enriching research perspectives across philosophical and religious traditions. UNESCO's World Philosophy Day celebrations engaged students through debate competitions on "Earth as a Sacred Space: Indian Tradition of Eco-sustenance" and essay competitions on "Contemporary Relevance of Indian Philosophy in the Quest for World Peace," providing platforms for critical engagement with philosophical, ethical, environmental, and sustainability issues.

Online lectures on the Mahabharata, Applied Buddhist Philosophy, and the International Buddhist Confederation delegation visit strengthened global scholarly linkages and cross-disciplinary engagement. Experiential learning through the Bodh Festival in-

Bodhgaya, Tourism Seminar and Heritage Walk in Lakhisarai, and visits to Balguddar and Laali Pahari connected textual scholarship to lived cultural experience. Buddha Jayanti celebrations centered on "Indian Contemplative Traditions: Textual, Soteriological and Comparative Insights" reinforced critical engagement through presentations on meditation practices, textual studies, and comparative analyses of Buddhist contemplative traditions, collectively fostering a vibrant intellectual atmosphere that enriched faculty research and student learning through scholarly and transformative engagement. In alignment with the Sahabhāgita vision of the University, students of Buddhist Studies visited Pilkhī Village as part of the community engagement initiative. The visit fostered meaningful dialogue and mutual learning on the significance of ethics, education, and multilingualism.

Throughout the academic year 2024-2025, the school has successfully maintained its commitment to integrate ancient Indian wisdom with contemporary research and global relevance through carrying out deep academic studies, rigorous research, and school seminars and events. Looking ahead to the coming year, the school is poised for continued growth and development with plans underway to enrich the curriculum and further strengthen its language programmes with focus on translations. The school is also working to strengthen its international partnerships and collaborations through student mobility and faculty exchange.

The school plans to involve students to engage in the translations of Bhāratīya Jñāna preserved in Pali, Sanskrit, Bahasa Indonesia, Khmer, Chinese, Tibetan. Plans are being developed to engage local communities in public lecture and specialized school activities and events. SBSPCR is committed to enhance its support for doctoral students and have post-doctoral fellows to enrich the scholarly teaching and research environment of the school. Sustainability and environmental consciousness remain important priorities for the school. As the School looks to the future, it remains deeply committed to its founding vision: to revitalize the spirit of the ancient Nālandā University as a center of learning that combines integrated study frameworks with mind cultivation, rigorous research achieved through the pedagogy of dialectics and openness to innovation. The school recognizes that in an increasingly interconnected and complex world, the insights of Buddhist and Hindu traditions have never been more relevant.

# Academic & Research Highlights

## Publications

- Dabral, Pooja. 2024. “**Mahākaruṇā and Pratīyasamutpāda: Buddha’s Legacy for Universal Peace and Harmony.**” *Prajñā* (The Wisdom) 22, no. 1. Bihar: Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee. ISSN 2250-1983.
- Dabral, Pooja. 2024. **Ancient Nālandā University and Its Revival: A Beacon of Enlightenment.** US, Scotland, CT: Forest of Wisdom.
- Dabral, Pooja. 2025. **Buddhist Psychology.** Translated from English to Hindi. Edited by Pooja Dabral. New Delhi: Tibet House Nālandā Education Portal.
- Dabral, Pooja. 2025. “**Prajñā-infused Bodhisattva Actions: Buddhist Insights for World Peace and Sustainable Development.**” In *Unity and Inclusivity for Human Dignity: Buddhist Insights for World Peace and Sustainable Development (VESAK 2025)*, edited by Most Ven. Thich Nhat Tu. Vietnam: Vietnam Buddhist University Publications.
- Dabral, Pooja. 2025. “**The Buddhist Insights on Self-Reliance: Reflections from Nālandā Treatises.**” *Prajñā* (The Wisdom). Bihar: Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee. ISSN 2250-1983.
- Ghosh, K., and Rajeshwar Mukherjee. 2024. “**Avasthātraya: Deeper Insights.**” *The Scientific Temper* 15, no. 2: 2342–2348.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. 2025. “**Anussati: A Re-examination of Its Psychological Effect.**” *The Maha Bodhi: The International Buddhist Journal* 134: 118–122. ISSN 0025-0406.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. “**Philosophy as a Critique of Experience: Indian Perspectives.**” *Journal of Holistic Science Research Institute.* Surat: 226–238.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. 2025. “**Transcending Power and Politics: Buddhism as a Foundation of Universal Peace and Harmony.**” *Caesurae: Poetics of Cultural Translation* 6, no. 2. ISSN 2454-9495.
- Mishra, Godabarisha, ed. 2025. **Caesurae: Poetics of Cultural Translation 6**, no. 2. ISSN 2454-9495.

- Samdarshi, Pranshu. 2024. “**बौद्ध धर्म के इतिहास-लेखन की विसंगतियाँ एवं पूर्वाग्रह (Inconsistencies and Biases in the Historiography of Buddhism).**” *Chetana* 8: 60–71. Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Study.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. 2025. “**भारतीय बौद्ध विरासत का पुनर्जागरण एवं औपनिवेशिक भारत के पालि विद्वानों की भूमिका (Revival of Buddhist Heritage and the Contributions of Pāli Scholars in Colonial India).**” *Prajñā* 23, no. 1. Bodhgaya: Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee (BTMC), Government of Bihar.

## Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures

- Acharya, Kumuda Prasad. “**Concept of Yoga and Prāṇāyāma in Amṛtagītā of Abhirāma Paramahamśa Deva.**” Online paper presented at the National Seminar on Dimensions of Sri Abhirama Literature with Special Reference to Yoga and Ayurveda, organized by Abhirama Saraswata Parishad–Pournamasi Pathagar, Cuttack, Odisha, December 8, 2024.
- Acharya, Kumuda Prasad. “**Culmination of Rasa: An Approach to the Māyārasa with Vidyārāma’s Interpretations in Rasadīrghikā.**” Paper presented at the International Conference on Indian Knowledge System (Inclusive of Vedic and Post-Vedic Literature), organized by the Department of Sanskrit and Indology, Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalaya, Bolpur, West Bengal, with financial assistance from ICPR, New Delhi, March 29–30, 2025.
- Acharya, Kumuda Prasad. “**‘Mā niṣāda’ through the Lens of the Commentators: An Analytical Exposition.**” Online paper presented at the two-day National Seminar on Odishan Knowledge System: Indigenous Wisdom and Intellectual Tradition, jointly organized by Brahmavak Educational & Charitable Trust and the Department of Sanskrit, B.J.B. Autonomous College, Bhubaneswar, March 24–25, 2025.

- Dabral, Pooja. **“Buddhism and Business Ethics: Insights from Ancient Nālandā Treatises.”** Paper presented at the Spiritual Conclave on Integrating Spirituality into Business: Drawing Wisdom from India’s Diverse Traditions, XLRI, Xavier School of Management, Jamshedpur, February 10, 2025.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Demerits of Anger: Profound Antidotes from Bodhicaryāvatāra.”** Talk delivered at Tushita Meditation Centre, New Delhi, October 5, 2024.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Elements of Emotion and Cognitions.”** Online lecture delivered, organized by Forest of Wisdom: Planting Seeds of Compassion and Roots of Wisdom, Scotland, USA, January 11, 2025.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Mādhyamaka Philosophy of Emptiness and Dependent Origination as Explicated in Bodhicaryāvatāra.”** Review lectures during the Study Retreat on Śāntideva’s Wisdom Chapter of Bodhicaryāvatāra, led by Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, Tushita Meditation Centre, Himachal Pradesh, July 4–7, 2024.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Psychology for Training the Mind Based on The Guide to the Bodhisattva’s Way of Life by Bodhisattva Śāntideva.”** Online lecture delivered by Forest of Wisdom, Scotland, USA, March 29, 2025.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Understanding the World of Cognition and Perception.”** Online lecture delivered by Forest of Wisdom, Scotland, USA, January 18, 2025.
- Dabral, Pooja. **“Buddhist Insights on Mind: Reflections from Nālandā Treatises.”** Paper presented at the Conference on Perspectives of Mental Experiences: Neuroscience and Psychology (Series IX), Tibet House, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, January 3, 2024.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“Buddhist Ethic: The Way of Transformation of Negative Emotion.”** Guest lecture at Tran Nhan Tong Institute, Hanoi National University, Vietnam, October 21, 2024.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“Buddhist Tradition in Relation to Agricultural Culture in Southeast Asia.”** Guest lecture at the Faculty of Cultural Studies, University of Social Science and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, June 5, 2025.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“Holistic Care for Palliative Patients.”** Guest lecture at Bodhgaya, organized by Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, August 10–11, 2024.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“Overview of Buddhist Psychology.”** Guest lecture at the Faculty of Psychology, University of Social Science and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, June 14, 2025.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“The Concept of Pureland in Nikāya.”** Online guest lecture organized by Vietnamese Mahasangha in Europe – Dharma Propagation Council, August 15, 2024.
- Ly, Brenda Huong Xuan. **“The Contribution of Nikāya in Mahāyāna Practice.”** Paper presented at the International Conference His Eminence Thich Minh Chau: Vision and Mission, Vietnam Buddhist University, October 20, 2024.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. **“Buddhism in India and Beyond.”** IKS 2025 Lecture presented at IIT Gandhinagar, January 14, 2025.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. **“From Brahman to Śūnyatā: In Quest of a Shared Horizon Between Vedānta and Buddhism.”** Lecture presented at the All-India Conference of the Dalai Lama Centre for Tibetan and Indian Ancient Wisdom, Bodhgaya, April 3–4, 2025.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. **“Indian Materialism.”** Paper presented at the ICPR National Seminar on Indian Materialism in the Broader Context of Indian Spirituality, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee College, University of Delhi, April 16–17, 2025.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. **“On Being as Consciousness and Consciousness as Being: Rational and Functional Paradigms of Cit in Indian Philosophy.”** Plenary address at the VI International Conference of the Caesurae Collective Society on Paradigms of Consciousness and Its Cultural & Aesthetic Expressions, Cooch Behar College, West Bengal, April 9–11, 2025.

## Academic & Research Highlights

- Mishra, Godabarisha. Paper presented at the ICPR National Seminar on **Indian Materialism in the Broader Context of Indian Spiritualism**, SPM College for Women, University of Delhi, April 7, 2025.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. Paper presented at the National Seminar on **Vacanāmṛt and Śikṣāpatrī**, Sri Swaminarayan Mandir, Vadtal, Gujarat, September 16–18, 2024.
- Mishra, Godabarisha participated in the First Asian Buddhist Summit on **Role of Buddha Dhamma in Strengthening Asia**, organized by the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), New Delhi, November 5–6, 2024.
- Mishra, Godabarisha delivered presidential address at the **Sree Sankara Study Circle**, organized by Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kalady, August 19, 2024.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. “**Śaṅkara’s Concept of Aparokṣānubhūti.**” Online lecture presented at Ramakrishna Mission, Muzaffarpur, April 6, 2025.
- Mishra, Godabarisha. “**Vedānta—I Am Illusion and Wittgenstein.**” Paper presented at the National Seminar on Wittgenstein Reimagined: Exploring Language, Word and Mind through the Lens of Indian Philosophy, IIT Bombay, March 19–20, 2025.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Series of Lectures in Tibetology Course as Resource Person.**” Delivered at the Major Bob Khathing Institute of Himalayan Studies and the Gajraj Corps, Eastern Command, Indian Army, Arunachal Pradesh, August 16–17, 2024.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Enduring Legacy of Sanskrit and Pāli as Classical Languages: Connecting Asian Countries Through Shared Buddhist Heritage.**” Invited lecture at International Abhidhamma Divas and Celebration of Recognition of Pāli as a Classical Language, organised by the International Buddhist Confederation, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, October 17, 2024.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Formulating Research Questions and Advancing Theoretical Research in Literary Studies.**” Lecture series delivered at the Department of Naturopathy and Yoga, Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, November 15–16, 2024.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Buddhist Philosophy and Neuroscience: Mind and the Cognised Phenomenal World.**” Paper presented at the National Conference on Perspectives of Mental Experiences: Neuroscience and Psychology, Tibet House, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, January 4, 2025.
- Samdarshi, Pranshu. “**Legacy of Pāli Language: Its Cultural Influence and Prospects for Integration in Buddhist Asia.**” Paper presented at Bodh Mahotsav 2025 – International Seminar, Bodhgaya, February 1, 2025.

### Academic Events Organized by School

- Dr Vikram Sampath — Book Launch and Talk on “**Waiting for Shiva: Unearthing the Truth of Kashi’s Gyan Vapi.**” August 13, 2024.
- Professor Anraj Choudhary — ICPR Study Circle Lecture on “**Contemplative Traditions of Early Buddhism: Theories and Practices of Samatha and Vipassanā Meditations.**” Held at the Mini Auditorium, Nālandā University, September 30, 2024.
- Dr Jatinder Kumar Bajaj — ICPR Lecture on “**Annam Bahu Kurvita: Recollecting the Indian Discipline of Growing and Sharing Food in Plenty.**”, October 2024.
- Professor Rajnish Kumar Mishra, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi — Online Lectures on **Buddhist Philosophy**, February 13–14, 2025.
- Professor Wagish Shukla, IIT Delhi — Online Lecture Series on the **Mahābhārata**, November 26 and 29, 2024.

- National Symposium on “**Rediscovering the Civilizational Self: Essentials of Dharmapal on Indian Culture, Philosophy, and History**”, supported by the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), October 20–22, 2024. Eminent participants included Gita Dharmapal, J. K. Bajaj, Radhavallabh Tripathi, Pawan Gupta, Ankur Kakkar, Sreejit Datta, M. D. Srinivas, Vijay Raghavan Chariar, Probol Roy Chowdhury, and K. Kesava Rao.
- Venerable Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director, Tibet House, Delhi — Lecture on “**Vipaśyanā Meditation: Insight into the Ontology of the Madhyamaka View of Śūnyatā,**” organized under the ICPR Study Circle at the Mini Auditorium, Nālandā University, October 30, 2024.
- **Workshop on Applied Buddhist Philosophy** — Organized by the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University, December 3, 2024.
- Professor Arindam Chakrabarti — Distinguished Lecture on “**Swami Vivekananda’s Vedānta of Love,**” delivered during World Philosophy Day and Swami Vivekananda Jayanti Celebrations, organized under the NU-ICPR Delhi Lecture Series at the Mini Auditorium, Nālandā University, January 12, 2025. The event also included student competitions and discussions on Advaita–Buddhism Dialogues and The Vedānta of Love, emphasizing the ideals of satya (truth), ekatva (unity), and karuṇā (compassion).
- Professor K. T. S. Sarao- Lecture Series on **Buddhist History**, consisting of twelve sessions, organised by the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University, March 19 – April 18, 2025.



▲ Students and Faculty members of SBSPCR during the Field-visit to Rukministhan, Adjacent to Nālandā Mahavihara



# School of Languages and Literature/Humanities

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HLTHS



Dedicated to reframing and rethinking the Humanities, the School pursues a rigorous approach to research into foundational questions that constitute the Humanities as a knowledge domain, exploring interconnections between language, literature, culture, and life in Asian and non-Asian contexts. In keeping with the quintessence of Nālandā Mahavihara and the ethos of the University at large, the School seeks to promote and sustain a diverse and lively intellectual culture. It aims to equip the students with the ability to gain an appreciative and insightful understanding of the perspectives on the cultural context and rich diversity of world literature. Expertise at the School ranges from the earliest written manuscripts to the most recent 21st-century literature, and in universality, across several continents including literatures from Asia, Europe, Africa, the Americas, and Australia. Teaching and Research focus on understanding the vast arena of knowledge traditions within the framework of Indian theoretical perspectives. The year 2024-25 witnessed sustained efforts toward rethinking the Humanities in a global context, emphasizing dialogue between the East and the West, tradition and modernity, and art and life.

## Languages and Literature/Humanities

The School offers academic programmes and courses with a view to understand the languages and literatures of the world within the framework as envisaged in the societies of the East. The Oriental thought processes (with a large imprint of textual and living traditions from several countries of Asia and beyond) have been well received in various scholarly pursuits across the world. The M.A. and Ph.D. programmes of the School focus on understanding these scholarly pursuits with an emerging worldview that considers the entire globe as a unified space of coexistence with mutual respect among all beings.

In the Academic Year 2024-25, the School offered M.A. in World Literature and Ph.D. in World Literature. Both the programmes explored the international scenario of teaching and research on various aspects of language, literature and culture.

The School also offered several part-time programmes in teaching languages, thus contributing to the skill development of people at large. Both M.A. and Ph.D. programmes had innovative and reflective courses on application of Indian Intellectual Traditions in understanding and shaping the discourse on language and literature. The Indian traditions of studies (as present in various school of Indian philosophy) on grammar,

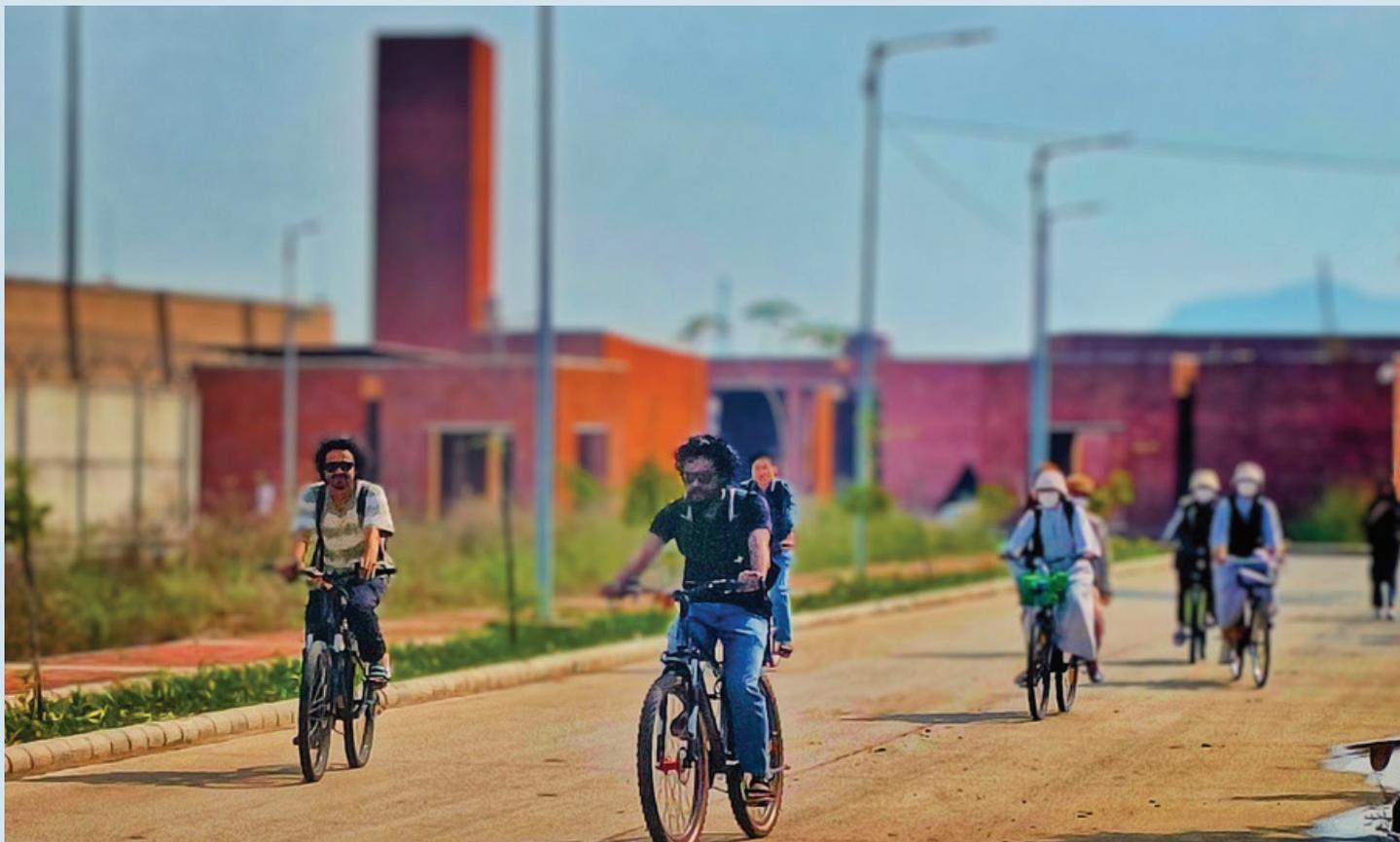
literature and philosophy have been applied to the analysis of scripted, oral and visual texts.

Buddhist thoughts have been discussed in the context of their application on literary analysis and criticism. Nyāya philosophy was applied to evolve research methodology in the field of language and literature studies. These courses lay a futuristic foundation for critical and creative inquiry while developing an understanding the amalgamation of the Oriental perspectives in the evolution of the Euro-American thought processes, thus delving deeper into the Indic perspectives on world literary and linguistic cultures.

The specific domains of faculty specialisation include Literary and Cultural Studies, World Literature, Indian Poetics, Aesthetics, Visual Studies, Digital Humanities, and Performance traditions, Indian Literature, Indian thought systems related to language and literature studies among others.

The School is dedicated to reframing and rethinking the Humanities, interconnections between language, literature, culture, and life in Asian and non-Asian contexts. It pursues a rigorous approach to research into foundational questions that constitute the Humanities as a knowledge domain.





The students were encouraged to demonstrate not only engagement with global and Indian literary traditions, but also the application of sophisticated theoretical frameworks and multilingual competencies. For instance, one student examined Śāntarasa in the Mahābhārata through Abhinavagupta's hermeneutics in the Locana, foregrounding Sanskrit poetics and indigenous aesthetic theory; another explored memory, identity, and community in José Saramago's *Blindness*, demonstrating how world literature can be read through ethical and philosophical lenses. A study titled "The Liminal Character, the Poet, and the Healer" offered an interpretative analysis of Helen's representation in Book 4 of the *Odyssey*, combining classical philology with comparative literary methods. The School's engagement with Southeast Asian narratives was visible in research on Kartini and Siti Walidah as heroines in Abidah El Khalieqy's novel *Kartini* and Lilis Nihwan's *Siti Walidah: Mother of the Indonesian Nation*, situating feminist inquiry within postcolonial and cultural historiographies. Cross-philosophical interpretation emerged in a dissertation that read Kafka's *The Trial*

through the Buddhist theoretical framework of *pratītyasamutpāda* (dependent origination) as presented in Nāgārjuna, highlighting the School's commitment to dialogic thought beyond geographical binaries.

The literary imagination of the Himalayas was explored in a study on the perception of Tibet in the travel writings of Bimal Dey, examining how geography, spirituality, and representation intersect in narrative.

Dissertations of the students demonstrate that they are not only recipients of knowledge but active participants in shaping comparative and cross-civilizational scholarship. By cultivating critical inquiry, creativity, linguistic plurality, and intercultural sensitivity, the School continues to build a scholarly and planetary environment that mirrors Nālandā's historical ethos.

During the academic year 2024–25, faculty members and scholars of the School of Languages and Literature/Humanities continued to contribute



to diverse areas of research encompassing Indian aesthetics, Buddhist studies, translation theory, yoga, and contemporary literary and cultural criticism. Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra through publications examined intersections of Indic and European literary thought.

Dr Mir Islam's research publications reflected a cross-disciplinary engagement with gender, identity, and cultural discourse. Dr Smita Singh's academic contributions reflected the School's vision of integrating ancient knowledge systems with contemporary global thought. Her research on Vedic philosophy, oral traditions, and feminist metaphysics redefined the "world" as a shared literary and ethical space. Dr Divya Sharma, in collaboration with B. R. Sharma, produced a series of studies on yoga, meditation, and psychophysical well-being, contributing substantially to the growing field of yoga and health research.

The School plans to develop more programmes in language and literature studies focusing on translation, pedagogy of Indian languages to foreigners, specialization in Hindi and such others.



'Book Swap' Event, Organised by the Students of School of Languages and Literature / Humanities in March, 2025 ▲

▼ Students and Faculty Members of School of Languages and Literature/Humanities



## Academic & Research Highlights

### Publications

- Dabral, Pooja. 2025. **“Heart Sūtra and Its Contribution to World Literature.”** The Maha Bodhi: The International Buddhist Journal 134 (May): 70–80. ISSN 0025-0406.
- Islam, Mir. 2025. **“Desire of the Withered Flower”**. Translated by Mir Islam. Boiwala, ISBN 978-93-49288-1-4.
- Islam, Mir, Abinash Mohapatra, Madupoju Srudeepthi, Suresh Kumar Gupta, Raja Ambethkar Matta, and Luish Gogoi. 2025. **“Reimagining Gender Roles in Contemporary Indian Literature: A Feminist Critique.”** Journal of Applied Bioanalysis 11, no. 3 (June): 882–888.
- Islam, Mir, P. Deivanai, Sampada Bais Kashyap, Chetna Ray, Kumar Nishant, and Leelavathi Pamarthi. 2025. **“The Role of Cultural Heritage in Shaping National Identity: A Comprehensive Analysis.”** International Journal of Humanities and Social Science 10, no. 1 (May). ISSN 2208-2190. Available via DOAJ, EBSCO, and Gale.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2024. **“Nineteenth Century French Poetry: Subtle Nuances from World Literary Cultures.”** Caraiveti (July–December). Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Translation Tools: History of Lexical Equivalence Opuses in India.”** Caraiveti (January–June). Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“India on Horizons: Centuries of Lumières in Europe.”** In edited volume Dimensions of Philosophy, New Delhi: D.K. Printworld Pvt. Ltd.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **Cultural Transpositions in Translating Texts: Glimpses from Indic Sources.** Anuvad: Translators’ Association of India. April.
- Sharma, Divya, and B. R. Sharma. 2024. **“An Investigation on the Importance of Yoga in Geriatric Care.”** Indian Journal of YOGA Exercise & Sport Science and Physical Education 9, no. 2: 77–81.
- Sharma, Divya, and B. R. Sharma. 2024. **“Influence of Yoga with Specific Application of Restorative Yoga on Key Facets of Geriatric Health.”** CCRYN Indian Journal of Yoga & Naturopathy 1, no. 1 (January–December): 1–6. DOI: 10.4103/ijyn.ijyn\_6\_23.
- Sharma, Divya, and B. R. Sharma. 2024. **“The Impact of Yoga and Meditation on Mental and Physical Well-being.”** Journal of Ayurveda and Integrative Medical Sciences 9, no. 5: 144–153.
- Sharma, Divya, and B. R. Sharma. 2025. **“Therapeutic Potential of Yoga for Sexual Disorders and Its Treatment.”** Indian Journal of Health, Sexuality and Culture 10, no. 1: 23–29
- Sharma, Divya, and B. R. Sharma. 2025. **“Aging, Sexuality, and Intimacy: Can Yoga Help?”** Journal of Psychosexual Health 7, no. 2: 98–106. Sage Publications.
- Singh, Smita. 2025. **“She Who Is All: The Cosmic Feminine Essence in Vedic Thought and Hymns.”** Research Review Journal of Indian Knowledge Systems 2, no. 2 (July–December).
- Singh, Smita. 2025. **“Songs across the Kala Pani: Bhojpuri Folksongs as Oral Archives of the Girmitiya Experience.”** Shodh Samagam 8, no. 3 (July–September): 1219–1228.

### Conference Presentations, Invited Lectures

- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Art of Storytelling: A Cross-Cultural Perspective.”** Invited lecture, Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi, February 20.



## Academic & Research Highlights

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- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Atithi Devo Bhava vs. Padharo Mhare Des: A Cross-Cultural Perspective.”** Online lecture, Refresher Course, Assam University, Silchar, April 21.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Humanities in the Age of Science and Reason: Rationality and Digitisation.”** Invited lecture, Cluster University, Jammu, August 22.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Humanities on Crossroads: Differential or Integral.”** Online faculty development lecture, Amity University, Rajasthan, April 22.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Impact of French Literature on English and Indian Writers.”** Online lecture as Resource Person, Multidisciplinary Dialogue & Discourse in Arts and Social Sciences, University College of Arts & Social Sciences, Osmania University, Hyderabad, July 3.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“L’Utilisation des textes littéraires dans l’enseignement du FLE.”** Invited lecture, Department of French, Faculty of Science and Humanities, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur, Chennai, January 7.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Literary Studies at Crossroads: Novel Global and Digital Paradigms”** Lecture delivered during Refresher Course in Comparative Literature, UGC–MMTTC, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, June 25.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Research Methodology: Language Studies.”** Series of lectures, Kanpur University, February 17 and 21.
- Mishra, Sushant Kumar. 2025. **“Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL).”** Online lecture, Faculty Development Programme, Amity University, Kolkata, July 8.
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“Sacred Bodies and Healing Forces: The Feminine Divine in Vedic Literature and Its Resonance in Medical Humanities.”** Invited lecture, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA, December.
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“Voices of the Goddess: Reclaiming the Feminine Essence in Indian Vedic Texts.”** Guest lecture, Women’s and Politics Core Capstone Course, School of Public Affairs, American University, Washington, D.C., USA
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“The Feminine Divine: Exploring the Essence of the Universe in Indian Vedic Literature.”** Presented at the Oxford Women’s Leadership Symposium, University of Oxford, London, UK, July.
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“Chhath Puja: Bridging Traditional Ecological Practices with Contemporary Environmental Sustainability in the Global South.”** Paper presented at the International Conference on Environmental Humanities and the Global South: Perspectives for Ecological Justice, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, June 21–22.
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“Unveiling the Philosophical and Aesthetic Dimensions of Rasa in Buddhacarita: A Literary Exploration.”** Paper presented at the International Conference on Buddhist Studies and Philosophy (ICBSP-24), Thimphu, Bhutan, March 27–28.
- Singh, Smita. 2024. **“Harmonizing Philosophies: The Heart Sūtra and Yoga on Mental Well-Being.”** Paper presented at the National Conference on Health Humanities: Intersection of Health, Literature, Arts, Society and Culture, SDNBV College for Women (University of Madras), January 29 – February 2.
- Singh, Smita. 2025. **“Rethinking Medical Humanities in the Age of Precarity.”** Paper presented at the National Conference on Illness, Wellness, and Fitness, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Christ University, Bangalore, January 20–22.

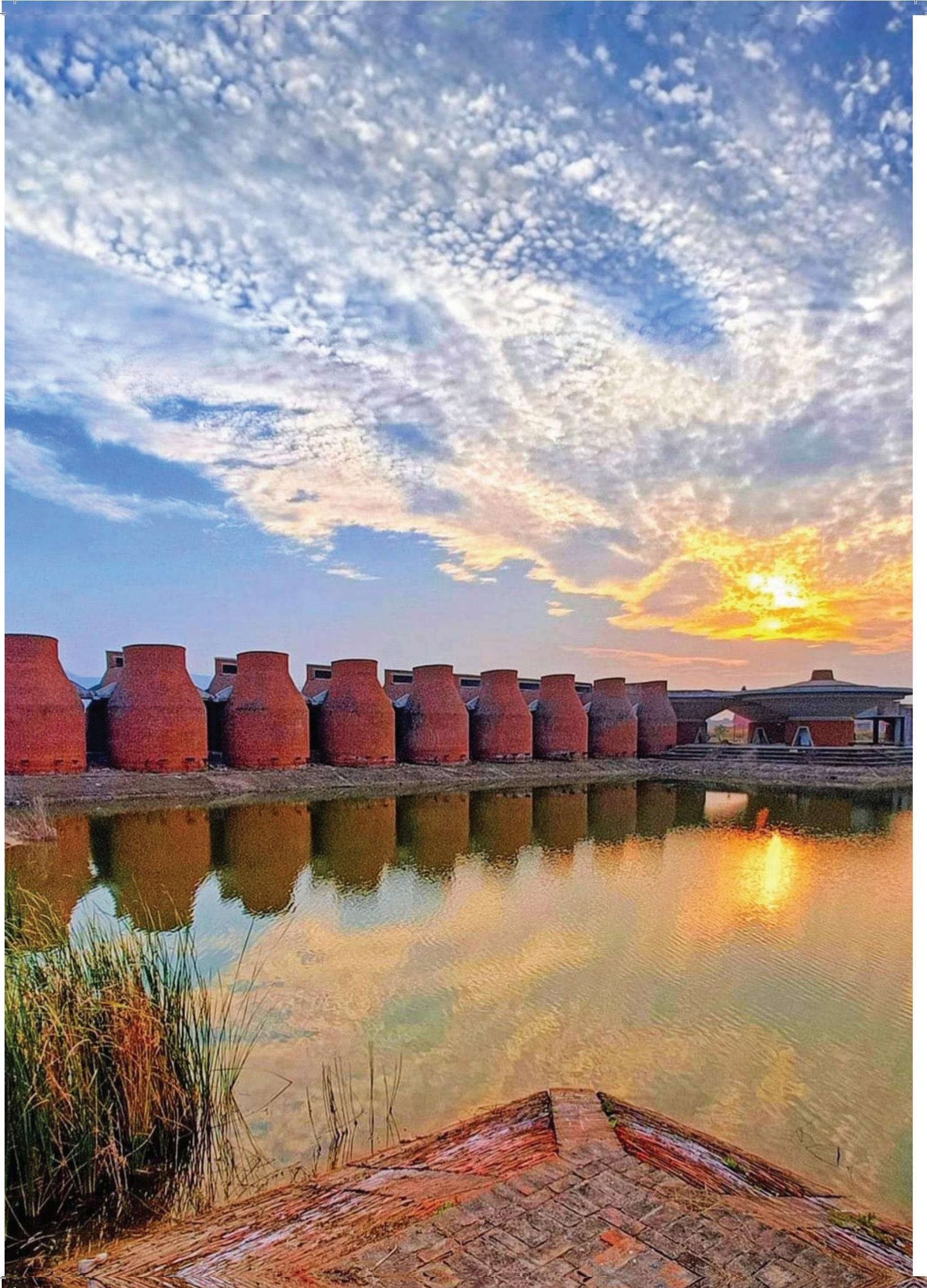
## Academic & Research Highlights

### Extension Lectures

- Professor Rajnish Kumar Mishra. Lectures on **Buddhist Philosophy**. March 17–22, 2025.
- Professor Alain Desoulieres. Lectures on **Epic Traditions in Latin, Roman, and Portuguese Literature: A Comparative and Cross-Cultural Study**. March 24–29, 2025.
- Professor Karam Tej Singh Sarao. Lectures on **Sikh Devotional Traditions and Pilgrimage Studies: The Teachings and Philosophy of Guru Nānak**. March–April 2025.
- Professor Bijoy H. Boruah. Online Lectures on **Kantian Aesthetics: The Beautiful and the Sublime**. April 3 and 17, 2025.
- Professor Olivier Arifon. Lectures on **Narrative and Public Diplomacy: Cultural Identity and Soft Power Communication**. April 7–9, 2025.
- Professor Atanu Bhattacharya. Lectures on **English Language Teaching (ELT): Principles, Technology, Materials, and Research Prospects**. April 15–19, 2025.
- Professor Balaji Ranganathan. Online Lectures on **Sri Aurobindo's Vision of India's Renaissance and the Philosophy of Deśivāda**. April 28–30, 2025.

▼ Students and Faculty Members of SLL/H with Visiting Professor





# School of Management Studies

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SMS



The School of Management Studies (SMS) continues to advance its core mission of fostering interdisciplinary learning. The academic year 2024-25 marked a phase of consolidation and growth, reinforcing the School's position as a leader in sustainability-oriented management education. Anchored in Nālandā University's vision of nurturing global citizenship and sustainable leadership, the School deepened its commitment to embedding sustainability across all dimensions of management learning—from strategy and governance to innovation and social impact.

## Management Studies

The thematic focus for 2024-25 centered on Applied Sustainability and Responsible Business Transformation, emphasizing actionable learning, industry-academia collaboration, and policy engagement. Through a blend of rigorous coursework, live corporate projects, and international research collaborations, the School continues to cultivate analytical, ethical, and leadership competencies essential for navigating the complexities of a rapidly evolving global landscape.

The MBA in Sustainable Development and Management (MBA-SDM) programme epitomizes the School's vision of integrating management excellence with sustainability imperatives. Its interdisciplinary curriculum—comprising foundational, bridge, and advanced courses—offers students a holistic understanding of business ethics, environmental stewardship, and the social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

The foundational courses focus on developing managerial aptitude through subjects such as Organizational Behaviour and Human Resource Management, Quantitative Methods, Macro- and Microeconomics, Principles of Sustainability Management, and Business Law. The bridge-level courses help students transition from conceptual learning to applied business frameworks, introducing broader sustainability dimensions through courses such as Business Strategy and Policy, Sustainable Marketing Strategies, Business Ethics and Corporate Governance, and CSR and Social Entrepreneurship. Courses on Business -

Communication further enhance critical thinking, research articulation, managerial communication, and persuasive argumentation skills.

Following the summer internship, students advance to specialized and applied courses emphasizing international trade, finance, sustainability reporting, and ESG frameworks. Electives such as New Renewable Resources, Integrated Water Resource Management, Agriculture and Development, Sustainable Livelihoods, Climate Change and Development, and Sustainable Urbanization and Development reflect the programme's interdisciplinary strength. To ensure evidence-based understanding of sustainability, business, and policy intersections, students undertake applied research through a corporate experience or dissertation project, carrying 18 full academic credits.

The School draws upon a distinguished pool of academics and professionals, including international faculty with expertise across diverse fields. Its interdisciplinary and multicultural faculty body fosters high levels of academic engagement and professional mentorship, preparing graduates to become responsible leaders in the evolving global economy.

During the academic year, several eminent scholars and practitioners from India and abroad contributed to the School's academic and experiential learning environment. Among the international visiting faculty were Professor Ambika Zutshi (Australian Catholic University, Australia),





▲ Strengthening Business–Sustainability Linkages: NU MBA Cohort Supported UN GCNI at the Ocean Centres Launch (IHC, New Delhi)

Professor César Marolla (Harvard University’s Advisory Committee for Sustainability), Dr Srirangan Rajagopal (CEO, uMobi Solutions, USA), Dr Abhishek Kumar (University of Southampton, UK), Professor Mouloud Madoul (ESSEC Paris), and Dr Graham Sherbut (Director, SoCha LLC, USAID, Zambia). Their engagements enriched the curriculum with diverse global perspectives on sustainability, governance, and innovation.

The Indian visiting faculty included Professor Mrinalini Saha (IIMT, Ghaziabad), Professor Anandi Pande (Mahindra University), Dr Aghila Sashidharan (Jindal Global Business School), Professor Ravinder Kumar (Jamia Millia Islamia), Dr Gopal Sarangi (TERI SAS), Dr Sunil Kumar (University of Delhi), Professor Ashish Mathur (Central University of Haryana), and Ms Jayati Talapatra (MDI and TERI SAS). Their classroom teaching and hands-on sessions provided students with practical insights into various dimensions of sustainable development and management practice.

In addition, Dr Prajal Pradhan (University of Groningen), Professor Sat Parasahar (University of California), Dr Sugandha Srivastava (University of Oxford), Dr Rohit Sharma (Digital Green), and Ms Simran Sinha (Green Hydrogen Organisation, Switzerland) were among the esteemed experts and researchers who delivered guest lectures on diverse sustainability-related themes.

These sessions provided valuable insights into global sustainability initiatives and best practices, effectively bridging classroom learning with real-world applications.

The Summer Internship and Corporate Experience projects of recent academic years exemplify the unique niche Nālandā University has established in the sustainability education space since the inception of the MBA–SDM programme in 2020.

Students of the Batch 2024–26 successfully completed internships with leading organizations such as the United Nations Global Compact Network India, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), and Manganese Ore (India) Limited.

Meanwhile, students of the Batch 2023–25 pursuing corporate internships engaged with reputed institutions including the Indian School of Business, IndiCube Bangalore, Samavit Vikas Pvt. Ltd., and other developmental organizations. These engagements provided students with experiential exposure to sustainability practices across industries, deepening their understanding of responsible business and sustainable leadership.

During the academic year 2024–25, the School of Management Studies (SMS) demonstrated notable research engagement and interdisciplinary scholarship. Faculty members mentored a range of dissertation projects addressing contemporary issues in sustainability, policy, and development. Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry supervised multiple dissertations reflecting his multidisciplinary expertise in sustainable livelihoods, climate change interfaces, public policy, environmental behaviour, and social protection. The projects under his mentorship explored key themes such as social protection initiatives, sustainable consumption patterns, and the integration of ecological systems into business strategies. Dr Anand Kumar guided dissertation research aligned with his specialization in sustainability, environmental issues, water resource management, and climate policy.



▲ MBA Students during the Symposium on 'Advancements in the field of Green Hydrogen'

The research conducted under his supervision adopted a strong multidisciplinary focus, encompassing diverse geographic regions including Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and India.

The year also witnessed significant faculty research contributions, with eight peer-reviewed publications appearing in leading international journals such as Springer and Elsevier.

This growing body of research underscores the School's emerging leadership at the intersection of sustainability and interdisciplinary inquiry, covering themes such as climate change adaptation, sustainable livelihoods, water resource management, agroforestry, business strategy, and development economics.



## Academic & Research Highlights

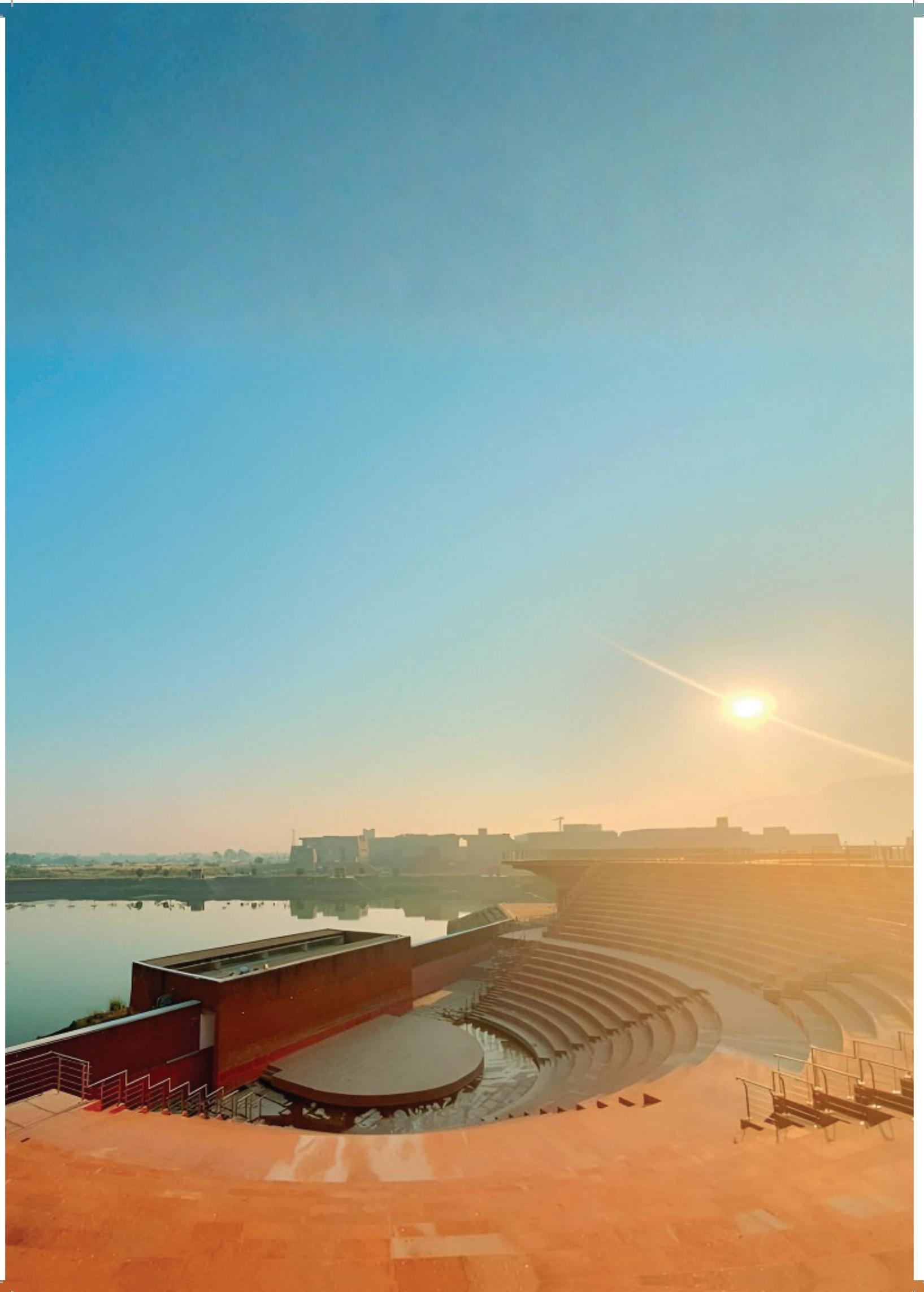
### Publications

- Chetri, L., and Muneer Ahmad Magry. “**An Integrated Value Chain Analysis of Large Cardamom (*Amomum subulatum* Roxb.): A Case of Bhutan.**” *Forest and Society Journal*. Accepted for publication.
- Magry, Muneer Ahmad, Damien Cahill, John Rookes, and S. A. Narula. 2025. “**Do Socioeconomic Factors Impact Non-Timber Forest Products-Based Incomes?**” *Human Ecology* 53, no. 1: 165–179.
- Sharma, P., Anand Kumar, and J. Shang. 2025. “**Transport and Retention of Co-Existing Contaminants with Biochar Colloids in Porous Media: A Review.**” *Total Environment Engineering* 100021.
- Tevatiya, S., Muneer Ahmad Magry, S. A. Narula, C. Jamir, and N. Anwar. 2025. “**Socio-Economic Role of Farmer Producer Organizations in the Sustainability of Farming in Rajasthan.**” *Indian Journal of Economics and Development* 21, no. 2: 243–256.
- Verma, A., Anand Kumar, P. Sharma, A. Sharma, R. K. Sinha, and S. Phartyal. 2025. “**Hydrogeochemical Processes and Anthropogenic Impacts on Groundwater Quality in the Middle Gangetic Plains.**” *Journal of Hazardous Materials Advances* 100818.
- Wangmo, K., Anand Kumar, S. A. Narula, and Muneer Ahmad Magry. 2025. “**Agroforestry Systems as Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Risk and Livelihood Sustainability: A Case Study from Bhutan.**” *Agroforestry Systems* 99, no. 6: 1–26.

- Wangmo, K., and Muneer Ahmad Magry. 2024. “**Evaluating Forest Conservation Policies of Bhutan: Sensitiveness and Responsiveness to Gender Considerations.**” *Discover Conservation* 1, no. 1: 10.

### Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

- Magry, Muneer A. 2025. Speaker at **FLARE 2025 (Forests and Livelihoods: Assessment, Research, and Engagement)**, University of Notre Dame, Lima, Peru.
- Kumar, Anand. 2025. Participant in **ForHimSDG Workshop**, organized by Kathmandu University, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, and AIT Thailand.
- Chhetri, R., Anand Kumar, and Muneer A. Magry. 2025. “**Gender Perception on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptive Measures in Thimphu, Bhutan.**” Paper presented at the 5th Global Conference on Climate Change, Berlin.
- Aung, K. T., Anand Kumar, and Muneer A. Magry. 2025. “**Effectiveness of Climate Change Policies on Climatic Impact Drivers in Myanmar.**” Paper presented at the 2nd Global Summit on Climate Change, Los Angeles.
- Chhetri, R., Anand Kumar, and Muneer A. Magry. 2025. “**Towards Inclusive Climate Resilience.**” Paper presented at the 6th Global Conference on Climate Change and Global Warming, Copenhagen.



# School of International Relations & Peace Studies

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SIP  
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In an era of profound transformation, the School of International Relations and Peace Studies (SIPS) at Nālandā University is shaping a renewed vision for global engagement. Ranked among the select institutions worldwide that integrate International Relations with Peace Studies, SIPS pioneers an interdisciplinary approach grounded in indigenous knowledge systems and traditional wisdom. Through research, dialogue, and sustained initiatives, SIPS faculty and students seek to rebalance and reframe Eurocentric narratives and to rethink how international relations are studied and practised from the vantage point of Bharat's philosophy, economics, culture, and history. Their scholarship draws on both Indic and global traditions, embodying the civilizational spirit of Nālandā, where learning is a shared pursuit of wisdom and peace.

## International Relations & Peace Studies

SIPS's signature approach rests on the conviction that knowledge systems need not compete but can coexist and enrich one another. Students engage with K. Subrahmanyam and Mohammed Ayoob alongside Barry Buzan and Kenneth Waltz, drawing on multiple schools of thought to understand power, culture, and peace from diverse perspectives. The curriculum blends Indic and Western thought to produce a balanced and inclusive understanding of global affairs: courses range from International Relations Theory, National Security and Geopolitics, and Culture and Global Politics to Cultural History of India, Religion and Peace, Politics of Routes, Contemporary Europe, Intelligence and International Relations, Strategic Thought, International Economics, International Law, Maritime History of India, World History, Key Concepts of Peace Studies, and Research Methodology.

Classical Indian texts such as the Mahabharata and the Arthashastra are studied alongside modern theories of realism, liberalism, and constructivism; this parallel study reinforces the principle that Indian strategic and philosophical traditions are not isolated from global discourse but form an essential part of it. In this way, SIPS becomes a meeting ground of civilisations, where Western theories are studied in dialogue with Indic frameworks, fostering both intellectual openness and cultural confidence.

The Master's programme at SIPS is a distinctive interdisciplinary offering that integrates International Relations with Peace Studies, preparing students to address global issues from

both strategic and ethical standpoints. The coursework encompasses geopolitics, peacebuilding, culture, environment, and international governance, training scholars to think critically across diverse domains and contexts.

Research and academic pursuits at SIPS operate within an interdisciplinary framework that integrates strategic, cultural, and civilizational perspectives. The School's work spans India's foreign policy, strategic thought, maritime security, and focused study of the Bay of Bengal region—areas that are deeply interconnected and reflective of Nālandā's historical ethos. Faculty and students examine India's evolving foreign policy and its engagements with both the Global South and major powers, drawing on civilizational ideas of diplomacy, non-alignment, and coexistence. The study of strategic thought at SIPS brings classical Indian traditions ranging from Kautilya's Arthashastra and the Mahabharata—into conversation with Western theories of realism, liberalism, and constructivism. This dialogic approach enables a nuanced understanding of global strategy and governance that values pragmatism while remaining anchored in ethics. Parallel research on maritime security and India's oceanic vision explores the country's ancient maritime heritage, the contemporary dynamics of the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific regions, and the strategic significance of the Bay of Bengal as a zone of cooperation, connectivity, and resilience.

Alongside these core areas, research at SIPS has expanded into emerging and cross-disciplinary





▲ Students of SIPS with Lt. Gen. (Dr.) P.C. Nair, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd.)

fields, including cybersecurity, terrorism and dark-web networks, climate migration, and digital governance. Several projects examine the intersection of religion, peace, and diplomacy, with special attention to Buddhist traditions and India’s spiritual influences on international relations. Other projects engage with cultural and maritime diplomacy, the strategic significance of sea routes, and India–China relations within the shifting Asian security landscape.

Publications during the academic year addressed themes such as India’s foreign policy, regional cooperation, maritime governance, and the role of culture in international relations. Collectively, these initiatives reflect SIPS’s commitment to producing scholarship that bridges indigenous and global thought and translates civilizational wisdom into actionable insights for the contemporary world.

SIPS continues to strengthen academic linkages with national and international institutions. Faculty and students actively engaged with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS), the Peninsula Foundation, and the People’s

Consultative Assembly of Indonesia (MPR RI). Visiting faculty, external scholars, and practitioners from institutions such as the Ministry of External Affairs, diplomatic missions in India, the Indian Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force), South Asian University, the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), the National Security Council Secretariat, the Asian Development Bank, Jawaharlal Nehru University, etc., contributed to the curriculum and lecture series.

Collaborative engagements—such as the International Conference on BIMSTEC and the Bay, organised with the Synergia Foundation—further deepened research linkages in the Bay of Bengal region.

SIPS students also represented Nālandā University at major international platforms, including the Raisina Dialogue 2025 and the US–India Cooperation Circle (USICC) panel discussions, in collaboration with Christ University and the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai.

The School has established active academic and institutional partnerships that enrich its research ecosystem and enhance experiential learning.



Collaborations with ICWA and RIS in New Delhi support student internships, policy research, and participation in national conferences. Engagements with CENJOWS and CLAWS have advanced defence and strategic studies, while partnerships with the Peninsula Foundation, Chennai, have provided valuable exposure to policy analysis and field research. The Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at Nālandā University serves as a key partner in maritime and regional cooperation research, and the Centre for East Asian Studies at Christ University facilitates exchanges in research and academic training. At the international level, association with the People’s Consultative Assembly of Indonesia (MPR RI) enables students to gain first-hand experience in legislative and diplomatic affairs.

These linkages collectively foster a vibrant network of collaboration, offering students and scholars opportunities to engage directly with experts and practitioners in international relations and strategic thought.

A series of distinguished lectures and interactive sessions during the academic year enriched SIPS’s intellectual environment and exposed students to diverse global and regional perspectives. Professor Sanjay Chaturvedi delivered an incisive talk on “Quest for a Non-Western Global IR and Planetary Geopolitics,” urging a reimagination of global relations beyond Eurocentric paradigms. Lt. Gen. (Dr) P. C. Nair, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd.), shared operational and strategic insights on narco-terrorism in India, while Professor Prabir De (RIS) guided students through practical aspects of policy brief writing and maritime economic frameworks. Col. (Dr) Tejinder Hundal, VSM, provided an analysis of the Indo–Australia strategic partnership in the evolving Indo-Pacific context, and Dr Thuta Aung (Mandalay Forum) discussed India’s role as a thought leader on Right Livelihood (*sammā ājīva*).

Dr Sirisunda (Thailand) connected the Blue Economy to regional sustainability, and lectures by Dr Vikram Sampath, Professor Arvind Panagariya, and Dr Vasudha Pande addressed India’s historical -

Students of SIPS during an Interaction ▼



The Master's programme at SIPS is a distinctive interdisciplinary offering that integrates International Relations with Peace Studies, preparing students to address global issues from both strategic and ethical standpoints. SIPS continues to grow as a hub for innovative and civilizational rooted research in international relations. Its focus on Indic and Western strategic thought, Bay of Bengal studies, and Global South cooperation reflects Nālandā's legacy of dialogue and inclusivity..

narratives, governance models, and environmental transformations. Together, these engagements reinforced the School's commitment to dialogue-based learning and to cultivating a comprehensive understanding of international relations through multidisciplinary and comparative perspectives.

During the academic year, SIPS students actively participated in a wide range of academic, policy, and cultural initiatives that extended learning beyond the classroom. They organised a symposium on "The State of Conflict and Resolution in Asia," hosted SIPS Reading Circle sessions focused on peace and intercultural dialogue, and participated in the Research Methodology Exhibition and a Hackathon-style group discussion on "India's International Relations Over the Ages." Their representation at major national and international forums demonstrated the School's growing visibility—most notably at the Raisina Dialogue 2025, where students engaged with global leaders and policy experts. Students also took part in the SANSAD-25 Policy Parliament at the Indian School of Public Policy, the IMEC Conclave 2025, and the Urban Adda Conference at the India Habitat Centre. Additionally, they contributed to policy and academic debates through their participation in USICC panels, national seminars, and university hackathons.

Beyond academics, students were active in campus life through the Cultural and Film Club,

the University Expedition Club, and engagements with the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies and peace-centred observances such as International Peace Day. Collectively, these activities reflect the School's emphasis on cultivating globally aware, socially conscious, and actively engaged scholars of international relations.

SIPS students secured internships with premier national and international institutions, gaining hands-on experience in policy research, strategic analysis, and regional cooperation.

At ICWA, New Delhi, students, including Chandan Kannam, Kushubu Kumari Yadav, Preeti Kumari, Harshita Banga, and Swetang Choubey participated in flagship events such as the panel discussion "Operation Sindoor: Starting a New Narrative?" and the strategic gaming exercise Neeti Kaushal 2025, held in collaboration with the United Service Institution of India. They also attended a two-day workshop on "Leveraging Digital Tools (including AI & GIS) for International Relations Research," organised with the Chakra Foundation.

At RIS, interns Richa Sharma, Ayushi Pandey, Ananta Chakraborty, Nandigalla Karan Kumar, and Fahad Zeya served on organising and rapporteur teams for the international conference "Global South and Triangular Cooperation: Emerging Facets" at Taj Palace, New Delhi, and contributed to the Urban Adda Conference.



Monika Kumari, interning at CENJOWS, New Delhi, served as master of ceremonies for a seminar on indigenisation of critical components (UAVs and C-UAS), organised by the Scientific Advisor to CISC in collaboration with CENJOWS. Shreya Reddy, Himanshi Gupta, and Aarabhi Bhatt interned with the Peninsula Foundation on policy analysis and strategic affairs; Shrinwanti Nayak and Aman Kumar interned with the Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS) at Christ University, Bengaluru; and Sidharth S. contributed to defence research at the

Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi. At the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies, Anushka Antrolkar and Samridhi Khandelwal conducted research on maritime and regional cooperation, while Kshitiz Maurya's internship at the Institute of Conflict Management focused on internal and cross-border security dynamics. Tri Malinda and Alma Fuji Anugrah interned with the Secretariat General of the People's Consultative Assembly of the Republic of Indonesia (MPR RI), contributing to legislative and diplomatic research.



▲ Students of SIPS with Lt. Gen. Anindya Sengupta PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Central Command of Indian Army (centre) and Air Marshal M. Matheswaran (Retd.) (left) during the Seminar, 'The Himalayan Borders: India's Relationship with Its Neighbours'

SIPS continues to grow as a hub for innovative and civilizational rooted research in international relations. Its focus on Indic and Western strategic thought, Bay of Bengal studies, and Global South cooperation reflects Nālandā's legacy of dialogue and inclusivity. Guided by the motto, *Ā no bhadrāḥ kratavo yantu viśvataḥ*, "Let noble thoughts come to us from all directions", SIPS aspires to expand its reach through collaborative research, projects,

international partnerships, and knowledge dissemination that bridges heritage with contemporary scholarship.

By combining India's ancient insights with modern academic rigor, SIPS is nurturing scholars who approach the world not only as analysts but as ambassadors of peace, understanding, and ethical leadership.



# Academic & Research Highlights

## Publications

- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R., and Graham Sherbut. **“For India–South Africa Maritime Partnership to Work, It Needs to Go Beyond Symbolism.”** The Indian Express, 2025.
- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. **“Evolving Contours of India–Africa Partnership.”** Paper presented at the International Conference on India–Africa Development Partnership: Envisioning a Sustainable Future, Expanding Engagement, co-organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and Somaiya Vidyavihar University, Mumbai, 2025.

## Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. Presentation at the International Conference, co-organized by the **Institute for South Asian, West Asian and African Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences**, and the Indian Embassy, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, 2025.
- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. Presentation at the Trần Nhân Tông Institute, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, 2025.
- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. Attended the IMEC Conclave 2025 in New Delhi, organized jointly by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), the Centre for India–Europe Understanding (CIEU), and Dalberg, 2025.
- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. Chaired a session on **“Evolving Contours of Indian Foreign Policy”** at the Youth IR Conclave 2025, organized by Dautyam and Somaiya Vidyavihar University, Mumbai, 2025.
- Chaturvedy, Rajeev R. Participated in the 8th Roundtable of the ASEAN–India Network of Think Tanks, organized by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) and the ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, 2024. Theme: **“Navigating a World in Transition: Agenda for ASEAN–India Cooperation.”**





# Centres & Partnerships



## Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies

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Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at Nālandā University, established with the support of the Government of India, serves as a pioneering academic platform dedicated to interdisciplinary research on the Bay of Bengal region. Announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2018 and inaugurated in 2022, the Centre explores the Bay's civilizational, cultural, ecological, and strategic dimensions. Its research encompasses history, maritime trade, environmental sustainability, and regional cooperation. Through academic programmes and collaborative initiatives, CBS strives to enhance understanding of the Bay's global significance while addressing emerging challenges in security, development, and ecology.

## Common Archival Resource Centre

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Common Archival Resource Centre is a digital archive setup committed to preserving and sharing Asia-related information and resources that highlight its history, material culture, trade networks, heritage, religious ideas and practices, oral and performative traditions, civilization, and Asian networks of interaction. The Centre aims to create opportunities for continued exploration of these fields. Promotion of regional peace being one of the foundational objectives of the University, the Centre attempts to curate digital collections from across Asia, particularly Southeast Asia relating to the rich cultural tradition, heritage, history and civilizational exchange.



## Partnerships

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Nālandā University has continued to strengthen its international partnerships and inter-institutional linkages in 2024–2025, reaffirming its mission to revive ancient wisdom through modern collaboration. These MoUs represent the University’s expanding academic footprint across Asia and beyond while supporting cultural preservation, research innovation, and regional integration.

- **Bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed with Indian and international Institutions**, including Universitas Sumatera Utara (Indonesia), Syiah Kuala University (Indonesia), the University of Kelaniya (Sri Lanka), the University of Salamanca (Spain), The Asiatic Society (India)
- **Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed under the ASEAN–India Network of Universities (AINU) framework**, establishing collaborations with institutions such as IIT Jodhpur, IIIT Allahabad, IIM Bodh Gaya, Udayana University (Indonesia), Universitas Indonesia, Chiang Mai University (Thailand), Ubon Ratchathani University (Thailand), and the University of Computer Studies, Mandalay (Myanmar).



**List of Bilateral MoUs Signed  
with Nalanda University  
2024-25**

Archaeological Survey of India  
-February, 2024  
Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced  
Research (SACAR) Trust, Pondicherry  
-August, 2024  
Foundation for Indian Historical and  
Cultural Research, Bengaluru-August, 2024  
The Asiatic Society-January,2025



Syiah Kuala University, Aceh  
-February, 2025  
Universitas Sumatera Utara  
-February, 2025



University of Management And  
Economics, Battambang-April, 2024



University of Kelaniya-September, 2024



University of Salamanca- October, 2024

**List of AINU-MoUs Signed with  
Nalanda University  
2024-25**

Dr B R Ambedkar National Institute  
of Technology (NIT), Jalandhar-March,2024  
National Institute of Pharmaceutical  
Education & Research (NIPER), Guwahati  
-April, 2024

Indian Institute of Technology, (IIT) Kanpur  
-April, 2024



National Institute of Technology, (NIT)  
Delhi-May,2024

Indian Institute of Management, (IIM) Bodh  
Gaya-June,2024

Indian Institute of Information Technology  
& Management (IIITM), Gwalior  
-September, 2024

Indian Institute of Information Technology  
Allahabad-October,2024

Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur  
-October, 2024

Universitas Indonesia-July, 2024

Udayana University-January, 2025

Syiah Kuala University, Aceh-February,2025



Universitas Sumatera Utara-February,2025

Chiang Mai University-May, 2024

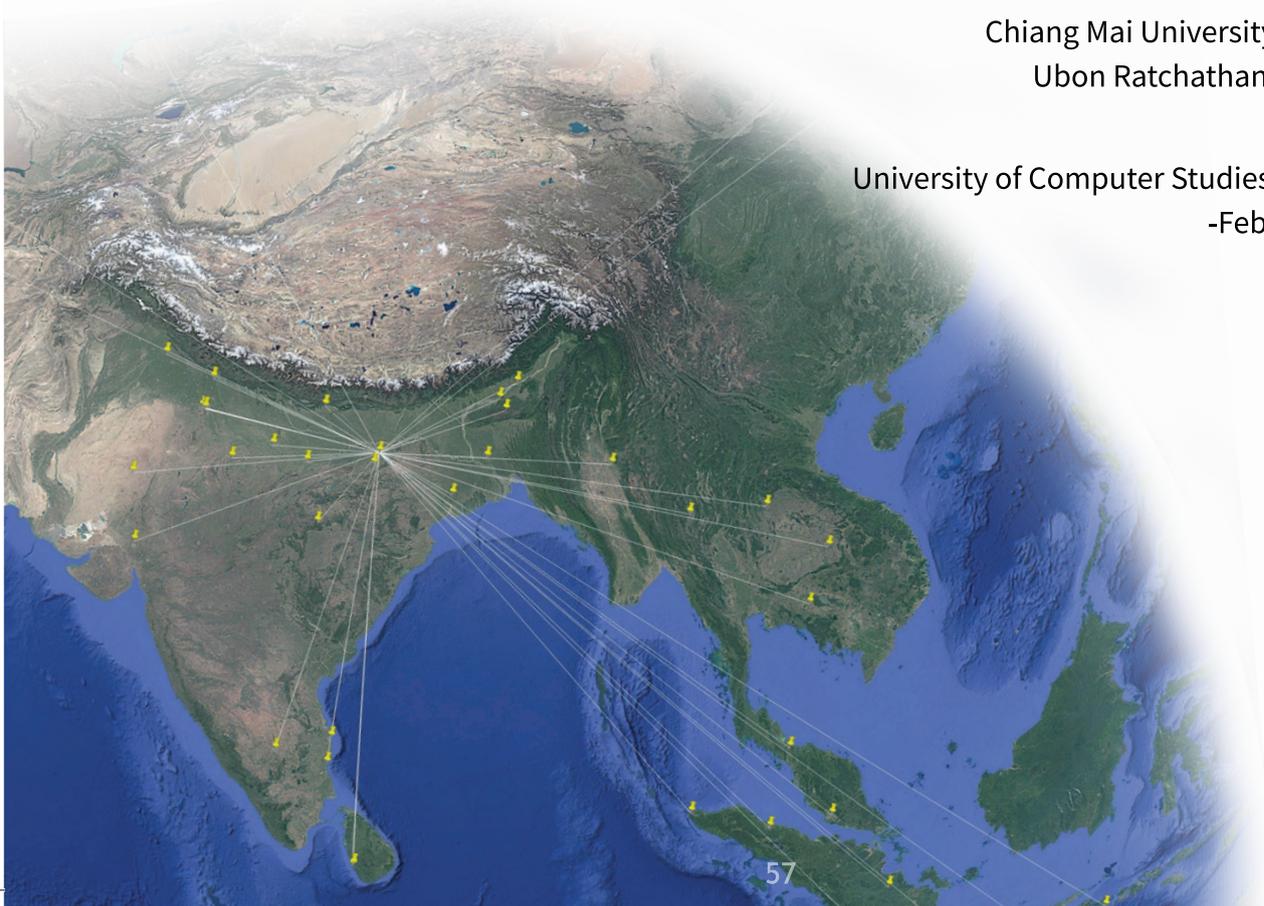
Ubon Ratchathani University

-July, 2024

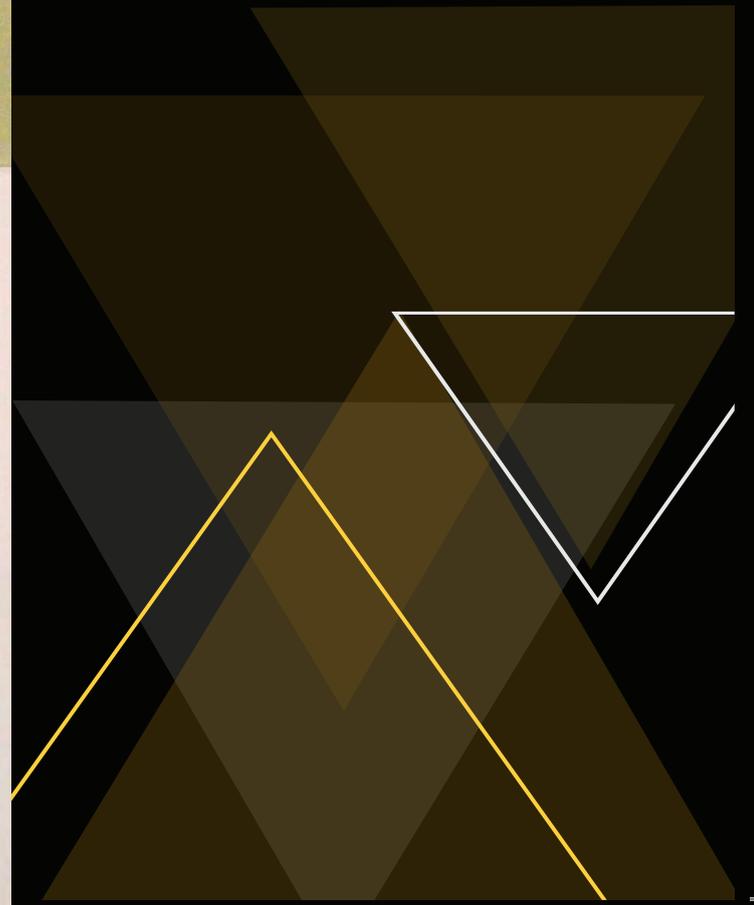


University of Computer Studies, Mandalay

-February, 2025



# Academic Engagements by Students



# Research by Students

## M.A. Dissertations: Historical Studies

- Aishwarya Sahana. **Beyond the Borders: Mercenaries and the Art of War in Ancient India.** Supervised by Professor Abhay Kumar Singh.
- Alok Halder. **Symbolic Importance of Early Buddhist Art in India from 300 BCE to 1000 CE.** Supervised by Dr Elora Tribedy.
- Anveshi Bisht. **Treading Deep Waters: An Alternative Understanding of Piracy in the Indian Ocean World.** Supervised by Dr Amita Satyal.
- Ayshi Podder. **Paharpur Mahāvihāra: A Comparative Study Between the Art of Paharpur and Nālandā Mahāvihāra.** Supervised by Dr Tosabanta Padhan.
- Bun Lak. **The Spread and Development of Shiva and Vishnu Shrines in Cambodia.** Supervised by Professor Abhay Kumar Singh.
- Cheten Tshering. **History of Ceramic Production in Bhutan: Case Studies of Gangzur and Langthel Pottery Centers.** Supervised by Dr Kashshaf Ghani.
- Diwakar Kumar. **Mahāvihāra in Telhara: The Legacy of an Ancient Seat of Learning in Śrī Prathamasivapura Mahāvihāra.** Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Divya Vashishtha. **Healing and Materiality in the Maldives: Cowrie Circulation in the Early Modern Period.** Supervised by Dr Amita Satyal.
- Md Bulbul Hassan. **Bangladesh's Political Transitions and Their Impact on Regional Water Diplomacy (2009–2024).** Supervised by Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy.
- Md Taukir Ahmed. **The Sundarbans: Re-examining Folk Traditions and Its Cult Practices.** Supervised by Dr Elora Tribedy.
- P. Tharindu M. Peiris. **Interaction Between State and Saṅgha in Premodern Sri Lanka with Focus on Ancient Reservoirs.** Supervised by Dr Elora Tribedy.

- Kinnari Poladia. **The Archaeological Study of Petroglyphs and Geoglyphs in Goa.** Supervised by Dr Tosabanta Padhan.
- Purbasha Datta. **Tracing the Spice Trade's Influence on Maritime Connections Across the Indian Ocean, 15th–17th Century.** Supervised by Dr Amita Satyal.
- Rifat Hossain Rakib. **History and Representation: Holocaust as Perceived by Anselm Kiefer.** Supervised by Dr Kashshaf Ghani.
- Sui Aung Thawng. **A Historical Survey of India–Burma Relations after Independence (1947–2000s).** Supervised by Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy.
- Sumadh Chakma. **India's Cultural Diplomacy in Bangladesh Since 1971: An Analytical Examination.** Supervised by Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy.
- Thien Hoa Thi Vo. **The Transformation of Buddhist Contemplative Traditions: From Early Buddhism to Chinese Chan.** Supervised by Dr Amita Satyal.
- Tran Tan Hiep Nguyen. **Religious Approaches to Peace Building: Examining Buddhist Responses in Tibet and Vietnam.** Supervised by Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy.
- Zaminur Rahman. **History, Art, and Architecture of the Qutb and Jama Mosques: A Comparative Study.** Supervised by Dr Kashshaf Ghani.

## MSc Dissertations: Ecology & Environment Studies

- Adwin Sarker Tripto. **Impact of Biodegradation of Biodegradable Plastics in Aquatic Ecosystems.** Supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Aisha Mohapatra. **Waste to Wealth: A Case Study of Floral Waste Management at Mahabodhi Temple.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.

- Alankruta Mahopatra. **Assessing the Impact of Rural Development Policies on Women's Empowerment: A Case Study of Bihar and Odisha.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Arpita Das. **Assessing Behavioural Determinants of Waste Segregation Practices at Nālandā University.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Aryan. **Stubble Waste Management: From Environmental Liability to Bioeconomic Asset.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- A. B. M. Robil Hasan. **Flood Hazard Zonation in Sylhet, Bangladesh: A Geospatial Approach.** Supervised by Dr Satyanarayana Shashtri.
- Chrisda Frey. **Flood Hazard Zonation in Brazzaville, Congo: A Geospatial Approach.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Dendup Wangchuk. **Green Energy in Bhutan and Its Alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 7.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Dibyanjan Giri. **Microplastic Exposure in Asian Elephants of the Mahanadi Elephant Reserve, Odisha.** Co-supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Langa Dorji. **Groundwater Potential Mapping at District Level Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques in Samtse, Bhutan.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Junayedur Rahman. **Study of Microplastic Contamination in Soil of the Eastern Himalayan Region of India.** Supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Marcia Rafale. **Remote Sensing and GIS-Based Weighted Overlay Analysis to Demarcate Groundwater Potential Zones in Boane, Mozambique.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Md. Ariful Hoque Zaber. **Sundarban Ecosystem Restoration and Valuation.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Md. Asiqur Rahman. **11E Framework of ESG: An Integrated Model for Bangladesh's Textile Industry.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Nandita Prabhu. **Landslide Susceptibility Mapping in Wayanad, India: A GIS-Based Multicriteria Decision Analysis Approach.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Poppy Tirpura. **Landslide and Flood Hazard Zonation in Bandarban, Bangladesh: Climate Change Impact through a Geospatial Approach.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Pratyusha Majhi. **Indigenous Natural Resource Management Practices: A Sustainable Way to Cope with Climate Change in Bodh, Odisha, India.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Rahayu Pitwari. **Mangrove and Younger Coastal Plain-Based Ecosystem Services Assessment in Padang, Indonesia.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Ravi Kumar. **Climate-Smart Agriculture in Bihar: A Way Towards Sustainability.** Supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Shamsudden Abdullahi. **Comprehensive Assessment of Groundwater Quality in North-Eastern Nigeria: Implications for Public Health and Environmental Management.** Supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Shouhum Aamir Sanyal. **Waste Management Practices in Hotels in Rajgir, Bihar.** Supervised by Dr Sayan Bhattacharya.
- Surya Prakash. **GIS-Based Weighted Overlay Analysis to Demarcate Groundwater Potential Zones in Rohtas, Bihar, India.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.
- Teerapon Suthinun. **Lessons from Suvarnabhumi Airport for Improving Air Quality Management in India's Emerging Airports.** Supervised by Dr Kishore Dhavala.
- Vijaya Bharti. **Assessment of Groundwater Resources in Nālandā District, Bihar: A Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) Approach.** Supervised by Dr Satyanaraya Shashtri.

### Student Internship: Ecology & Environment Studies

- Abhilash Tripathi. **Indian Space Academy, New Delhi.**
- Achintya Ghosal. **Ashoka-Environmental Defence Fund Climate Corps Fellowship, Tamil Nadu.**
- Aishwarya Mahendra Patil. **Centre of Excellence for Wildlife and Conservation Studies, Gujarat.**

- Akash Raj. **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, Nālandā University.
- Akriti Kushwaha. **Indian Academy of Sciences**, Dehradun
- Ambuj Singh. **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, Nālandā University.
- Anand Vardhan. **Indian Space Academy**, New Delhi.
- Anushin Ray. **National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)**, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Arka Mukherjee. **Indian Academy of Sciences**, Guwahati.
- Babita Sharma. **Indian Space Academy**, New Delhi.
- Devyansh Pandey. **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, Bengaluru.
- Gargi Gaur. **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, New Delhi.
- Indrayan Ray. **Asansol Engineering College**, West Bengal.
- K. Laya Venkat. **Indian Space Academy**, New Delhi.
- Kappala Swapna Shalem. **Varaha**, Haryana.
- Kaushik Kumar Das. **Visva-Bharati University**, West Bengal.
- Mst Majmumas Salehin. **Indian Space Academy**, New Delhi.
- Muhammad Fakhri Wijayanto. **Preply**, United States of America.
- Nandan Kumar. **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, Nālandā University.
- 20. Nandini Jha. **Climate Resilient Observing-Systems Promotion Council (CROPC)**, New Delhi.
- Nagunoori Sainishitha. **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-India)**, Hyderabad.
- Parizat Rakshit. **Banaras Hindu University (BHU)**, Uttar Pradesh.
- Revuru Sai Vishnu Vardhan. **Centre for Economics and Social Studies (CESS)**, Hyderabad.
- Ritam Kumar Meddya. **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, Nālandā University.
- Ritika Ghog. **Remote Sensing Applications Centre**, Maharashtra.
- Shaik Mazhar. **Environment Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI)**, Hyderabad.
- Shambhawi Vardan. **School of Ecology and Environment Studies**, Nālandā University.
- Vaishnavi. **Indian Space Academy**, New Delhi.

### M.A. Dissertations: Buddhist Studies, Philosophy & Comparative Religions

- Ankit Kushwaha. **Historical Debate on the Authenticity of Mahāyāna Sūtras: Doctrinal and Textual Perspectives of the Nālandā Masters**. Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Anh Thi Kim Trinh. **The Buddha's Pedagogic Excellence: Philosophy and Methodology**. Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Ashin Zaw Tikarlikara. **Issa and Macchariya: Ethical Implications in Buddhist Teachings**. Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Bounphet Phet Phommavong. **Socially Engaged Buddhism: Promoting Youth Participation in Buddhist Practice in Laos**. Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Bui Thi No En. **Universal Monarch (Cakkavatti) and Political Authority**. Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Bui Thang Van. **Anatta: A Buddhist Approach to Self-Help**. Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Gopa, Ishey Angmo. **The Chöd Practice in Ladakh: Its Rituals and Philosophical Foundations**. Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Gunjan Rathore. **Eternal Dynamics of Consciousness**. Supervised by Professor G. Mishra.
- Hoa Ba Luu. **Augmenting Vietnam Pure Land Sukhāvātī Practices: A Case Study of Thich Tinh's Contribution**. Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Geshe Lungtok Sherap.
- Joey Boudthasith. **The Examination of Brahmavihāra and Their Correlation with Socio-Economic Rights in Laos**. Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Karma Dorji. **Ārya Nāgārjuna's Insights on Ethical Governance: Analysing Its Impact on Bhutan's Development Philosophy (GNH)**. Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Karma Wanda. **The Saptāṅga Practice in Mahāyāna Buddhism: A Critical Study of Its Philosophical Dimensions and Ethical Implications**. Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.

- Khamsinxya Soukhapanya. **Scriptural Commentary in the Nālandā Tradition: A Study of the Five-Point Analysis in Vasubandhu's Vyākhyāyukti.** Supervised by Geshe Lungtok Sherap.
- Thanh Ngan Nguyen. **Jīmūtavāhana and the Bodhisattva Ideal of Self-Sacrifice: Altruistic Dimensions in Śrī Harṣa's Drama Nāgānanda.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Trang Duong Thi Thuy. **Pratīyasamutpāda in Mahāyāna Tradition: An Approach to Inner and Universal Peace.** Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Trang Mai Le. **Dāna in Śrāvakayāna and Mahāyāna Buddhist Tradition: A Comparative Exploration.** Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Tran Thi Phuong. **Vedanānupassanā: A Doctrinal Inquiry into Its Role in Understanding the Four Noble Truths.** Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Lanh Thi Tran. **The Role of Reincarnation in Tibetan Buddhism: Exploring Cultural and Religious Perspectives.** Supervised by Geshe Lungtok Sherap.
- My Le Thi Nguyen. **Peace and Harmony: The Buddhist Approaches on Interfaith Interaction.** Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Phi Hoai Duong Thuong. **Protective Deities in the Śūraṅgama Mantra: A Comparative Study with Related Tantric Buddhist Texts.** Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Suipruaung Marma. **The Doctrinal Significance of the Satta Bojjhaṅga: A Study Based on Pāli Canonical Sources.** Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Somphone Louayyalath. **The Role of the Four Sangaha Vatthu in Leadership.** Supervised by Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.
- Soulideth Duangchansy. **Nāga Myths and Beliefs in Indian Religion and Culture: Exploring Their Influence on Lao Spiritual Practice.** Supervised by Geshe Lungtok Sherap.
- Twesha Khanijow. **The Theoretical Examination of the Ontology of "Self" and Application of Two Truths in Contemporary Ethics.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Vat Sivan. **Kuśala Caitasika and Buddhism and Jungian Positive Psychology: A Comparative Analysis.** Supervised by Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Ven. Indavamsa. **Resistance, Reform, and Religious Defiance: A Comparative Study of Neo-Buddhism in India and Mòpyar Gaing in Myanmar.** Supervised by Dr Pranshu Samdarshi.
- Ven. Vannasiri. **Monastic Education in Theravāda: A Critical Exploration with Special Reference to Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Thailand.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra.
- Vo Dinh Huan Ngo. **Buddhānussati in Theravāda and Sukhāvātī Pure Land Traditions: A Comparative Analysis.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Brenda H. X. Ly.

### M.A. Dissertations: Hindu Studies (Sanātana Dharma)

- Abhay Kumar Lal. **Kṣetra-Kṣetrajaña Vibhāgayoga: A Study.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Kumuda Prasad Acharya.
- Abhimanyu Singh Raghav. **Bhagavadgītā and Holistic Wellness: A Unified Approach.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra.
- Ankita Daima. **Scientific Exploration of Svapna from the Perspective of Indian Knowledge Systems with Special Reference to Yogasūtra and Upaniṣads.** Supervised by Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee.
- Bhakti Subhash Joshi. **Ānvīkṣikī: The Lamp for All Disciplines.** Supervised by Dr Kumuda Prasad Acharya.
- Gordana Jovanovic. **Advaita Vedānta, Mādhyamika and Absolutism.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra.
- Gunjan Rathore. **Eternal Dynamics of Consciousness.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra.
- Jyotika. **Yoga for Lifestyle Management: A Textual Interpretation.** Supervised by Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee.
- Lakshya Chauhan. **Jñāna-Karma Samuccaya: A Critical Study.** Supervised by Professor G. Mishra and Dr Kumuda Prasad Acharya.

- Pham Thi Kim Trinh. **A Study of Happiness: Perspectives of the Upaniṣads and Sutta Piṭaka.** Supervised by Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee.
- Sanjeev Kumar. **A Study of Consciousness with Reference to Avasthātraya and Samādhi.** Supervised by Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee.

### M.A. Dissertations: School of Languages and Literature/Humanities

- Ganga Gurung, Society, Crime, and Violence: **Female Criminality in Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.
- Garima Tripathi, **Memory, Identity, and Community in José Saramago's Blindness.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Jauza Munirah, **The World of Digital Literature: Atlas' Persona 3 as a Case Study.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.
- Laura M. Elizalde, **The Liminal Character, the Poet, and the Healer: An Explorative Study of Helen's Representation in Book 4 of the Odyssey.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Narada Chathuranga Shalinda Imbulegama I. G., **Description of Music in Vālmiki's Rāmāyaṇa.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Phra Jakkapan Komon, **Transformation of the Self: Buddhist Perspectives on Identity and Suffering in Kafka's The Metamorphosis.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.
- Pinky Mukta Das, **Perception of Tibet in the Travel Writing of Bimal Dey.** Supervisors: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra and Dr Pooja Dabral.
- Rizky Maylani, **Eka Kurniawan's Beauty Is a Wound: An Exploration of Oppression and Resistance through the Lens of Magical Realism.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.
- Sangay Wangchuk, **Bhutanese Soundscape: A Study of Popular Folk Songs and Modern Songs.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Shivadi Kumar Mishra, **Śāntarasa in the Mahābhārata in the Framework of Abhinavagupta's Hermeneutics in Locana.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.

- Sourav Kumar Saha, **Nāgārjuna's Theoretical Framework of Pratīyasamutpāda as an Interpretative Lens for Kafka's The Trial.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Sri Imawati, Kartini and Siti Walidah as **Heroines in Kartini by Abidah El Khalieq and Siti Walidah: Mother of the Indonesian Nation by Lilis Nihwan.** Supervisor: Professor Sushant Kumar Mishra.
- Tshewang Rinzin, **Voice of the Voiceless in Kunzang Choden's Dawa: The Story of a Stray Dog in Bhutan.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.
- Urmi Akter, **Han Kang's The Vegetarian: Body, Resistance, and Trauma.** Supervisor: Dr Mir Islam.

### Dissertation Projects: MBA Sustainable Development & Management

- Antora Ray. **Impact Assessment of Social Protection Programs in India (Bihar State-Level Schemes).** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Ashish Gaurav. **Integrating Natural Ecosystem Conservation Thinking in Business Strategies: A Cross-Sectoral Analysis.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Chhengleab Hoeun. **Green Economy Transformation in Cambodia: Challenges and Opportunities.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Hnin Nandar Wai. **CSR and Women's Empowerment in India: A Cross-Sectoral Analysis.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Joy Dep Protap Sinha. **Impact Assessment of Social Protection Programs in Bangladesh.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Kyaw Tun Aung. **Assessing the Effectiveness of Climate Change Policies on Climatic Impact Drivers in Myanmar.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Mathew Suon Mondol. **Impact Assessment of Social Protection Programs in Sri Lanka.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.

- Preeti Jha. **Opportunities and Challenges in the Voluntary Carbon Market: A Case Study from the Terai Region of Nepal.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Punarji G. Damboragama. **Evaluating the Strength of Sustainable Development Goals in Achieving Human Well-being.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Ren Kearin. **Impact Assessment of Social Protection Programs in Cambodia.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Rosmita Chhetri. **Gender Perspectives on Climate Change, Indoor Environment, and Water Quality in Thimphu, Bhutan.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Shobha V. Sujata. **Assessing the Alignment of MBA-SDM Curriculum with Sustainable Development Goals.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Shristi Konda. **The Role of Environmental Knowledge, Risk Perception, and Environmental Concern on Sustainable Consumption Behavior.** Supervised by Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry.
- Shruti Kumar. **Spatio-Temporal Mapping of Women's Employment Across Selected Indian States.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Yee Mon Soe. **Integrated Solid Waste Management in Yangon and Mandalay Regions: A Pathway Toward Clean Energy and Sustainable Development Goals.** Supervised by Dr Anand Kumar.
- Md. Ashrafuzzaman Ashraf. **Empowering Global Youth: Catalyzing Collaborative Change for Sustainable Development.** Internal Supervisor: Dr Anand Kumar. Host Organization: Connecting Dreams Foundation, New Delhi, India.
- Mohini Ratna Amvasta. **IndiQube ESG Reporting (BRSR, GRI).** Internal Supervisor: Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry. Host Organization: SimplyFI Softech, Bangalore, India.
- Vela Ratna Widyastuti. **Assessing the Eco-Friendliness of Collapsible Fish Traps in the Java Sea, Tuban, Indonesia.** Internal Supervisor: Dr Anand Kumar. Host Organization: WALHI, East Java, Indonesia.
- Vishnu Das M. **Measuring Smallholder Spice Farmers' Resilience to Hydrometeorological Extremes and Biological Hazards in a Changing Climate.** Internal Supervisor: Dr Anand Kumar. Host Organization: Samavit Vikas Pvt. Ltd., Noida, India.

### MBA Summer Internship (2024-26)

### MBA Corporate Experience (2024-25)

- Akash Yadav. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited, Noida.
- Aman Kumar. Atal Incubation Center – Bihar Vidyapith Foundation (AIC-BV), Patna.
- Anonya Paul. Connecting Dreams Foundation, New Delhi.
- Bappi Kumar Gupta. Atal Incubation Center – Bihar Vidyapith Foundation (AIC-BV), Patna.
- Bhavna Sinha. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Patna.
- Gautam Kumar Mishra. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Jagriti Pal. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Jini Biju Pullopilly. Indian Oil Corporation Limited, New Delhi.
- Karma Tenzin. Jigme Namgyel Engineering College, Bhutan.
- Mohaiminul Islam. CRY – Child Rights and You, Mumbai.
- Ngun Tha Thawng. In-house Project, Nālandā University.
- Pradeep Kumar. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.
- Adi Wijaya. Sustainable Humanitarian Supply Chain. Internal Supervisor: Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry. Host Organization: Lembaga Resiliensi Bencana, Muhammadiyah Disaster Management Center, Indonesia.
- Chibuze Peter Edeze. Medicine Wastage in Indian Pharmaceutical Industry Distribution Channels. Internal Supervisor: Dr Anand Kumar. Host Organization: RX Medico, Noida, India.
- Md. Asadullah. Social Impact and Community Upliftment. Internal Supervisor: Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry. Host Organization: Bharatiya Neeti Samvad Kendra (BNSK).

- Rivindana Priyamanjalee. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Sam Ei Phyu Zaw. Save the Children International Organization, Myanmar.
- Saurav Rauniyar. Connecting Dreams Foundation, New Delhi.
- Sejuty Saha. CRY – Child Rights and You, Mumbai.
- Sherab Tenzin. Bhutan Power Corporation Limited, Eastern Region, Bhutan.
- Shashank Kumar. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Patna.
- Shrabanti Chakraborty. SR Asia – CSR and Sustainability, New Delhi.
- Soubhagya Sharma. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Soumyajit Mukherjee. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Sreynich Keo. People Center for Development and Peace, Cambodia.
- Sunil Kumar Mahato. TATR Foundation, Government of Maharashtra.
- Tejas Gurao. Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur.
- Teguh Maulidan. College of Management, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan.
- Thida. Wah Wah Win International Company Limited, Yangon.
- Tun Kyaw Hlaing. Community Partners International (CPI), Myanmar.
- Tun Poly. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.
- Yuvraj. United Nations Global Compact Network India (UNGCNI), New Delhi.

▼ MBA Students from Different Countries Reflecting Diversity and Inclusivity



**Students' Publications and Conference Presentations: School of International Relations and Peace Studies**

- Chakraborty, Ananta, Sidharth S., and Kshitiz Maurya. **“Grievance Redressal and Dispute Settlement Mechanisms for Gig Workers.”** Paper presented at SANSAD-25, organized by the Indian School of Public Policy (ISPP), Hauz Khas, New Delhi, 2025.
- Choubey, Swetang. **“Mapping Bharat’s Significance in the Indo-Pacific.”** Paper presented at the International Geography Conference, organized by the Deccan Geographical Society at the Central University of South Bihar, Gaya, 2025.
- Choubey, Swetang. **“Evolution of Economic Corridors in South and Southeast Asia.”** Paper presented at the International Conference on Indian Knowledge Traditions and Sustainable Connectivity Vision: South and South-East Asia as Conduit for Regional Integration and Development, organized by the Department of International Relations,

University of Calcutta, and co-sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), 2025.

- Choubey, Swetang. **“The Struggle for South China Sea: Growing Tensions and Legal Challenges.”** GeojurisToday (blog), 2025.
- Choubey, Swetang. **“Exploring Additional Maritime Routes to Russia.”** Interns’ Corner, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), 2025.
- Khandelwal, Samridhi, and Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy. **“Leveraging India’s Cultural and Spiritual Diplomacy.”** Paper presented at the International Seminar on India’s Rising Soft Power: Strategic Dimensions and Global Outreach, held at the India International Centre, New Delhi, and organized by the Department of Gandhian and Peace Studies, Mahatma Gandhi Central University (MGCU), in collaboration with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), the Centre for Studies in International Relations, and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), 2025.
- Kumari, Monika. **“Whole-of-Nation, Whole-of-Sea: A Framework for Integrated Maritime**

**Security.”** Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS), 2025.

- Kumari, Monika. **Review of Ready, Relevant and Resurgent: A Blueprint for the Transformation of India’s Military** by General Anil Chauhan. Aviation & Defence Universe, 2025.
- Sharma, Richa. **“Exploring the Nexus between the Dark Web and Terrorism.”** International Institute of Sustainable Development and Public Policy Research (IISPPR) official website, 2024.
- Sharma, Richa. **“Building Resilient Supply Chains in the Global South: Lessons from India’s Strategic Connectivity Efforts.”** Paper presented at the National Conference on Public Policy in India and the Global South, organized by the Public Policy Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram, and supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, 2025.
- Yadav, Kushubu Kumari. **“India and South Korea Semiconductor Partnership: Strategic Synergy Amid US–China Rivalry.”** Interns’ Corner, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), 2025.



▲ Students from Myanmar, Nālandā University



# Clubs & Societies





## Chanting Club (Dhvani)

- Rooted in the ancient traditions of Pāli and Sanskrit recitation, Nālandā's Chanting Club is an initiative dedicated to the integrated study and practice of these sacred texts through Indian Classical Music. The act of chanting is more than mere recitation; it is a profound practice that engages the whole being, promoting memory and focused attention. The Chanting Club aims to revive Nālandā's timeless ethos by immersing students in the rhythmic, melodic, and spiritual heritage of these languages.

The chanting club seeks to weave these ancient sonic methodologies into our contemporary age, cultivating an understanding of both linguistic precision and aesthetic appreciation, as we work toward building a future that harmonises intellectual pursuit with cultural depth and contemplative practice.

## Cultural & Film Club (Abhivyakti)

The Cultural and Film Club (Abhivyakti) cultivates and showcases the artistic gifts of national and international students. Singing, recitation, drama and dance sharpen stagecraft, presence and confidence. In 2024–25 the club staged Foundation Day and Republic Day commemorations, ICCR-sponsored showcases and captivating cultural evenings. The Film Club presents monthly screenings of art cinema—often literary adaptations—followed by faculty-led discussions. Student hosts steer rigorous debate that trains close observation, analytical reading and reflective judgment.



The Cultural club in collaboration with ICCR hosted an evening of joint performance, featuring the Shobna Chanel dance troupe from the Fiji Island in February, 2024.



## Expedition Club

Nālandā University's Expedition Club organizes a sustainability trek to Hills around Rajgir, themed around Sustainable Living and Local Ecosystems. The events combine adventure with education through activities such as a treasure hunt, quiz, and a waste collection drive. The initiative fosters teamwork, environmental stewardship, and appreciation for the region's cultural and ecological heritage.

## Debate Society (DebSoc)

Though rooted in India, Nālandā's founding had wider and global implications due to integrated study of parā and aparā vidyā. The Nālandā art of debate ignited the pursuit of truth, testing ideas with razor-sharp precision, shaping thoughts, and influencing global philosophy. It fostered rigorous philosophical inquiry, transculturality, cultivation of ethical values, addressing environmental and sustainability concerns for our planet. This tradition, once thought lost, is being revitalized today. Our Debate Society (DebSoc) is a student-led initiative with a mission to re-live Nālandā's timeless ethos of equity, inclusion, participation and plurality—deeply rooted in its paramparā of tarka, vitarka and carcā.

The debate society aims to weave these timeless methodologies into the tapestry of our contemporary age, cultivating critical thinking, cultural exchange, and intellectual curiosity across diverse fields of knowledge, as we work toward building a more compassionate and promising future.



## Heritage Club

The Heritage Club celebrated 'International Heritage Week' in collaboration with the Archaeological Survey of India, with a series of engaging events to promote cultural heritage at both the university and local school level. The event included lectures by eminent speakers who shared their field experiences and perspectives on both tangible and intangible heritage, world heritage, archaeology, and cultural history. An inter-school storytelling and heritage quiz competition and an exhibition of artifacts/antiquities and photo exhibitions was hosted.



Indian and International students from Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and some African countries showcased their heritage under the theme "Everyone Carries Their Own Heritage," presented cultural objects, traditional food, textiles, and art objects in the Heritage Exhibition.





## Literary Club (Manthan)

Manthan, the Literary Club of Nālandā University, is a vibrant student–faculty forum dedicated to reading, writing, and reflective dialogue — inspired by the spirit of manthan, the creative “churning” of ideas into insight. The Club organizes Open Mic evenings, poetry and short-fiction readings, book discussions, author interactions, creative-writing workshops, dramatic monologues and theatre performances, and multilingual storytelling sessions (in Hindi, English, and regional languages). Open, respectful, and inclusive, Manthan is a space where words take wings, arguments find rigor, and voices evolve in harmony.



## Photography Club

The Photography Club of Nālandā University provides a creative platform for students to explore and express their perspectives through the lens. The Club encourages members to develop technical proficiency and aesthetic sensibility by engaging in activities such as photo walks, exhibitions, workshops, and discussions on photographic techniques.

Through hands-on learning and collaborative exploration, the Club promotes a deeper appreciation of visual storytelling, architectural and landscape photography, and the art of observation within and beyond the University campus.



# Nālandā Fraternity

## Residential Faculty



**Professor Abhay Kumar Singh**

Professor and Dean, SHS  
Specialisation: Ancient Indian History and Culture, Indo-Greek History, Ancient Indian Numismatics



**Dr Amita Satyal**

Visiting Faculty & Associate Professor Level, SHS  
Specialisation: Early Buddhist ideas and history; Environmental history; Ecological knowledge; Nature & materiality; Networks; Big history; Practice of history;



**Dr Anand Kumar**

Assistant Professor SMS  
Specialisation: Hydrology and water resource Management; Natural resource management, Environment sustainability



**Dr Brenda Huong Xuan Ly**

Assistant Professor SBSPCR  
Specialisation: Pāli Literature, Abhidhamma, Chinese Buddhism, Mahāyana Buddhism (Chinese and Vietnamese Buddhism)



**Dr Divya Sharma**

Teaching Associate SLL/H  
Specialisation: Yoga therapy with focus on wellness and wellbeing of Geriatric population, Aging and Health



**Dr Elora Tribedy**

Assistant Professor SHS  
Specialisation: Visual Culture in Pre-Modern South Asia and Southeast Asia, South Asian Archaeology, Archaeology of Buddhism in Asia



**Geshe Lungtok Sherap**

Teaching Associate SBSPCR  
Specialisation: Tibetan language and literature; Buddhist logic and philosophy



**Professor Godavarisha Mishra**

Professor & Dean SBSPCR  
Specialisation: Indian Philosophy, Advaita Vedanta, Buddhism, Sanskrit, and Western Hermeneutics



**Dr Jaishanker R Nair**

Professor & Dean SEES (Till November 2024)  
Specialization: Remote Sensing, Terrestrial Ecological Processes, Quantitative studies of traditional knowledge, Invasive Plant Ecology

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Residential Faculty



**Mr Kamble  
Dhammapal**

Teaching Associate  
SLL/H (Till May 2024)  
Specialization: Academic Writing,  
English Language Teaching,  
Integrating Local Languages,  
Cultures, and Literature



**Dr Kashshaf  
Ghani**

Assistant Professor  
SHS  
Specialisation: Medieval and Early Modern  
India; History of Sufism in India, Central and  
West Asia; Sufi rituals and practices; Indo-  
Persian History and Culture



**Dr Kishore  
Kumar Dhavala**

Associate Professor, SEES & Deputy  
Dean, International Relations  
Specialisation: Climate Change  
Mitigation, Energy Policies, Valuation of  
Natural Resources and the Blue Economy



**Dr Kumuda  
Prasad Acharya**

Assistant Professor  
SBSPCR, SLL/H  
Specialisation: Sanskrit Literature,  
Poetics, Prosody, Manuscriptology,  
Hindu Studies



**Dr Mir  
Islam**

Assistant Professor  
SLL/H  
Specialisation: World Literature, South Asian  
literatures in English, Representation of  
Consciousness in Fiction, Indigenous  
Environmental Literature, Narratives of Pain,  
Ecopoetics, Critical Thinking



**Dr Moonmoon  
Hiloidhari**

Teaching Fellow  
SEES  
Specialisation: Net Zero Roadmaps,  
Integrated Assessment Modeling (IAM)  
for Climate Policy, Life Cycle Assessment  
(LCA), AI & Data-Driven Sustainability  
Analytics



**Dr Muneer  
Ahmad Magry**

Teaching Fellow  
SMS  
Specialisation: Sustainable Livelihoods and  
Climate Change Interface; Rural  
Development and Public Policy; Corporate  
Sustainability & Social Responsibility



**Professor Panchanan  
Mohanty**

Visiting Professor & Dean (I/c)  
SLL/H (Till June 2024)  
Specialization: Core and Applied  
Linguistics, Language Endangerment  
Studies, Translation Studies



**Ven. Dr Pooja  
Dabral**

Assistant Professor  
SBSPCR & SLL/H  
Specialisation: Buddhist Philosophy,  
Psychology, and Practice, Madhyamaka  
and Abhidharma Philosophy, Buddhist  
Logic and Epistemology

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Residential Faculty



**Dr Pranshu Samdarshi**

Assistant Professor  
SHS/SBSPCR

Specialisation: Ancient Indian History and Philosophical Traditions (with a primary focus on Mahayana Buddhism); Tantric texts and traditions across India, Nepal and Tibet; Kashmir Shaivism



**Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**

Associate Professor, SHS/IS  
Coordinator, CBBS Deputy Dean (Student Welfare) & Deputy Dean, SIPS  
Specialisation: India's Foreign Policy, Bay of Bengal Region, Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean  
International Law



**Dr Rajeshwar Mukherjee**

Teaching Fellow  
SBSPCR

Specialisation: Indian Knowledge Systems, Yoga and Vedanta, Classical-Quantum Interface, Physics of Brain Waves, Mathematical Modelling of the Signatures of Consciousness & Consciousness Studies in Yoga and Vedanta



**Professor Sapna A. Narula**

Professor & Dean (O)  
School of Management Studies (Till June 2024)  
Specialization: Sustainability Management and Corporate Responsibility, ESG, CSR, Sustainable Business Strategy,



**Dr Satyanarayan Shashtri**

Associate Professor & Dean (In-Charge)  
SEES  
Specialisation: Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems; Disaster Resilience and Risk Reduction, Forecasting, Mitigation, and Management, Hydrogeology, Geomorphology, and Groundwater Exploration



**Dr Sayan Bhattacharya**

Assistant Professor  
SEES  
Specialisation: Environmental Biotechnology, Bioremediation, study of emerging contaminants and groundwater pollutants, Socio-environmental studies in the Himalayas



**Dr Seraphia Hietmann**

Associate Professor  
SBSPCR & SLL/H (Till June 2024)  
Specialization: Early Indian Buddhism and Buddhist philosophy, Abhisamayālaṅkāra and related scholastic texts



**Dr Shreesha Udupa**

Associate Professor  
SLL/H & SHS (Till January 2025)  
Specialization: Critical Humanities, Cultural History, Cultures of Memory, Digital Humanities, Cultural Studies



**Dr Shyam S. Phartyal**

Associate Professor  
SEES (Till March 2025)  
Specialization: Seed Ecology, Citizen Science, Forest Fire Ecology, Microclimate Ecology, Germination Ecology

# Nālandā Fraternity

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## Residential Faculty



**Dr Smita  
Singh**

---

Teaching Fellow  
SLL/H

Specialisation: Gender and sexuality  
in English Literature with a focus on  
health and illness narratives, Medical  
Humanities



**Professor Sushant  
Kumar Mishra**

---

Professor & Dean  
SLL/H

Specialisation: Translation Studies,  
Comparative Literature, Semiotics (Indian  
and European Traditions)



**Dr Tosabanta  
Padhan**

---

Teaching Fellow  
SHS

Specialisation: Field Archaeology,  
Prehistoric Archaeology, Rock art,  
Experimental Archaeology,  
Geoarchaeology, Ethnoarchaeology,  
Digital Archaeology

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Visiting Faculty



**Dr Abhishek  
Kumar**

University of Southampton (UK)



**Dr Aghila  
Sashidharan**

IIFM Bhopal



**Professor  
Ambika Zutshi**

Australian Catholic University



**Professor Amit  
Dey**

University of Calcutta



**Professor  
Anandi Pande**

IIM Lucknow



**Professor Arindam  
Chakraborty**

University of Hawaii &  
Ashoka University



**Professor Ashish  
Mathur**

Central University of Haryana



**Professor César  
Marolla**

Harvard University's Advisory  
Committee for Sustainability



**Dr Graham  
Sherbut**

Director of SoCha LLC  
(USAID, Zambia)



**Dr Gopal Sarangi**

TERI-SAS



**Ms Jayati Talapatra**

MDI and TERI-SAS



**Professor KTS  
Sarao**

University of Delhi

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Visiting Faculty



**Professor  
Mouloud Madoun**

ESSEC Paris



**Professor  
Mrinalini Saha**

IIMT Ghaziabad



**Dr Prajal Pradhan**

University of Groningen



**Professor  
Ravinder Kumar**

Jamia Millia Islamia



**Dr Rohit Sharma**

Food and Agriculture  
Organization (FAO), Rome



**Professor Sat  
Parasahar**

University of California



**Dr Srirangan  
Rajagopal**

CEO, uMobi Solutions (USA)



**Ms Simran Sinha**

Green Hydrogen Organisation,  
Switzerland



**Dr Sugandha  
Srivastava**

University of Oxford



**Dr Sunil Kumar**

University of Delhi



**Professor  
Vagish Shukla**

IIT Delhi

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Administrative & Support Staff



**Dr Ramesh Pratap  
Singh Parihar**

Registrar



**Mr V.R.  
Srinivasan**

Finance Officer



**Mr Nagendra  
Sharan**

Internal Audit Officer



**Mr Joy  
Chowdhury**

Executive Engineer (Civil)



**Mr Manoj  
Kumar**

Executive Engineer (Electrical)



**Dr S. Shyam  
Sunder Rao**

Deputy Librarian



**Dr Biswachintamani  
Ambika Prasad Pani**

Assistant Registrar  
(Academics)



**Md Arshad  
Iqbal**

Assistant Engineer (Civil)



**Ms Monica  
Ahuja**

Assistant Finance Officer



**Mr K. Seeta  
Rama Kumar**

Administrative Officer



**Mr Sudhir Kumar  
Pattanayak**

Administrative Officer



**Mr Aditya  
Ballabha Mohanty**

Administrative Officer



**Ms Swati  
Krishna**

Junior Engineer (Electrical)



**Mr Raj  
Aryan**

Junior Engineer (Civil)



**Dr L Vijay  
Bhaskar**

Assistant Librarian



**Mr Pushkar  
Kumar**

Junior Engineer (Electrical)

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Administrative & Support Staff



**Ms Jayeeta  
Majumder**

Assistant Librarian



**Mr Anil  
Kumar M.V.**

Senior Assistant



**Mr Sagar**

Senior Assistant



**Mr Prasoon**

Administrative Assistant



**Mr Promod  
Kumar Gupta**

Account Assistant



**Ms Abha  
Sethi**

Assistant



**Mr Mritunjay  
Pandey**

Assistant



**Mr Sunny  
Kumar**

Network & System  
Administrator



**Mr Mohammad  
Mohsin**

Assistant



**Ms Kumari  
Pragya**

Personal Assistant, VC Office



**Ms Richa  
Devyani**

Finance Assistant



**Mr Amarjeet  
Verma**

Junior Manager  
(Communications)



**Mr Pintu  
Kumar Singh**

Junior Assistant cum Typist



**Mr Sandeep  
Kumar Singh**

Junior Manager  
(Academic/Admission)



**Ms Priyanka  
Sinha**

Junior Assistant cum Typist



**Mr Aniket  
Kumar**

Junior Assistant cum Typist

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Administrative & Support Staff



**Mr Ashish Kumar**

Junior Assistant cum Typist



**Mr Munna Kumar**

Junior Manager  
(Technical Amenities)



**Mr Gowtham Kumar Reddy**

Junior Manager (Guest House)



**Mr Navin Kumar Upadhyay**

Assistant Officer



**Dr Hemant Manishi Shukla**

Assistant Archivist



**Mr Parikshit Narayan Suresh**

Office Assistant



**Ms Baani Arora**

Office Coordinator



**Mr Dhananjay Pandey**

Caretaker



**Mr Anuj Kumar**

IT-Technician



**Mr Agam Soham Kumar**

IT-Technician



**Mr Niranjana Kumar**

Plumber



**Mr Birbal Mahto**

Electrician



**Mr Raja**

MTS



**Mr Tej Pratap**

MTS



**Mr Vinod**

Office Staff



**Mr Arvind Kumar**

MTS

# Nālandā Fraternity

## Administrative & Support Staff



**Mr Rajender  
Singh**

MTS



**Mr Kaushal  
Kumar Ravidas**

MTS



**Mr Anand  
Kumar Malakar**

MTS



**Ms Priyanka  
Kumari**

MTS



**Mr Hira Lal**

Gardener

## Acknowledgement

The preparation of this Annual Report has been a collaborative effort. The University gratefully acknowledges the support of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Finance Officer, Deans, the following faculty members, staff, and students, among others, who have extended their support in compiling and reviewing the report: Dr Anand Kumar (SMS), Dr Elora Tribedy (SHS), Dr Kashshaf Ghani (SHS), Dr Mir Islam (SLL/H), Dr Muneer Ahmad Magry (SMS), Dr Pooja Dabral (SBSPCR & SLL/H), Dr Pranshu Samdarshi (SHS & SBSPCR), Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy (SIPS), Dr Satyanarayan Shashtri (SEES), Dr Tosabanta Padhan (SHS) and the Communication Manager.

## Designing Team



**Mr Soumyajit Mukherjee**  
(MBA Student, SMS)



**Mr Tejas Vinod Gurao**  
(MBA Student, SMS)



**Dr Elora Tribedy**  
(Assistant Professor, SHS)

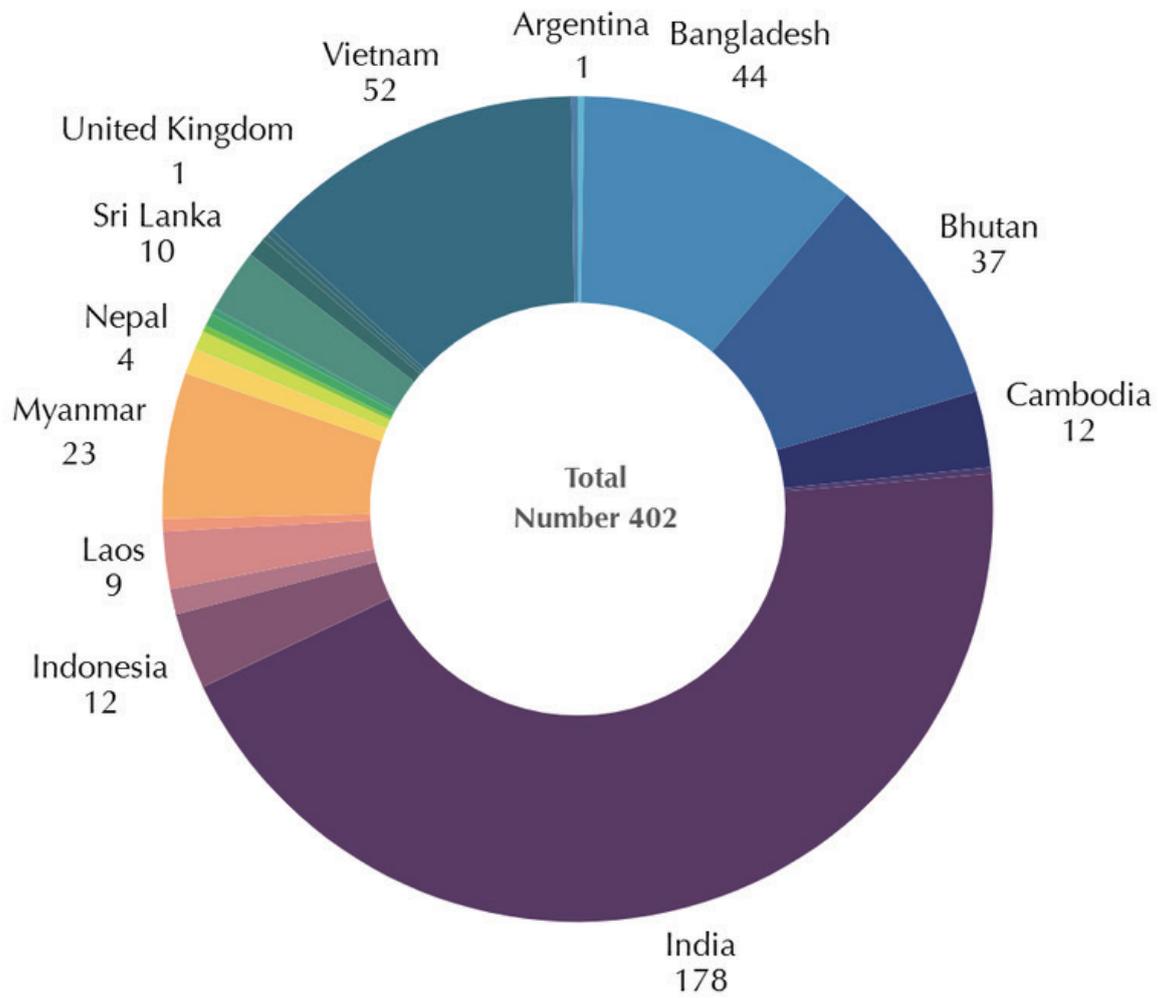


# BY THE NUMBERS

Country-wise Student Composition  
Program-wise Student Composition  
Students Graduated  
Dissertations/Corporate Experiences of Students  
Scholarships Offered  
Status of Students Enrolled in PG Programmes  
Post-Doctoral Fellows  
Global Doctoral Programme



# Country-wise Student Composition 2024-25



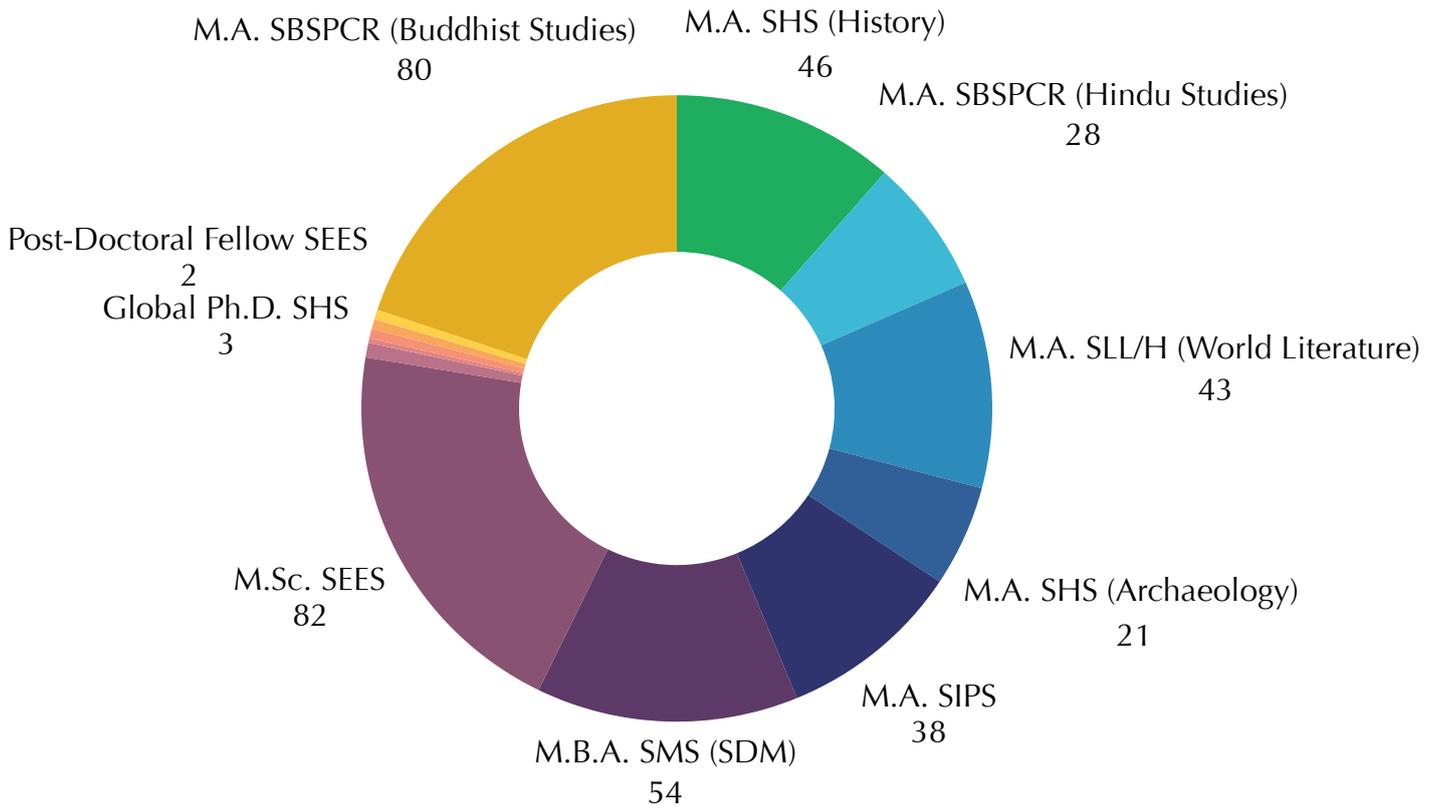
- Argentina
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Kenya
- Laos
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Republic of the Congo
- Serbia
- Sierra Leone
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- Vietnam
- Zimbabwe

# Program-wise Student Composition 2024-25



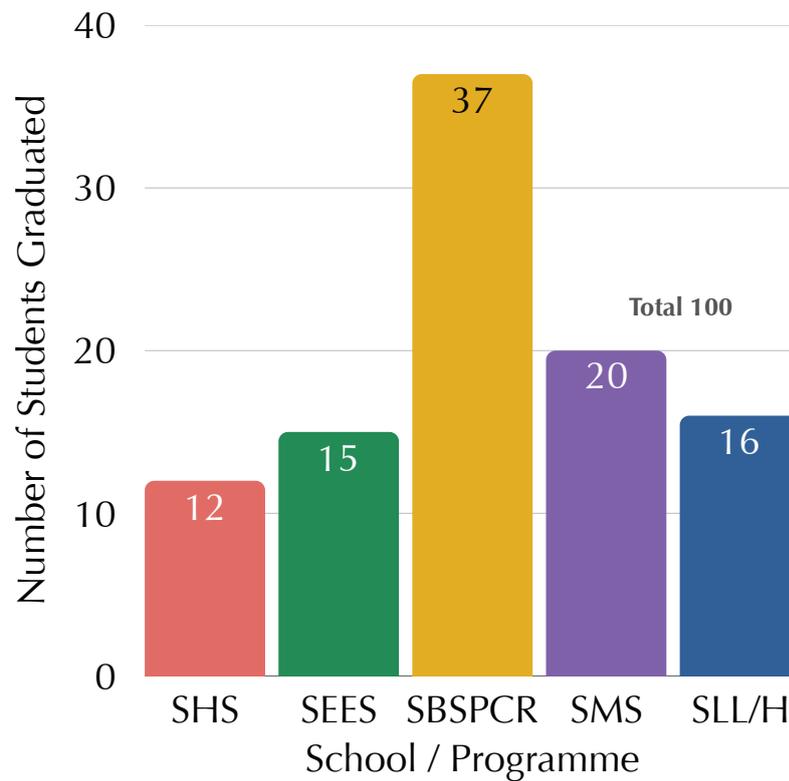
Overall Enrollment: Academic Year 2024 - 25

Residential Programmes (Masters & Doctoral)	402	Short Term Programmes (Certificates & Diplomas)	868	Total Number of Students	1270
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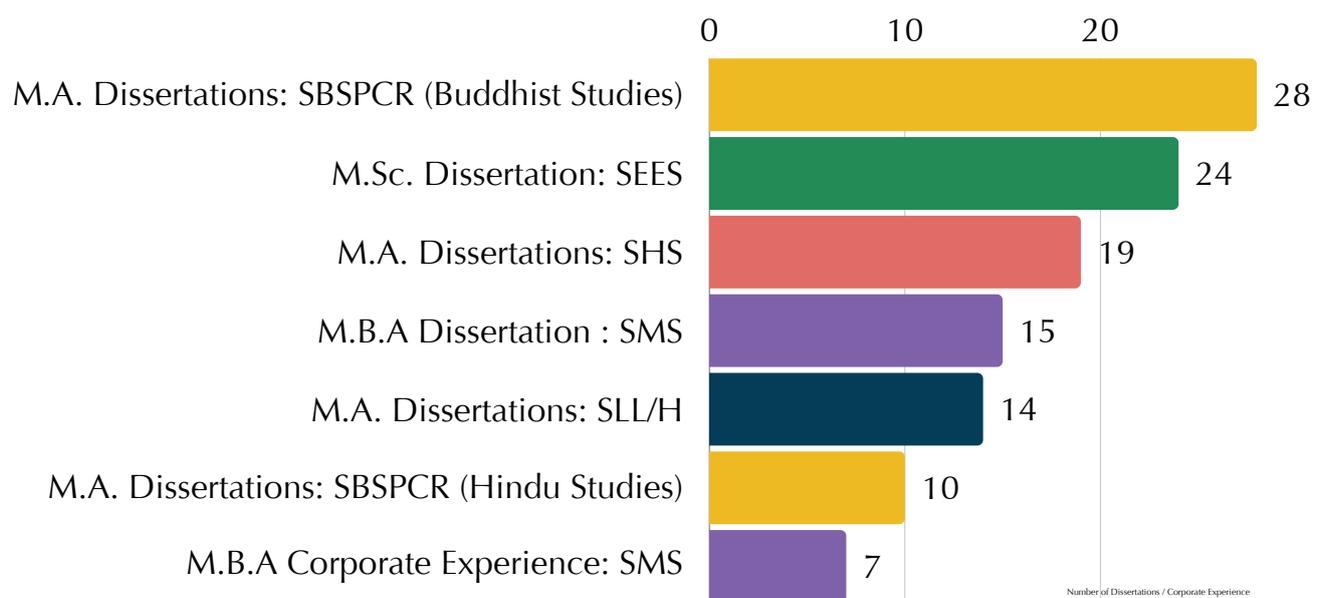


- M.A SBSPCR (Buddhist Studies)
- M.Sc. SEES
- M.A SHS (History)
- M.B.A SMS (SDM)
- M.A SBSPCR (Hindu Studies)
- Global Ph.D. SHS
- M.A. SLL/H (World Literature)
- Global Ph.D. SLL/H
- M.A SHS (Archaeology)
- Post-Doctoral Fellow SHS
- M.A SIPS
- Post-Doctoral Fellow SEES
- Global Ph.D. SBSPCR (Buddhist Studies)

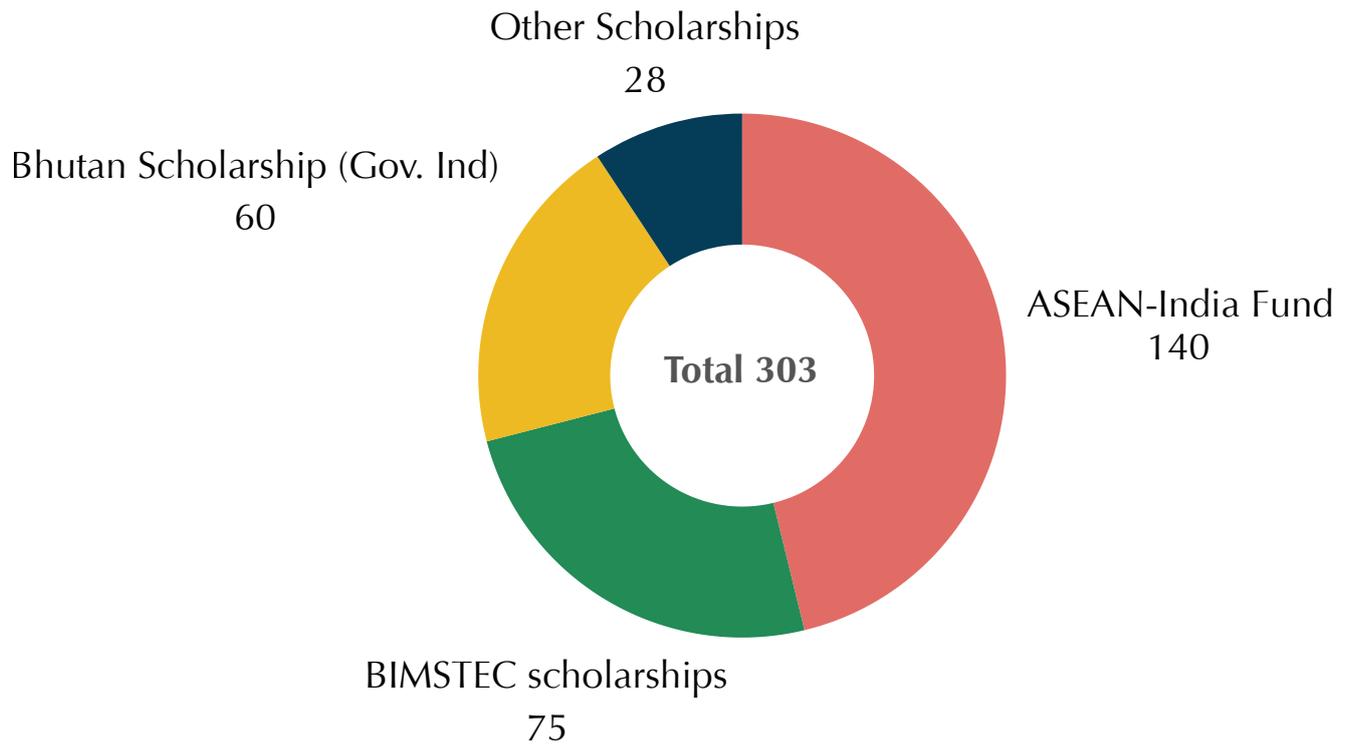
## Students Graduated 2024-25



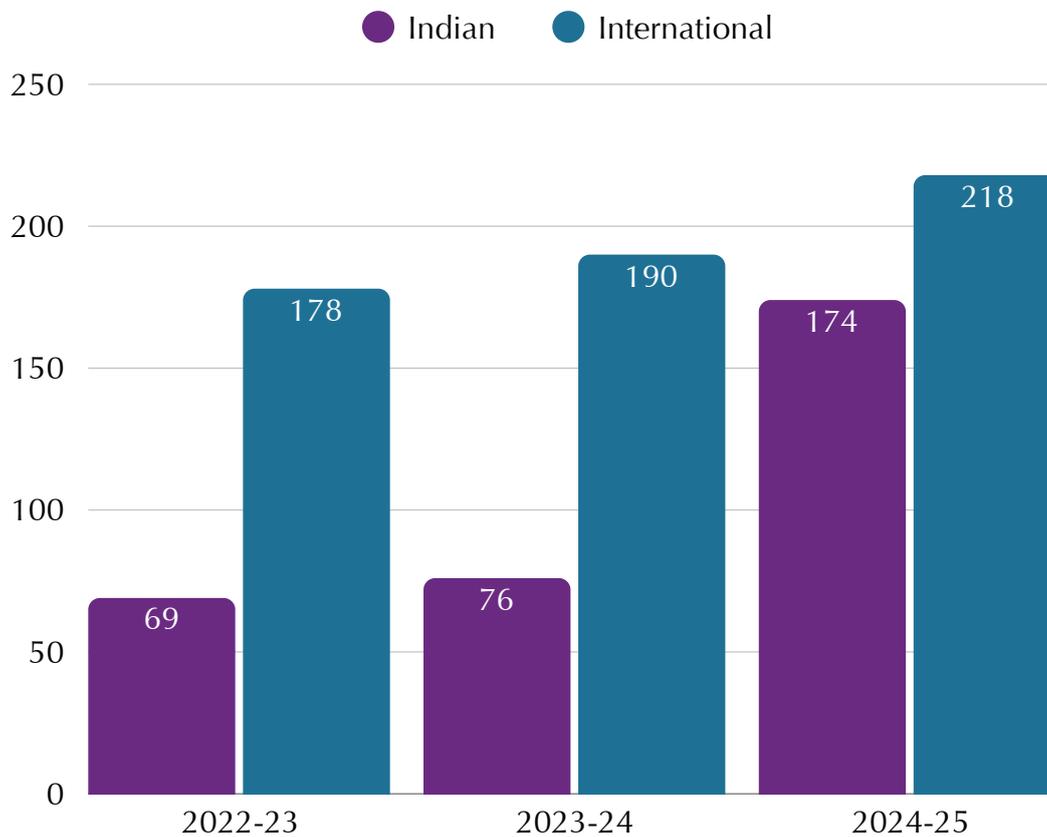
## Dissertations/Corporate Experiences of Students 2024-25



## Scholarships Offered 2024-25



## Status of Students Enrolled in PG Programmes (Last 3 Years)



## Post-Doctoral Fellows 2024-25

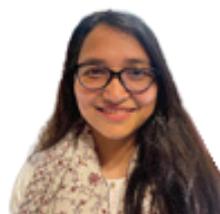
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India  
SHS  
Area: From Trade Winds to Festive Waves: Exploring Cultural and Commercial Ties Beyond the Bay of Bengal

**Azad Hind G. Nanda**

---



India  
SHS  
Area: Exploring the Concept of Balagraha in Ancient India

**Garima Khansili**

---



India  
SEES  
Area: Real Time Variation and Trend Analysis of the Different Air Pollutants Across India

**Vishnu Murari**

---



India  
SEES  
Area: An Empirical Assessment of Ecological Impacts of Invasive Alien Plants in India

**Rameez Ahmad**

---

## Global Doctoral Programme 2023-27

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**Do Quang Hoang Thang**

---

Vietnam  
SHS  
Area: Buddhism and State Policy in Early India: A Study Based on Canonical Literature



**Phra Dechkhajorn Phuthip**

---

Thailand  
SHS  
Area: Reviving Nalanda's Educational Legacy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mekong Region



**Wijesinghe Arachchige Lesha Piumi Dilhara**

---

Sri Lanka  
SHS  
Area: The Changing Perception of Avalokiteshvara in the Buddhist Art of Sri Lanka and the Relationship between India



**Le Hoang Cat Tram**

---

Vietnam  
SBSPCR  
Area: Cognitive Process of the Eight Consciousnesses in Yogacara Tradition



**Ho Thi Bich Phuong**

---

Vietnam  
SBSPCR  
Area: Buddhist Dharani Recitation in Vietnam: Texts, practices and Indian Linkages



**Esma Turkmen**

---

Turkiye  
SLL/H  
Area: Animal Allegories in Turkish and Indian Cultures

# ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

2024-25



# BALANCE SHEET

AS ON 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2025

<b>SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>CURRENT YEAR (₹)</b>	<b>PREVIOUS YEAR (₹)</b>
<b>CORPUS / CAPITAL FUNDS</b>	1	16,82,10,93,257.00	15,33,52,64,493.00
<b>DESIGNATED / EARMARKED / ENDOWMENT FUNDS</b>	2	25,76,98,507.00	23,96,75,098.00
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES &amp; PROVISIONS</b>	3	2,01,77,38,943.00	1,69,76,93,056.00
<b>Total (A)</b>		<b>19,09,65,30,707.00</b>	<b>17,27,26,32,647.00</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>	<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>CURRENT YEAR (₹)</b>	<b>PREVIOUS YEAR (₹)</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	4		
Tangible Assets		5,17,98,32,179.00	4,38,52,73,066.00
Intangible Assets		1,75,540.00	5,39,459.00
Capital Works-In-Progress		11,13,01,78,520.00	10,60,64,45,038.00
<b>INVESTMENTS FROM EARMARKED / ENDOWMENT FUNDS</b>	5		
Long Term		25,44,52,220.00	23,75,25,875.00
Short Term			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	6	2,41,47,10,563.00	1,79,42,53,324.00
<b>LOANS, ADVANCES &amp; DEPOSITS</b>	7	11,71,81,685.00	24,85,95,885.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>(19,09,65,30,707.00)</b>	<b>17,27,26,32,647.00</b>

Significant Accounting Policies 21

Contingent Liabilities and Notes to Accounts 22


  
V.R. Srinivasan  
Finance Officer

# INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2025

PARTICULARS	SCHEDULE	CURRENT YEAR (₹)	PREVIOUS YEAR (₹)
<b>(A) INCOME</b>			
Academic Receipts	8	6,73,50,995.00	4,42,69,868.00
Grants / Subsidies	9	37,41,44,834.00	39,77,67,439.00
Income from Investments	10	7,40,90,844.00	2,29,89,078.00
Interest earned	11	44,86,378.00	1,32,54,274.00
Other Income	12	1,98,15,470.00	1,71,00,072.00
Prior Period Income	13	15,68,874.00	7,30,484.00
<b>Total (A)</b>		<b>54,14,57,395.00</b>	<b>49,61,11,215.00</b>
<b>(B) EXPENDITURE</b>			
Staff Payments & Benefits (Establishment expenses)	14	16,27,64,930.00	16,54,02,317.00
Academic Expenses	15	3,57,29,547.00	3,77,15,051.00
Administrative and General Expenses	16	16,76,20,668.00	17,02,05,285.00
Transportation Expenses	17	25,87,498.00	45,87,446.00
Repairs & Maintenance	18	40,72,626.00	37,87,534.00
Depreciation	4	29,26,35,357.00	23,44,33,754.00
Other Expenses	19	3,81,049.00	1,95,306.00
Prior Period Expenses	20	9,88,516.00	1,58,74,500.00
<b>Total (B)</b>		<b>66,67,80,191.00</b>	<b>63,22,01,193.00</b>
<b>Balance Being Surplus / (Deficit) Carried to Capital Fund</b>		<b>(12,53,22,796.00)</b>	<b>(13,60,89,978.00)</b>

Significant Accounting Policies 21

Contingent Liabilities and Notes to Accounts 22



**V.R. Srinivasan**  
Finance Officer

# RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2025

	Amount in Rs.		Amount in Rs.	
	Current Year	Previous Year	Current Year	Previous Year
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
1) Opening Balance			1) Expenses	
Cash in Hand			a) Establishment Expenses	15,53,27,558.00
Cash at Bank	23,75,25,875.00	22,23,18,765.00	Salary & Allowances	3,35,02,558.00
Investment from Endowment Fund	85,39,29,005.00	35,55,60,521.00	b) Academic Expenses	-
Saving Account	92,22,10,634.00	36,78,73,521.00	c) Administrative Expenses	5,26,77,118.00
Deposits Account	-	-	Infrastructure	49,41,430.00
2) Grant Received	2,00,00,00,000.00	3,00,00,00,000.00	Communication	11,25,16,627.00
From Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India	-	-	Others	25,714.00
3) Earmarked/ Endowment Fund received	-	8,60,507.00	Finance Cost	2,19,871.00
4) Receipt against Sponsored Projects/Fellowship	-	1,75,000.00	d) Transportation Expenses	48,85,832.00
Project Nelly Scholarship	-	-	e) Repair & Maintenance	39,00,193.00
Professor Sumaina Singh Scholarship	-	-	f) Expenditure on Fixed Assets and Capital work-in Progress	26,31,654.00
Interest Received	1,21,05,792.00	2,21,64,578.00	Purchase of Fixed Assets	42,26,750.00
Interest on Advances	71,73,614.00	2,21,64,578.00	Capital Work-in-Progress	20,76,427.00
5) Interest Received	17,22,29,931.00	1,62,16,894.00	3) Earmarked/ Endowments Fund Investment	1,37,02,94,303.00
6) Receipt from ASEAN for Scholarship	5,09,09,424.00	3,20,45,223.00	4) Payments against Sponsored Projects	-
7) Academic Receipts	1,69,00,338.00	1,52,91,110.00	5) Payment of Interest to MEA	4,07,51,363.00
8) Income on Investments from	8,96,23,728.00	3,90,19,867.00	6) Deposits & Advances	-
Earmarked/ Endowments Fund-( Net)	25,11,365.00	12,15,993.00	i) Refund of Security Deposits	-
Other Investments	3,57,89,773.00	5,33,40,169.00	ii) Release of Withheld amount	16,55,11,855.00
9) Other Income	14,30,000.00	1,35,000.00	iii) Advance to Contractor	7,43,12,027.00
10) Other Receipts	15,68,874.00	9,56,596.00	iv) Advance to Employee	15,11,13,924.00
i) Security Deposits	15,21,806.00	17,377.00	v) EMD Released	53,932.00
ii) EMD	1,05,274.00	-	7) Payment of Stipend and Travel Expenditure to Students under Scholarship	30,00,000.00
iii) Prior Period Income	70,03,694.00	2,82,299.00	8) Payment of Statutory Taxes	1,72,35,259.00
iv) Caution money (Net)	-	-	9) Unspent balance of ASEAN Fund for batch 2020-22 & 2021-23 Refunded	1,63,79,843.00
v) Recovery of advance Employee	-	-	10) Unspent balance of DST Project-Long Term effect of Yoga - Refunded	12,24,32,306.00
vi) Receipt of Viability Gap Funding (VGF)	-	-	11) AINU Faculty Exchange Program - Travel & Other Expenses reimbursed	1,39,80,529.00
vii) TDS Refund Received	-	-	12) Refund of Caution Money	21,63,602.00
viii) ICCR- Valshali Festival	-	-	13) Refund of student Fee	4,09,936.00
ix) C-20 (Organized in Association with Nalanda University)	-	-	14) ICPR expenses	9,78,358.00
x) Community Engagement on Buddha	-	-	15) Payment of Ph.D Stupend	4,17,996.00
xi) Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University	-	-	16) Expenses towards Bharatiya Bhasa Samity	-
(Bharatiya Bhasa Samity)	-	-	17) Closing Balance	-
xii) Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)	5,00,000.00	1,16,360.00	Cash in Hand	-
xiii) Fellowship- Holistic Science Research	2,20,000.00	4,78,944.00	Cash at Bank	-
xiv) National Institute of Social Defence (NISD)	3,34,400.00	35,000.00	Investment from Endowment Fund	23,75,25,874.00
xv) Receipt of Affiliation Fee	4,50,000.00	38,97,81,344.00	Saving Account	85,39,29,005.00
xvi) Deshkal Society	-	17,49,17,633.00	Deposits Account	92,22,10,634.00
xvii) Research & Information System	-	10,34,87,563.00		
xviii) ICPR - National Lecture Series	-	-		
11) Recovery of Advance from Contractors	19,04,75,289.00	38,97,81,344.00		
12) Other deductions from contractors	5,78,31,610.00	17,49,17,633.00		
13) Recovery of Statutory Taxes	8,21,16,732.00	10,34,87,563.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,74,45,67,158.00</b>	<b>4,79,67,62,667.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,74,45,67,158.00</b>



## PM inaugurates Nalanda University campus in Bihar

The Hindu Bureau  
PATNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated the new campus of Nalanda University, an international university, close to the site of the ancient ruins of Nalanda at Rajgir in Bihar.

Asserting that Nalanda is a symbol of India's academic heritage and vibrant cultural exchange, Mr. Modi said, "Nalanda is the proclamation of this truth that books may burn in the flames of fire, but the flames of fire cannot destroy knowledge. Nalanda is an identity, respect, and pride."

### Wide representation

He expressed his happiness over the presence of representatives of many countries for the inauguration. He said the new campus proved that Bihar was on the path of development.

Parliament established Nalanda University through the Nalanda University Act, 2010.

The Act formed the basis for implementing the decisions arrived at the se-



**Glorious expanse:** The campus of Nalanda University has an amphitheatre that can seat 2,000 people. @CHRAGPANSANIX

suit of intellectual, philosophical, historical and spiritual studies" and at the fourth summit in Thailand in 2009.

It started functioning in 2014 from a makeshift location with 14 students and the construction work started in 2017.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and 17 Ambassadors from participating countries attended the event. Bihar Governor Rajendra Arlekar, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Deputy CMs Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Sinha were present.

Before inaugurating the new campus, the PM visit-

cellor Arvind Panagariya and Interim Vice-Chancellor Abhay Kumar Singh were present.

In his address, Mr. Modi said, "The renaissance of Nalanda University near its ancient ruins will introduce India's potential to the world. Nalanda is not just a renaissance of India's past, the heritage of many countries and Asia is linked to it. In days to come, Nalanda University will once again become a major centre for our cultural exchange."

The ancient Nalanda University was established in the 5th century and attracted students from all

## Beginning of golden era of India: PM at Nalanda

HT Correspondent  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**PATNA:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that the inauguration of the campus of Nalanda University, close to the ancient ruins of Nalanda, symbolised the beginning of the golden era for India and an introduction of the country's ability to recreate its glorious history.

"The books can be destroyed in flames, but not knowledge. A country that protects its human values knows how to recreate its history," he said after inaugurating the sprawling 455-acre state-of-the-art campus of the university. He said he was fortunate to be in Nalanda within 10 days of the start of his third term and he viewed it as a good omen.



PM Modi at the ruins of ancient Nalanda University in Bihar. ANI

Modi earlier visited the ruins of the ancient Nalanda University, which are said to have been destroyed by Bakhtiar Khilji. The new Nalanda University was conceived as an icon of Asian renaissance and the voice of an Enlightened Asia. Bihar governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, chief minister Nitish Kumar, external affairs minister S Jaishankar, his deputy Pavitra Margherita, heads of mis-

continued on >7

## R-Day tableau to showcase Nalanda univ's revival

Fayal Hami  
@timesofindia.com

**Patna:** After a wait of eight years, Bihar will showcase its tableau at the Republic Day, 2025, parade on Kartavya Path in New Delhi. The theme of the state's tableau is the glorious history of the ancient Nalanda University and its revival with the setting-up of a new campus near the ruins.

The officials of the IPRD told this newspaper that it is essentially aligned with the Govt of India's theme, 'Samrith Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas'. "With our tableau, we will showcase how the Bihar and central govt have jointly worked on the revival of our ancient educational institution, Nalanda University. We will highlight both the Nalanda ruins and the new university campus," he said.

According to sources at the IPRD, proposals were sent to the Centre by state information and public relations departments, following which multiple review sessions took place in New Delhi with an expert committee under the defence ministry. The committee, comprising experts from different fields like art, culture, music and dance, held four to five meetings to

**Theme of tableau:** History and revival of Nalanda University  
**Selected after 8 years**  
**Last theme selected in 2016:** Champaran Satyagrah of 1917  
**Selection criteria:** Visual appeal, impact, idea, music and degree of detailing



**ANCIENT NALANDA UNIVERSITY**

According to its website, Nalanda was the first residential university of world, founded by emperor Kumaragupta in 475CE. The ruins of the ancient Nalanda University is a UNESCO World Heritage site. A new campus of Nalanda University, located near the ruins, was formally inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in June.

The ancient Nalanda University, the ruin of which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, was the first residential variety of world, founded by emperor Kumaragupta in 475CE. This year, a new campus, located near the ancient university's heritage site, was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June. After inaugurating the campus, the PM said that the revival of Nalanda will mark the beginning of the golden age of India.

Before this, Bihar's tableau was last selected in 2016, when the theme was Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran Satyagrah. Nikhil Anand, national general secretary of the BJP OBC Morcha, said, "Bihar has a glorious past and its historical-cultural legacy is appreciated globally. It has been a land of knowledge and awakening. We are happy that the tableau of Bihar is going to be part of next year's Republic Day parade in Delhi. We have a lot to feel proud of ourselves as residents of Bihar."

Before being shortlisted, the state's design underwent several modifications and refinements. "The selected agency has been empowered with an expert committee to work on the fabrication of the tableau. The work on the fabrication of the tableau has already started. Altogether, 15 states have been selected for the display of tableaux during the R-Day Parade in New Delhi. The letter from the Centre was received here last Saturday," an official said. The tableaux are selected after several rounds of examination, including a thorough analysis of their theme, artistic distinctiveness and originality, expressive innovation, concept, design and visual impact.

## The Indian EXPRESS 28.01.2024



**Nalanda University Celebrates the 75th Republic Day**  
Nalanda University, the new avatar of ancient seat of learning, joyously celebrated India's 75th Republic Day today. On this occasion, Nalanda community that encompasses students from more than thirty countries, witnessed the unfurling of the tricolour by Vice Chancellor (Interim) Prof. Abhay Kumar Singh. Prof. Singh, in his address, reflected on India's historical achievements and its unique ability to integrate cultural diversities.

Prof. Singh, expressed, "This festival is a celebration of the strong foundation of India's democracy. The sacred land of Bihar is the birthplace of the basic concept of democracy and here on the historical soil of Rajgir, Nalanda is once again giving shape to the renaissance of the Indian knowledge tradition". Prof. Singh described India's culture as a rare model of unity in diversity. He added that that strengthening the foundation of Nalanda and revitalizing its ethos would pave the way for a harmonious and peaceful coexistence. Highlighting the importance of holistic education, Prof. Singh outlined the university's commitment to inspiring and nurturing students as ambassadors of peace and harmony as Nalanda strengthens its foundations.

## The Telegraph 11-08-2024

### Sitar Recital by Pandit Kushal Das Captivates Nalanda University Students

Celebrating the commencement of the new academic session and induction of new batch of students, Nalanda University SPIC MACAY chapter hosted a sitar recital by the renowned Sitar maestro Pt. Kushal Das. Accompanying him was the celebrated tabla player from the Banaras Gharana, Mr. Ujjwal Bharti. This classical music event took place in the university's Sushma Swaraj auditorium.



Pandit Kushal Das began his soulful performance with an evening raga Charukeshi, starting with an alap and subsequently presenting the intricate instrumental facets of sitar music. The event witnessed the attendance students from over 25 countries. Organized as part of the new academic session, this event was conducted by the SPIC MACAY chapter of Nalanda University. Addressing the newly admitted students, Vice Chancellor (I) Prof. Abhay Kumar Singh emphasized the

unique academic and cultural experience that Nalanda University offers. He said that at Nalanda, students learn about the importance of shared cultural heritage through the vibrant, multicultural environment. Highlighting the program's significance, Prof. Singh remarked, "The rich tradition of Indian classical music remains vibrant in India today. Such events contribute to the holistic development of our students, making them more sensitive and better individuals. We are grateful to SPIC MACAY for providing our students with the opportunity to appreciate Indian classical art forms." SPIC MACAY (Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) was established in 1977 by Padma Shri awardee Pandit Ram Prasad...

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## Nalanda University is poised to boost Study in India initiative

The research-driven campus is home to six schools, attracting 190 international students and 76 Indian students in full-time residence as per the last academic session

**Research-driven campus**  
The university is home to six schools, attracting 190 international students and 76 Indian students in full-time residence as per the last academic session. The campus is spread over 455 acres and is home to a large library, a museum, and a research center. The university is also home to a large number of faculty members and students from various countries.

**Research opportunity**  
The university offers a wide range of research opportunities for its students. The university is home to a large number of research centers and is also home to a large number of faculty members who are experts in their respective fields. The university is also home to a large number of students who are interested in research.

**International students**  
The university has a large number of international students. The university is home to a large number of students from various countries and is also home to a large number of faculty members who are experts in their respective fields. The university is also home to a large number of students who are interested in research.

**Research opportunity**  
The university offers a wide range of research opportunities for its students. The university is home to a large number of research centers and is also home to a large number of faculty members who are experts in their respective fields. The university is also home to a large number of students who are interested in research.

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# “Nalanda is not just a name

It is an identity, an honor, a value, a mantra, a pride and a saga...

नमो नालंदा

*PM Modi at Nālandā University Campus Inaugration  
19 June, 2024*

