

The Sentinel

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'Traditional knowledge system losing significance due to modernization'

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TINSUKIA, Aug 31: "Traditional Knowledge or Indigenous Knowledge (TK/IK) system which was the livelihood of our ethnic communities for centuries, is gradually losing its significance under the impact of modernization. After it has been realized that traditional resources are under threat from both external and internal factors, different global forums started evolving mechanisms to protect, safeguard and propagate values of TK," observed Prof Alak Kumar Buragohain, Vice-Chancellor of Dibrugarh University, while inaugurating the two-day UGC sponsored national workshop on the topic 'Traditional Knowledge-its values and Conservation' at Tinsukia College, which concluded on Wednesday.

Organized by the Department of Zoology in collaboration with Citrus Research Station, Tinsukia and EdEn-an environmental NGO, the workshop was attended by 57 participants from colleges, universities, research institutions and traditional practitioners from Northeast India.

Addressing the gathering as keynote speaker, Prof Debjani Roy, advisor, Quality Council of India, New Delhi and former



Director TR Centre, IGNOU, dwelt at length on the present initiatives of QCI towards Voluntary Certification Scheme (VCS) for Traditional Community Health Practitioners (VCSTCHP). In her address, Prof Roy, while detailing the concept said that the VCS would assist traditional health practitioners living in rural and indigenous communities to get themselves assessed against a Minimum Competency Standard framework which has the flexibility to accommodate diversity of knowledge and skills of the TCHPs across the country in various streams of traditional healthcare practices.

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