

2-day nat'l seminar on 'Border Communities of Western Arunachal' commences

RONO HILLS, Mar 5: A two-day national seminar on 'Border Communities of Western Arunachal Pradesh' organized by Rajiv Gandhi University's History department began at the RGU's mini auditorium here today. Delivering the keynote address, Prof (retd) Imdad Hussain, Department of History (NEHU) gave an exhaustive background of the McMahon Line and spoke about the history of the frontier state as a buffer zone during the colonial era. He encouraged social scientists and researchers from the State to carry out a specialized study on economy and social change. He said: "To achieve a better understanding of the history of the western communities of Arunachal Pradesh, it is equally important to study the cultural history of Tibet." RGU Pro-VC Prof Amitava Mitra congratulated the History department for being the only department to be recognized under UGC- Special Assistance Programme and for signing an MoU with the University of Missouri, USA, in 2017. While delving into the demography and history of the district formation in the state, he highlighted the problems and challenges faced by the border communities of Arunachal Pradesh. Prof (retd) A C Sinha, Department of Sociology (NEHU) urged the young scholars "to explore beyond their own communities and study the interface between their neighbours and different societies which would allow them to talk about their own society with authority." Earlier, Prof Sarah Hilaly, head of History deptt, introduced the western border communities to the august gathering. Prof Tana Showren, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences while highlighting the importance of the two-day national seminar argued that most of the work previously done on the tribal communities were by foreign anthropologists and researchers who lacked sufficient knowledge about the native dialects and jargons wherein crucial and significant details may have gotten lost. In this connection, he encouraged the young scholars to use their indigenous knowledge system and come up with credible work about their own culture.

1. News published in: - ECHO OF ARUNACHAL
2. On 06 March 2020.
3. Type: Regional newspaper.
4. Place : Itanagar Arunachal Pradesh