

The logo of Lala Rural College is a circular emblem. The outer ring is purple with the text 'LALA RURAL COLLEGE' in white. Inside this is a white ring with 'LALA' in purple. The center features a purple spiral. Below the circle is a purple banner with the Sanskrit motto 'विद्यया ऽमृतमश्नुते' in white. The text 'ESTD : 1964' is also visible in white on the lower part of the purple ring.

Departmental Profile

English

Lala Rural College, Lala

Overview of the Department :

The Department of English was introduced since the inception of the college way back in 1964. Initially, classes were held at Lala H.S & M.P.School. Later on, the college had its own premises in its present location. During the years of pre-deficit phases, the department had no permanent teachers and classes were run by part-timers on a minimum honorarium /honorary basis purely in the interest of students who were mostly first generation of learners. The college came under deficit-grants-in-aid system in the year 1975 and then the UGC scale of pay was awarded to the teachers. The college came under Provincialisation Act in 2005 along with other colleges of the state.

Honours in the Department was opened in the late eighties. In spite of dearth of teachers efforts are always on to meet the demands of students and stake-holders in the best possible manner.

List of teachers who served in the department at different stages is as follows:

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|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Sri P.K. Ghose | Initial stage |
| 2. Sri S.K. Bhattacharjee | „ |
| 3. Sri N Bhattacharjee | „ |

4. Sri D. Chakraborty	1975-1977	left
5. Mr A.H. Mazumder	1975-2006	retired
6. Sri T.K. Daspurkayastha	1982-1983	left
7. Ms Shyamali Kar	1984-1986	left
8. Ms M.Y. Laskar	1986-1989	left
9. Ms Fatima Begum Laskar	1998-1999	left
10. R.S.Bhattacharjee	1978-2014	retired
11. Shyam Singha	2012-2015	left
12. Smaranjit Singha	2013-2014	left
13. Ms Supriya Singha	2014-2016	left

At present, the department has currently three faculty members working against sanctioned posts :

1. Dr. Tanuj Kumar Dey 1991-
2. Dr. Manas Sinha 2007-
3. Ms. Anamika Khersa 2016-

1. Dr Tanuj Kumar Dey, Associate Professor and Principal i/c as well has been working at this college since 1991. His area of interest is folklore. He obtained his Ph.D. degree from Assam University in 2016. His thesis was centred on the identity formation through oral narratives: a case study of the Koch-Rajbanshis of Barak Valley. He has a good number of research activities to his credit.. Dr. Dey has participated

in a number of Seminars and Workshops on National as well as International level held in different institutions and presented papers. He also contributes write-ups in the college magazine on a regular basis. He edited the inaugural issue of the research oriented book with an ISBN, *Endeavour*. He has also submitted a report to the UGC on his MRP on the Rajbanshi Community of Barak Valley and another one at College on The Assamese of Barak Valley. In 2011, he submitted the report of Minor Research Project to UGC, NERO, Guwahati on '*The Role of Folklore in Constructing Identity: A Study of the Koch-Rajbanshis in Southern Assam*'. The study was postulated with the objectives of exploring the various expressive forms, both verbal and material, of the Rajbanshis of Barak Valley and how such self-reflective expressions help to form a distinct identity. The focus was on identification, documentation and description of folklore as an instrument which exhibited the persistent consciousness of the members of the community that they constitute and preserve a separate identity.

2. Dr. Manas Sinha, an Assistant Professor, has been working since 2007. His area of interest is comparative literature. He contributes regularly to journals and magazines. He served as the editor of *Endeavour*, an ISBN research based book

issued from the college. He edited the college magazine *Adhunatan* to which he contributed with poems in both Bengali and English. Dr. Manas Sinha obtained his Ph.D. degree from Assam University in 2015. The title of his thesis was “In the context of Irish Nationalism W.B. Yeats’ poetry and its influence upon the poetry of Jibanananda Das”. The research work was interdisciplinary in character reflecting inputs of both Bengali and English literatures. Before that he was awarded M.Phil degree in 2009. The research work was on Indian English literature, the title of which was “Indian ethos and values in Nissim Ezekiel’s poetry”. He has participated in various seminars, workshops and contributed with write-ups to research-based books and journals.

3. Ms Anamika Khersa has been serving as an Assistant Professor in the department since 2016. Her area of interest is North-East literature, Popular Culture.

Objectives:

-) To introduce students to the tools of literary scholarship.
-) To train students in communication skills in English.
-) To strengthen the abilities of students to analyses all forms of literary expressions.
-) To prepare students for careers and higher educations.

-) To create among students a profound understanding of language and literacy, the value of critical reading and effective writing, and the richness of literature, past and present.
-) To provide students with sophisticated writing and critical thinking skills useful not only in the academy but also in the world at large.

Vision:

-) To envision the department as a centre of academic excellence and professional expertise.
-) To foster knowledge and a love for literature and language among students.
-) To impart a multicultural and multilingual dimension to the study of English language and its literature.
-) To provide appropriate pedagogies including class size and environments (classrooms, equipment, resources, and technology) to realise an ideal teaching learning process.
-) To convey knowledge of literary history, literary forms, literary theory, and a wide variety of texts and a wide

array of vocabularies and practices used to consider them.

-) To generate opportunities for students to explore identity, values, manners, and morals.

Departmental activities :

Lala Rural College is a bi-faculty College (Arts and Commerce) and teachers of the Department have to take classes in both the Streams since students study English as a subject. The Department also offers Honours in addition to papers like Alternative English, Elective English and General English. With the introduction of the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in the session 2018-2019, besides teaching general course, discipline specific course (DSC) the department teaches communicative course styled as AECC.

Honours students have been showing good results and passed students are working in Colleges, schools and other Government establishments. Special and additional classes for deserving students are another important activity of the Department. Students' assessment is done periodically through class tests and unit tests. Introduction of Smart Board in class rooms has made the class discussions focused, rewarding and interesting from students' stand point. In addition, the

Department conducts periodical Seminars; group Discussions on issues both academic and nonacademic. Resource persons from outside the college are also invited in significant seminars and important issues. In the academic session 2011-12, three Seminars were held at the initiative of the Department. One was organized with Political Science and History Department of the College, held at the Seminar Hall of the College on **“The Role of Women in Panchayat System: Issues and Challenges”**. It was held on 5th September 2011 where both students and teachers of the College actively participated, highlighting the role of women in rural perspectives and the change of scenario over the years. The second Seminar was held on 25th December, 2011 on **“The Poems of Tagore and Social Reality”**. It was a purely academic exercise where participants highlighted various issues concerning the society and Tagore’s writings which still inspires and acts as model on various challenges confronting the society even after 150 years of his appearance. The Seminar was chaired by Prof. R. S. Bhattacharjee of the Department. The third Seminar was held on 11th February 2012 on **‘Cultural Turn of English Studies.’** It was an important Seminar and since it touched some important issues on current Pedagogy of English Studies, two important members from outside the college were invited to make the work lively, interesting and focused. Dr. R.P.Biswas HOD of

the Dept. of English of Assam University and Mr. Santosh Rn Chakraborty, HOD, Dept. of English, Cachar College, Silchar were invited as resource persons since both of them take keen interest on the issues under discussion.

Flair has been the departmental journal for quite some time. It can be called the mouth-piece of the Department since the creative urge of the teachers and the taught of the Department is expressed through it. It is the outcome of the long felt requirement for such a platform which could inspire, encourage and create a habit, particularly students of advanced studies, to express their virgin thoughts that can make a great difference in the hours to come.

The Department of English is provided with a large number of books ranging from epic works of ancient Greek poets to the present development of cultural turn of English Studies. As such side by side of canonical works, the Department contains books of creative writers as well as books on Cultural Studies. In addition, collected reading materials from different sources make the library experiences a rewarding one. The Department has provision of lending books to students and faculty members of other Departments as well.

The Department is provided with a Computer with Broadband facilities that enable the faculty members of the

Department to perform day to day activities. The advanced students in particular have been taking full advantage of internet since many of the materials prescribed in the Syllabi are not easily available.

Teaching Methodology:

-) Teacher student interaction.
-) Classroom/ Group discussion.
-) Writing assignment.
-) Paper presentation on topics discussed in the class.

Courses offered:

-) HS Course (Both Arts and Commerce).
-) Three Year (six semesters) Degree Course for Both Arts and Commerce streams (old course)
-) Three Year (six semesters) Degree Course for Both Arts and Commerce streams (CBCS)

SWOC analysis of the department :

Strength :

-) The department has both Pass and Honours courses.
-) The department has its own library.
-) The department is equipped with references and text books helpful for students and faculty members as well.

Weakness:

-) Teacher-student ratio is approximately 01:80 in case of pass course for which when a faculty member is on leave, replacement to cover up classes properly is at times not possible.
-) Due to the rural background coupled with lack of proper infrastructure of the locality surrounding the college, sufficient number of quality students opt for colleges of big cities. The department, of course, miss such students.

Opportunity:

-) As the subject of English is a compulsory one for pass course, the department can reach out to students hailing from different ethnicities and often a good number of students come out who are competitive in studies as well as in nature and the spirit of their competitiveness is well circulated among others. The teachers of the department can direct their spirit to the desired effect for the betterment of their careers.
-) As the department boasts an abundance of students, the departmental seminars, interaction sessions, group

discussion can be organised conveniently as tools for enhancing their overall skills in studies.

Challenges:

-) The department takes up challenges positively to upgrade results of the students of both pass and Honours courses.
-) The department has the challenge to enhance the skill a student is required of to face the competitiveness on way to securing the result-oriented performance leading to a career-building.
-) The department looks up to the challenge to generate the modern infrastructural and technological facilities for the students.

Future Plans :

-) The department plans to publish a departmental Wall magazine periodically.
-) The department plans to take necessary steps to publish departmental journal regularly.
-) The department also plans to organize guest lectures on relevant topics for the betterment of students.
-) The department plans to apply to U.G.C. or other funding organisations to make it convenient to organize a national seminar in the department.

) To promote the study of worldwide literature written in English and extend the understanding of how the English language is intertwined with the various cultures of those who speak and write it.

) To balance the needs of general education: communication, diversity, global perspectives, interdisciplinary studies.

