



# NERIWALM NEWSLETTER



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**North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management  
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation,  
Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India,  
Tezpur, Assam - 784 027.**

## Achievement Review Committee (ARC) Meeting

The 3rd Achievement Review Committee (ARC) Meeting at NERIWALM was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, under the chairmanship of Dr. M. K. Sinha, with the presence of Sunil Kumar and N. K. Gontia. The Director, NERIWALM, presented the Action Taken Report highlighting key achievements, followed by interactions with faculty and officials. ARC members visited the campus and infrastructure facilities, interacted with students and staff, and participated in a stakeholders' meeting with farmers and officials, enabling constructive discussions and valuable feedback.



## 14th Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting

The 14th Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting of NERIWALM was held on 12th March 2026 under the chairmanship of Dr. Uzzal Mani Hazarika, Director, NERIWALM, with members participating in both physical and virtual modes. During the meeting, the Institute's achievements for 2025–26 and the Training Calendar for 2026–27 were presented. The session concluded with valuable discussions and constructive suggestions from the members aimed at further strengthening the institute's research, academic and training activities. The meeting also provided a platform for reviewing ongoing research, academic initiatives and identifying future priorities.



*Jawaharlal Nehru (the first Prime Minister of India) : "The Ganga, especially, is the river of India, beloved of her people, round which are intertwined her racial memories, her hopes and fears... She reminds me of the snow-covered peaks and the deep valleys of the Himalayas."*

# EVENTS

## NERIWALM at Mega Farmers' Fair, AAU Jorhat

NERIWALM participated in the Mega Farmers' Fair organized by Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat on 9th-10th January 2026, showcasing its key activities, research initiatives, and training programmes. The stall attracted significant interest from farmers, students, and visitors, fostering interaction and knowledge sharing. The event strengthened the institute's engagement with the farming community and its commitment to capacity building.



## Republic Day Celebration



The event was graced by the presence of the Director, along with officials, staff members, their families, and children. The celebration commenced with the ceremonial hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the National Anthem, creating a sense of pride and unity. The celebration concluded on a joyful note, fostering a strong sense of patriotism and collective responsibility among all present.

## NERIWALM at Vikshit Bharat @ 2047

NERIWALM, in collaboration with the Central Bureau of Communication, participated in the Vikshit Bharat @ 2047 Programme held during the 95th Annual Session of the Srimanta Sankardev Sangha from 6th to 8th February 2026 at Jyoti-Bishnu Samanway Kshetra, Dhalibil, Jamugurihat, Sonitpur, Assam. The programme served as an important platform to promote awareness on sustainable water and land management, aligning with the vision of a developed India by 2047.



*Sir Arthur Cotton (a British general and irrigation engineer who is often revered as the "Father of Irrigation" in parts of Southern India) : "The irrigation of the land is the first duty of the engineer in a country where the monsoon is a fickle master."*

## EVENTS

### Vaccination Camp on Japanese Encephalitis

NERIWALM conducted a vaccination camp against Japanese Encephalitis on 20 February 2026. The initiative aimed to raise awareness and ensure preventive healthcare among staff and stakeholders, contributing to a safer and healthier community. The camp witnessed active participation and was supported by healthcare professionals. Such initiatives reflect the institute's commitment towards promoting public health and well-being.



### Seva Sankalp Resolution



On 2nd March 2026, the Seva Sankalp resolution was read out by the staff of NERIWALM, marking a meaningful occasion that reaffirmed the institute's collective commitment to service, social responsibility, and community welfare. The pledge reflected a shared vision to work with dedication, integrity, and unity for the betterment of society, strengthening the spirit of public service within the institute.

### Visit of IAS Officer Trainees (2025 Batch) under Winter Study Tour

IAS Officer Trainees of the 2025 batch visited NERIWALM, Tezpur as part of their Winter Study Tour on 10 March 2026. The programme included an institutional presentation, interactive sessions with faculty and officers, and a visit to key infrastructure facilities, providing insights into water and land management practices, research, and training activities undertaken by the institute.

The visit facilitated meaningful knowledge exchange and offered the trainees a practical understanding of water resources management in the region.



A day of learning, sharing, and empowering, NERIWALM celebrated International Women's Day 2026 on 8<sup>th</sup> March, through a Skill Swap Workshop – “Give to Gain.” The programme brought together inspiring voices, livelihood-oriented skills, and meaningful interactions, encouraging women to learn from each other and grow together.



## Swachhata Pledge



The Swachhata Pledge was administered at NERIWALM to mark the inauguration of Swachhata Pakhwada 2026 (16–31 March 2026). Led by Dr. Uzzal Mani Hazarika, Director, NERIWALM, the pledge was taken by all staff members, officials, and outsourced personnel, reaffirming the institute's commitment to cleanliness, hygiene, and environmental responsibility.

## World Water Day 2026

World Water Day 2026 was celebrated at NERIWALM with a workshop on the theme “Water and Gender”, highlighting the crucial link between water access and gender equity. The programme was graced by Dr. Milanjit Bhattacharyya, Secretary (Retd.), PHE Department, Govt. of Assam, as the Chief Guest, and Shri Madhab Chandra Nath, Executive Engineer (Retd.), PHE Department, Tezpur, as the Resource Person. A plantation activity was also undertaken, reinforcing the institute's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.



# IN CAMPUS TRAINING PROGRAMMES

## Decision Support System for Flood Risk Analysis Using Flood Modelling and GIS Tools

19-30 JAN, 2026

26 OFFICERS

This advanced technical program is designed specifically for technical officers and engineers involved in disaster management. It equips them with the expertise to utilize specialized hydraulic software and geospatial data to analyze flood patterns and implement data-driven risk management strategies for the region.



16-17 FEB, 2026

## Soil Health Management

40 FARMERS



This session focused on the vital intersection of sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation for the farming community. Participants received practical knowledge on soil nutrient testing, fertility maintenance, and the adoption of organic practices to ensure long-term crop productivity.

2-7 MARCH, 2026

## Water, Land, and Springshed Management Overview

7 OFFICERS

Designed as a comprehensive induction course, this program provides officers and departmental staff with a foundational understanding of integrated resource management. It placed a special emphasis on the technical and community-based strategies required for protecting and rejuvenating critical springsheds in hilly terrains.



## Right to Information Act, 2005: Legal Framework, Procedures and Effective Implementation

11 MARCH, 2026


37 OFFICIALS



The session was delivered by Shri Agam Aggarwal, Deputy Director, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India, who provided valuable insights into the legal framework and practical aspects of the RTI Act, 2005, along with real-life examples to enhance understanding of effective implementation. The session was informative and highly engaging for the participants.

# OFF CAMPUS TRAINING PROGRAMMES

## Advanced Techniques in Irrigation Management

 8-9 JAN, 2026



 AIZAWL

 30 OFFICERS



The curriculum focused on optimizing water use efficiency through advanced scheduling and distribution techniques tailored for the unique challenges of hilly agricultural terrains. By implementing these modern delivery systems, the training aimed to minimize water conveyance losses and ensure equitable distribution across complex topographical landscapes.

## Water Conservation and Water Management

 12 JAN, 2026  LAKHIMPUR  66 FARMERS


 13 JAN, 2026  ITANAGAR  36 FARMERS

A grassroots-level training session designed for the farming community to promote localized water security. The program empowered farmers with practical methods for rainwater harvesting and the sustainable management of local water bodies to ensure crop resilience.


Tailored for farmers in Arunachal Pradesh, this outreach workshop highlighted both indigenous and modern water conservation strategies. Participants engaged in interactive sessions to learn how to maintain year-round water availability for diverse cropping systems, particularly in high-altitude zones.



## Sustainable Climate Resilient Management of Irrigated Agriculture

 15-16 JAN, 2026

 ITANAGAR

 30 OFFICERS

This program provided departmental officers with technical expertise in building climate-adaptive irrigation infrastructure. The focus was on implementing resilient management practices to protect agricultural productivity against the increasing unpredictability of climate patterns and extreme weather events. The session also encouraged the development of regional policy frameworks that prioritize long-term ecological balance alongside agricultural expansion.



## Participatory Irrigation Management

5 FEBRUARY, 2026

KOKRAJHAR

171 WUAS & OFFICERS



A large-scale awareness initiative aimed at Water User Associations (WUAs) and field officers. The training promoted a collaborative governance model, encouraging local stakeholders to take an active leadership role in the operation, maintenance, and equitable distribution of irrigation water. The curriculum also included conflict resolution strategies to help WUAs manage water sharing and infrastructure repair responsibilities more effectively at the village level.

## Micro Irrigation - Troubleshooting and Maintenance

10 MARCH, 2026

GOMATI, TRIPURA

40 FARMERS

A hands-on technical workshop held at KVK Gomati specifically for farmers currently utilizing micro-irrigation kits. The session focused on practical fault identification and the routine upkeep of drip and sprinkler systems to prevent clogging and ensure long-term mechanical functionality. Farmers were given live demonstrations on how to clean filters and repair lateral lines using simple, cost-effective tools available locally.



## Water Conservation and Water Management

11 MARCH, 2026

SEPAHIJALA, TRIPURA

42 FARMERS

This session focused on site-specific water resource management for the local farming community. The training provided farmers with practical skills in water-saving technologies and sustainable usage patterns to improve overall agricultural efficiency in the district. Experts highlighted the specific hydrological conditions of Sepahijala, teaching participants how to optimize pond management and groundwater usage.



On March 6, 2026, Dr. Pradip Kumar Bora officially concluded his tenure as Director of the institute. Having served his full deputation period for 5 years, Dr. Bora leaves behind a legacy of dedicated service. We extend our deepest appreciation for his leadership and the expertise he shared with the team.



We are pleased to welcome Dr. Uzzal Mani Hazarika, Professor of Water Resource Engineering, as he assumes the responsibilities of Director. We look forward to his guidance and are confident the organization will thrive under his expertise. We are honored to have his leadership at the forefront.



## Student's Corner

- 4th-semester students Miss Kalpataru Bora and Miss Akshita Bora completed a 30-day internship at CGWB-NER, Guwahati, focusing on water quality assessment and analytical instrumentation.
- Alumni from the 2021–2025 batches were officially conferred their degrees during the 5th ASTU Convocation on January 18, 2026, celebrating their successful program completion.

## Publications

- Thakur, R., Sharma, S. B., Bora, P. K., Hazarika, S., & Hazarika, U. M. (2026). Hydrogeochemical assessment of groundwater in vegetable belts of north bank Brahmaputra plain, Assam. *Journal of Applied Bioanalysis*, 11(11s), 1035–1052.
- Devi, C. V., Hazarika, U. M., Bhuyan, C., & Buragohain, B. J. (2026). Towards effective governance in irrigation management for enhancing people's participation. *International Journal of Rural Management*.

## Other Contributions by Employees

### Dr. Luna Moni Das (Assistant Professor, Social Science)

1. Served as a Resource Person (online) in the National Field Workshop on Geo-Hydrological Survey Using USV and UAV Technologies (GHSUUT) on the topic "Methods of Geochronology & Research Opportunities", organized by the Department of Geography, Nagaland University, Lumami, on 11 March 2026.
2. Participated as a Resource Person (offline) in the ICSSR-sponsored National Seminar on "Prevalence of Traditional Knowledge System for Climate Change Vulnerability and Change in Livelihood in the Purvanchal Himalayas", held at the Department of Geography, Sankardeva Mahavidyalaya, Pathalipahar, Lakhimpur, Assam, on 13 March 2026.
3. Invited as a Speaker on All India Radio, Tezpur, on the occasion of World Water Day 2026. The programme was broadcast on 22 March 2026 at 9:30 PM on FM 102.4 MHz, Akashvani Tezpur.

The momentum of the pakhwada was sustained through a series of intensive drives from 16-31 March, targeting key infrastructure, utility zones, and residential areas across the institute. Activities focused on the campus parking area, the Pump House, and the Guest House surroundings, while subsequent efforts covered campus roads, residential approach areas, and the entrance of the New Laboratory Building. The cleaning operations also extended to the Auditorium's lawn and its backside, as well as the Director's Quarter and its surrounding periphery. Throughout the campaign, these physical cleaning drives were seamlessly integrated with routine biowaste collection from all major facilities.



## Workshop on “Swachhata aur Pani” & Mass Plantation Drive

On 30th March 2026, a workshop was organized featuring expert talks and interactive sessions. The event was graced by Dr. Mukul Ch. Bora, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of North Lakhimpur University, who provided valuable perspectives on the intersection of sanitation and water management.

The pakhwada successfully culminated on 31st March 2026 with a mass plantation drive. Royal Palm saplings were planted along the periphery of the New Laboratory Building, enhancing the campus's aesthetic and ecological value.



**नरेंद्र मोदी (प्रधानमंत्री) "स्वच्छ भारत केवल एक अभियान नहीं, बल्कि एक आदत होनी चाहिए।"  
(उन्होंने अक्सर पानी बचाने और गंगा जैसी नदियों को स्वच्छ रखने को राष्ट्र सेवा का पर्याय बताया है।)**

## Director's Desk

The first quarter of 2026 has been a period of rigorous evaluation and strategic planning for NERIWALM. By focusing on internal reviews and high-level advisory meetings, we have ensured that our technical and academic roadmaps are precision-aligned with the needs of the North Eastern Region.

A significant milestone was the 3rd Achievement Review Committee (ARC) Meeting held on 25th February. The committee's assessment of our Action Taken Report, combined with their direct interactions with faculty and local farmers, provided a transparent look at our impact on the ground. This was closely followed by the 14th Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting on 12th March, where we finalized the Training Calendar for 2026-27. These meetings are vital to our governance, as they transform constructive feedback into actionable priorities for the coming year.

Our commitment to social and environmental advocacy was equally prominent this quarter. For International Women's Day 2026, we moved beyond traditional celebrations to host a "Give to Gain" Skill Swap Workshop, focusing on the practical exchange of livelihood-oriented skills among women. We also marked World Water Day 2026 with a focused workshop on "Water and Gender," where experts explored how equitable water access is a fundamental component of gender equity.

Institutional responsibility remains a core pillar of our daily operations, evidenced by the Swachhata Pakhwada 2026 campaign held from 16th to 31st March. This initiative went beyond routine cleaning to include a technical workshop on "Swachhata aur Pani" and a mass plantation drive of Royal Palms, ensuring our campus development remains ecologically sound.

As we look toward the 2026-27 academic year, NERIWALM remains a dedicated hub for technical excellence and inclusive service.

### EDITORIAL BOARD

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The North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management (NERIWALM) is under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India to provide capacity building, undertake research and provide technical services to the line departments in order to manage water and land for improving agricultural production and socio-economic status of the people in North East India.

The Institute caters to all the eight states of North Eastern Region of India namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The technical expertise's of the Institute is also reach out to other part of the country and neighboring countries specially South East Asian countries.



**Director**

**NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF WATER AND LAND MANAGEMENT**

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