## **INTERNATIONAL FOSSIL WEEK, 2022**

Department of Applied Geology, Dibrugarh University organized a National Webinar on "FOSSIL



FOR SOCIETY: EXPLORING THE PAST FOR FUTURE" (Series 1) on the occasion International Week in association with Palaeontological Society of India from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2022 to commemorate the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the 75<sup>th</sup> vear of india's independence. On behalf of North East chapter, Dibrugrh Unversity initiated to organize the

fossil week and seven lectures in total were delivered by eminent palaeontologists of international



repute. The organizing committee comprised with representatives from Nagaland University, Mizoram University, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Assam University, Silchar, Oil India Limited, Duliajan, ONGCL, Jorhat and Palaeontological Society of India. On 18<sup>th</sup> October on the first day of the fossil week lecture series Prof. Kalpana Deka Kalita, Co-coordinator

of NE chapters welcome the Guest Speaker Prof. Ashok Sahni, Emeritus Professor, FTWAS, FASc, FNASc, INSA Senior Scientist, DN Wadia Medal recipient, Prof. Jiten Hazarika, Vice Chancellor

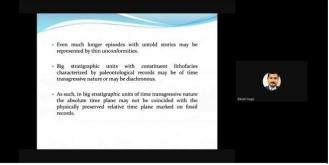
Dibrugrh University, registered participants and other guests to the lecture. In the inaugural speech Chief Guest Prof. Jiten Hazarika spoke on the educational importance of fossils for the society and formally declared the national webinar open. Prof. Ashok Sahni, delivered the first lecture of the series on the topic "Indian Fossils: Their beauty and value". Prof. Sahni mentioned about



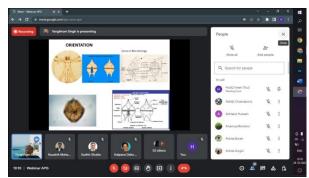
various fossils that are reported from India with its scientific and educational importance. A large number of participants attended the lecture. On 19<sup>th</sup> October, Prof. Bikash Gogoi from the Department of Geological Sciences, Gauhati University delivered the second lecture of the series

on "Palaeontological records for lithofacies analysis: its implication and limitations". From practical experiences as a geologist Prof. Gogoi mentioned the limitations he faced and what are

the implications to solve the purpose. On 20<sup>th</sup> October Prof. Kalpana Deka Kalita from the Department of Applied Geology, Dibrugarh University delivered the 3rd lecture of the series on the topic "Meghalaya Shelf and Upper Assam Shelf: Micropalaeontological Evidence in Late Palaeocene and Early Eocene".



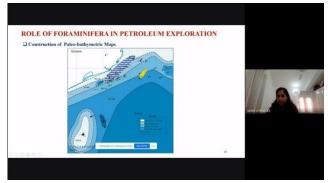
In her lecture Prof. Kalpana mentioned the different palaeodepositional setups which are observed based on identified microfossils from the Meghalaya Shelf and Upper Assam Shelf. Prof.



Yengkhom Raghumoni Singh from the Department of Earth Sciences, Manipur University, delivered the 4<sup>th</sup> lecture of the series on **'Applications of Palynology in Geology".** Prof. Raghumoni elaborately explained the up to date information of the various applications of palynology in geological sciences. On 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2022 Ms. Maya V. Panicker, Chief Geologist,

ONGCL, Jorhat, Assam delivered the 5<sup>th</sup> lecture of the series on the topic "Foraminifera and it's

applications in Hydrocarbon exploration". Being an experienced palaeontologist working in oil industry for a long period Ms. Panicker explained the various applications of foraminifera in hydrocarbon exploration with case histories. Prof. Sunil Bajpai from the Department of Earth Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee delivered



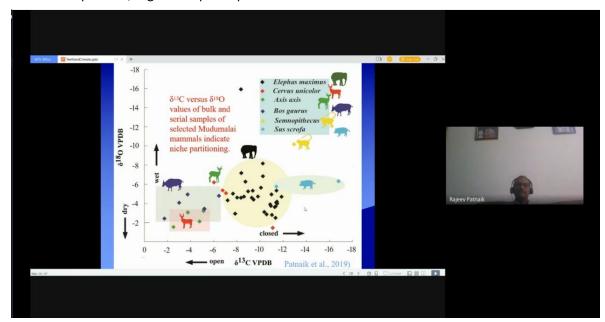
the 6th lecture of the series on "India's northward drift: evolutionary and biogeographic insights



from recent discoveries of fossil vertebrates" on 21st October, 2022. In his lecture Prof. Bajpai mentioned how the vertebrate faunas help to establish the northward drift of India with many examples from his research findings. Prof. Rajeev Patnaik from the Centre of Advanced study in Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh delivered the 7th,

the last lecture of the series on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2022 on "Fossil teeth as palaeoclimatic indicator".

Prof. Patnaik explained elaborately about fossil teeth and how different palaeoclimates can be interpreted with the help of teeth. Immediately after the lecture of Prof. Patnaik, the valedictory session was organized. Coordinator of the webinar Prof. Kalpana Deka Kalita presented the report of the webinar. On behaif of the participants Mr. Pranjal Pradip Barua, Geologist, ONGCL and Mr. Premjit from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun shared few words. Dr. Sanjai Kumar Srivastava, Department of Geology, Nagaland University and also an organizing committee member spoke few words on the lectures delivered by palaeontologists from different parts of the country. On behalf of Palaeontological Society of India Dr. Sudhir Shukla, Vice President of the Society and former GM (Geology), ONGCL extended thanks to all the Guest Speakers, participants, Department of Applied Geology, Dibrugarh University and other organizing members from different universities of North East India, Oil India Limited, Duliajan and ONGCL, Jorhat. It is worth mentioning that all the seven lectures were attended by large number of guests apart from the registered participants. On behalf of host organization and organizing committee Dr. Diganta Bhuyan, Head, Department of Applied Geology, Dibrugarh University proposed vote of thanks to the seven speakers, registered participants and others who attended the lectures.



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