



SECOND CIRCULAR

**46TH INCA ANNUAL CONGRESS
(INDIAN NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION)
AND
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON
SMART CARTOGRAPHY FOR A SUSTAINABLE
COMMON FUTURE
NOVEMBER 19 - 21, 2026**

Last Date of Submission of Abstracts extended up to 22nd September

*Interested students pursuing post-graduate studies in geography
and allied disciplines can also submit abstracts for both oral and
poster presentation*

*Best Paper Prize with a Certificate in every Technical Session &
One Best Poster Prize with a Certificate*



Organised by
**Department of Geography
GAUHATI UNIVERSITY
[NAAC A+ ACCREDITED]
Guwahati - 781 014 (Assam, India)**



With Academic Collaboration of
Commonwealth Geographical Bureau



INVITATION

The 46th International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA) will be held this time at Guwahati, Assam from 19th November to 21st November 2026. The Congress is going to be hosted and organized by the Department of Geography, Gauhati University, Guwahati with focal theme “Smart Cartography for a Sustainable Common Future”. This annual academic event of the INCA shall provide a platform to discuss the research findings of various contemporary environment, resources, population and development issues of global, national and regional concerns undertaken through the application of emerging geospatial technologies including smart cartography. With this objective the Executive Committee of the INCA and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of the Congress cordially invite all researchers, scholars, administrators, development practitioners and policy makers involved in understanding, mapping and managing diverse issues confronting the planet earth and associated role of emerging geospatial technologies to present their research outcomes and actively participate in the discussions and proceedings of the 3-day long event.

This announcement highlights the background of the Congress encompassing the focal theme and sub-themes, main components of the event, about INCA, LOC and academic collaborator, about the venue location, mode of submitting abstracts of papers and payment of registration, etc. We hope that with your active participation the Congress will offer a truly inspiring, engaging and learning experience and provide an opportunity for future networking and collaboration.

FOCAL THEME OF THE CONGRESS

SMART CARTOGRAPHY FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMON FUTURE

Cartography, traditionally the art and science of map making with rich history of development spanning more than two thousand years, has contributed significantly in mapping the location-specific realities behind the diverse natural and human phenomena including the resources across the globe for human welfare. The advancement of space and electronic science and technology during the last one century revolutionized the entire process of map-making for spatial decision-support by way of transition from analog to digital cartography. The role of geospatial technologies, particularly remote sensing and geographical information system, is found to be quite significant in understanding and mapping the changing environment, economy, society and polity of the world and its different parts and the associated challenges of degradation, disparity, inequity, deprivation and conflict in accurate, real-time and multi-dimensional perspectives with the objective of attaining desired sustainability for a harmonious living with a common future. The digital cartography is further upgraded into smart cartography by way of dynamic representation and analysis of complex and ever-changing geographical reality by integrating GIS, Big Data, cloud computing, machine learning and artificial intelligence to visualize and assess the complex interactions across environmental, economic and social domains towards attaining goals for sustainable development with a common future among all people and places across the globe. In view of this Smart Cartography occupies an important place in matters of all spatial planning exercises for sustainable inclusive development. In view of this, Smart Cartography occupies an important place in matters of all spatial planning and governance for sustainable inclusive development.

November 19 – 21, 2026



SUB-THEMES

1. Smart Cartography supported by geospatial technologies for attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
2. Role of Geospatial Technology-based Smart Cartography for Viksit Bharat
3. Application of Smart Cartography towards achieving National Missions of India
4. Geospatial Technology-based mapping for disaster risk reduction and emergency response planning
5. Smart Cartography for geo-governance and policy support
6. Drone and UAV-Based Applications for Real-Time Mapping
7. Exploring Advanced Cartographic Methods Using GeoAI and ML Technologies
8. Recent trends in Digital Cartography and Space Technology for spatial mapping
9. The Future of Cartography/Digital Cartography for thematic mapping
10. National Geospatial Policy 2022 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Indian context
11. Role of Smart Cartography for natural and human resources mapping
12. Geospatial Technology-based mapping for urban management and smart city development
13. Geospatial Technology-based smart cartography for fostering sustainable agriculture, food security and green economies
14. Geospatial Technology-based innovative cartography for water resources management and energy security
15. Geospatial Technology-based advanced mapping for climate change and associated implication studies
16. Hydrographic survey and Geospatial Technology for oceanic resource assessment, coastal and ocean management and mapping
17. Critical and Alternative Cartography for inclusive development
18. Advanced visualization and artificial intelligence in promotion of cartographic techniques

INDIAN NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION (INCA)

The Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA), established in 1979, is a non-profit professional organization dedicated to promoting cartography and geoinformatics in India. Originally formed as an interdisciplinary platform between geographers and cartographers, it now includes several public and private institutions engaged in geospatial sciences. INCA aims to foster research in cartography, promote collaboration among professionals of related disciplines, and strengthen cooperation with national and international organisations. It also encourages interaction between government agencies, research institutions, and professionals involved in mapping and geospatial applications. INCA organizes annual national and international cartographic congresses to share knowledge, innovations and applications.

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INCA Membership Fee Structure:

Institutional Life Member: Rs. 25,000/- + GST @18%

Individual Life Member: Rs. 2000/- + GST @18%

INCA Headquarters Contact:

INCA, Survey of India, Uppal
Room No. 234, APGDC Block, Hyderabad – 500 039 (Telangana)

Email (INCA Hq): secretarygeneralinca935@gmail.com

Website: www.incaindia.net

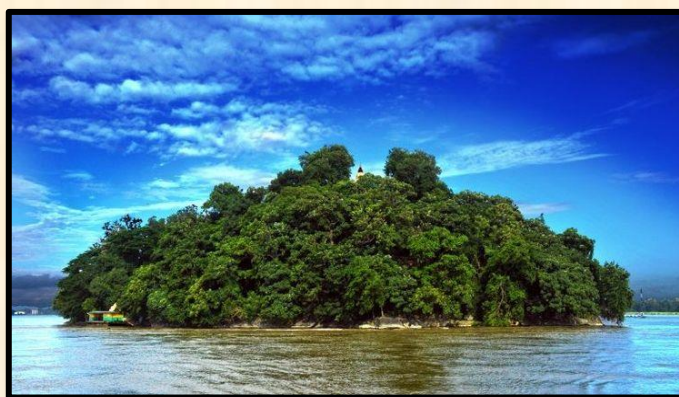
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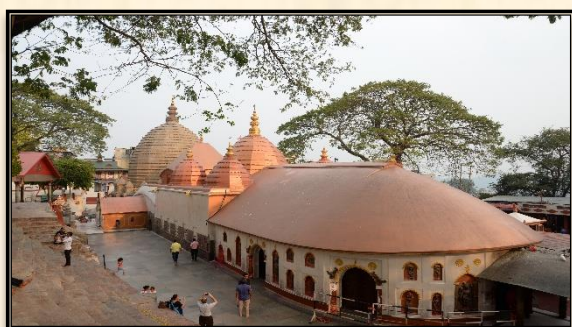
ACADEMIC COLLABORATION

COMMONWEALTH GEOGRAPHICAL BUREAU (CGB)

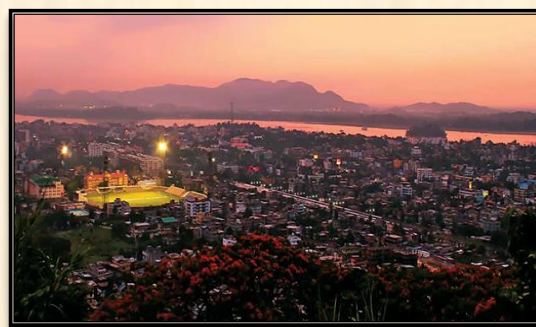
The Commonwealth Geographical Bureau (CGB) is a professional organization founded in 1968 to promote interaction among geographers in university departments and institutions across Commonwealth countries. It supports academic collaboration, workshops, and knowledge transfer, and promotes interaction, research and exchange of information among geographers in developing nations in general and 56 Commonwealth countries in particular. The CGB often collaborates on critical, contemporary issues, such as food security, urban systems, and sustainable development more particularly in the less developed Commonwealth nations. The CGB works to strengthen the discipline of geography, emphasizing its application to environmental, social, and economic issues facing Commonwealth member states. Currently the activities of the CGB are carried by an Executive Committee with President Prof. Adamu I. Tanko, Bayero University, Nigeria; Honorary Secretary Prof. Bimal Kumar Kar, Gauhati University, India; Treasurer Prof. Kenneth Lynch, University of Gloucestershire, UK; and seven regional representative members.



Umananda- “The Smallest River Island in the World”



Kamakhya Temple



Guwahati City

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THE HOST INSTITUTION

Gauhati University is one of the pioneer higher educational institutes of the entire north-eastern region of India. Established in the year 1948, the University celebrated its Platinum Jubilee during 2022-23. The University has a huge sprawling campus spreading over an area of over 500 acres along with two satellite locations, one at Guwahati city and another at Jalukbari point. The main campus of the University is located in the western border of Guwahati city at a distance of 10km from the city centre, 12km from the Guwahati International Airport and 3 km from the Kamakhya railway station. Gauhati University was accorded as an A+ grade institution by NAAC in the last accreditation. Currently, the University comprises 49 academic departments, 1 constituent Law College, a Centre for Distance and Online Education (GUCCDOE) and 6 other Centres of Studies. The University currently imparts in-campus education to more than 7000 undergraduate and post-graduate students, and around 1200 PhD scholars are doing their research in the University.

THE HOST DEPARTMENT

Established in 1948, the Department of Geography, Gauhati University is one of the oldest geography departments of the country. From a modest beginning the department has flourished to reach its present status because of the untiring efforts of the faculty members and the great potentiality possessed by this part of the country for geography education and research. The Department is actively involved in teaching, research and extension activities. It is engaged in providing regular courses in M.A./M.Sc., PG Diploma and Ph.D. The University Grants Commission has supported the Department of Geography under Special Assistance Programme (SAP) at DRS- Level III for five years (2013-2018) with two thrust areas: Environmental Resources and Sustainable Development in N.E. India and Population and Development in N.E. India. The teaching and research programmes of the Department have been reoriented as per the thrust areas identified under SAP. With a spirit of knowledge and information sharing, the Department has initiated inter-university collaborative work in the field of Climate Change and associated issues with Kagawa University, Japan. Besides the regular courses the department has organized several certificate courses, training courses, workshops, etc. funded by SERB, DST, Govt. of India, ICSSR and NRSC (ISRO). The department has one Geoinformatics Laboratory which has been established with funds provided by the DST under FIST, UGC under SAP and Govt. of Assam. This Lab is equipped with Remote Sensing, GIS and GPS facilities including instruments, softwares and geo-spatial data.



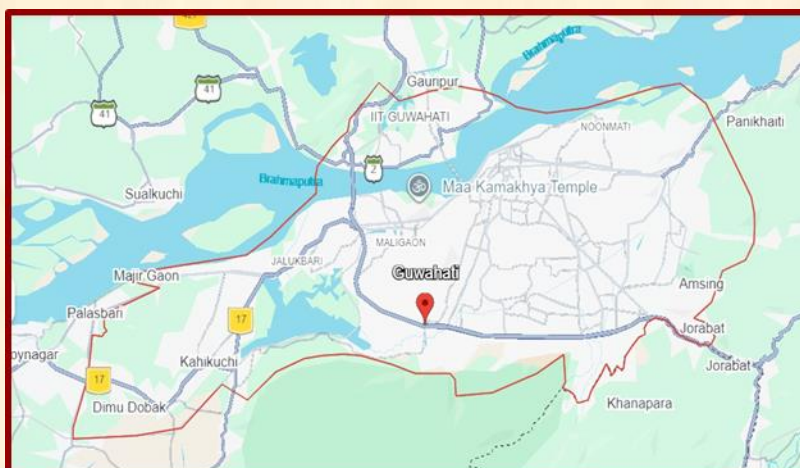
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Department of Geography, Gauhati University



THE HOST CITY

Guwahati, the capital city of Assam, is the largest city located in the north-eastern part of India. It serves as a key cultural, commercial, transportation and educational hub of the region. Situated on the south-bank of the Brahmaputra River, Guwahati is known for its scenic beauty with hills, rivers, and lush greenery surrounding the area. The climate in Guwahati is tropical monsoon, with hot, humid summers and mild winters. Rainy season from June to September brings heavy rainfall, while winters (November to February) are pleasant with cooler temperatures. The city is located at the foothills of the Meghalaya plateau, which contributes to its pleasant climate, particularly during the cooler months. Guwahati is known for its rich cultural heritage, blending ancient traditions with modern life. It also serves as a gateway to the north-east region of India and has a mix of ethnic groups, including Assamese, Bodos, and various other indigenous communities. The city serves as an important trading point with neighbouring countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. Guwahati International Airport is about 22 km from the city centre and is well connected to major cities in India and some international destinations. The city has a developed road and rail networks, making it an important transportation hub in the entire north-eastern region. The Guwahati Railway Station at Paltan Bazar and Kamakhya near Maligaon are the terminus of all the trains coming from major cities of the country. NH 31 connects Guwahati with states of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. Beyond the Kamakhya Temple, Guwahati boasts several attractions such as Umananda Temple, Assam State Museum, Guwahati Zoo, Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, and Kaziranga National Park (Famous for one horned rhino), Shillong, Cherapunjee (Famous for highest rainfall of the world), Mawlinglong, Dawki, etc. River cruises on the Brahmaputra River are popular among the tourists, offering scenic views of the city and its surroundings. Participants can also plan for visit to foreign countries like Bhutan and Thailand from Guwahati.



Guwahati - "The Gateway to North-East India"

Weather Condition

In mid-November Guwahati experiences a pleasant and comfortable weather condition with daytime temperature of 26°C-28°C and night-time temperature of 16°C-18°C. Rainfall is almost rare in November and occasionally it may occur for 10mm-20mm in the whole month. Hence, it is advisable to carry light warm clothing.

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The organizers invite research papers and posters from all interested academicians, scientists and researchers involved in geo-spatial analysis at the 46th INCA Congress on Smart Cartography for a Sustainable Common Future. There shall be oral presentations as well as poster presentations in the Congress. Participants intending to present paper(s) are requested to submit the abstracts (not exceeding 300 words) clearly indicating the sub-theme through online submission system of the conference website (www.incaguahati2026.org), starting from 16th July up to 15th September, 2026. Intimation about acceptance of paper will be made on or before 1st October, 2026. On confirmation about acceptance of paper the participants must register themselves within the deadline of 31st October, 2026 (Late). Only the Abstracts of the registered participants will be included in the Abstract Volume.

LAYOUT OF ABSTRACT

- Abstract must be written in English and in MS Word.
- **Title:** A brief title preferably within 15 words in bold capital letters with font size 14. Author(s): The family name(s) should be typed in capital letters and the first and middle name with first letter caps in font size 12.
- **Key words:** 4 to 5 key words
- **Text:** Normal, Times New Roman & Font size 12. The abstract must clearly indicate the problem, main objectives, methodology and findings of the work within 300 words.

Invitation of Papers (Oral and Poster) from Post-Graduate Students

The students currently pursuing post-graduate studies in geography and allied disciplines are also invited to send abstracts of papers (both for Oral and Poster sessions) as per the format and guidelines mentioned within stipulated time frame.

The last date of submission of abstracts is extended for all categories of participants up to 22nd September, 2026.

REGISTRATION FEE STRUCTURE & MODE OF PAYMENT

Registration Fee can be paid through online Bank transfer through registration desk. The last date of payment of registration fee (full) is 31st October, 2026. However, participants will get an option for early bird registration at discount rate. The registration fee once paid is non-refundable.

Participant Categories	Early Bird Registration (On or before 15 October, 2026)	Late Registration (16 to 31 October, 2026)
Indian Delegates (Life Member)	INR 3540	INR 4720
Other Indian Delegates	INR 4720	INR 5900
International Delegates	USD 200	USD 250
SAARC & Latin American Countries Participants	USD 150	USD 200
Research Scholars (Indian)	INR 2360	INR 3540
Research Scholars (International)	USD 100	USD 150
Post Graduate Students of Geography and Allied Disciplines with papers only (INDIAN)	INR 1770	INR 2950
Institutional/Corporate Delegates	INR 7080	INR 8250
Accompanying Person (Indian)	INR 2950	INR 3540
Accompanying Person (International)	USD 150	USD 200



46th INCA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS



No registration will be entertained after 31st October, 2026. However, spot registration will be available only for the participants without paper and without accommodation on the days of the Congress (19-21 November, 2026).

The registration fee for Regular delegates and PhD researchers includes participation in all the sessions, Congress kits, Abstract volume, and Refreshment during the conference. Accompanying person's registration includes participation and refreshment during the conference.

PhD Research Scholar's registration is applicable to M. Phil. and Ph.D. scholars. A copy of an institutional ID as a proof of being a bona fide scholar, is required to avail the research scholar's concessional registration facility.

The registration fee has to be paid online to "46th INCA International Congress, Gauhati University" vide SB Account Number: 45307395510, State Bank of India, Gauhati University Branch, Guwahati, IFSC: SBIN0002060. After the payment its voucher needs to be uploaded along with duly filled in registration form.

IMPORTANT DATES

Conference Date	:	19-21 November, 2026
Abstract Submission	:	16 July - 22 September, 2026
Confirmation of Acceptance of paper	:	1 October, 2026
Payment of Registration Fee (Early Bird)	:	1 - 15 October, 2026
Payment of Registration Fee (Late)	:	16 – 31 October, 2026
Full Paper Submission (Last Date)	:	31 October, 2026

MEMORIAL LECTURE SESSION (19th November, 2026)

Todarmal Memorial Lecture

Speaker: Shri S.K. Sinha, Surveyor General of India, Dehradun

Prof. S.P. Chatterjee Memorial Lecture

Speaker: Dr. A.K Bhagabati, Retired Professor of Geography, Gauhati University

POPULAR LECTURE SESSION FOR LOCAL SCHOOL STUDENTS (19th November, 2026)

:

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ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be provided to the delegates (on advance payment basis). The registered participants (with accommodation) shall be provided standard accommodation mostly in the institutional guest houses, semi deluxe hotels, deluxe category hotels available to the Organizing Committee in different places of Guwahati city. This accommodation shall be provided from 18th Nov, 2026 (12 noon) to 21st Nov, 2026 (11.00 am)). Those who need accommodation may check the availability of hotel rooms in the website. Transport facility to and from the venue of the Congress at specific time shall be provided to the delegates whose accommodation is arranged by the Organizer.

CULTURAL EVENING:

The event will be made truly memorable with a Cultural Evening showcasing rich and radiant cultural diversity of India's north-east.

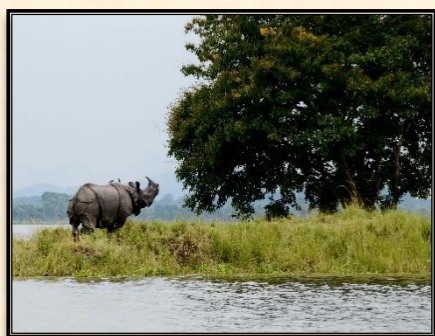
TOUR:

For the convenience and benefit of the outside participants and their accompanists the Organizing Committee will arrange the under-mentioned field tours within and outside Guwahati during and after the Congress (on advance payment basis). The interested participants may contact the Convenor or any other representative (to be announced later) for the field tour in advance. This tour will be conducted by some reputed Tour Operators on behalf of us.

PLACES OF TOUR:

Kaziranga National Park (World known for one-horned rhinoceros), Shillong-Cherrapunji (Wettest Place of the Earth), Mawlynnong (Asia's cleanest village), Dawki (Bangladesh Border), Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Sualkuchi (Manchester of Assam), Tawang (Snowfall site).

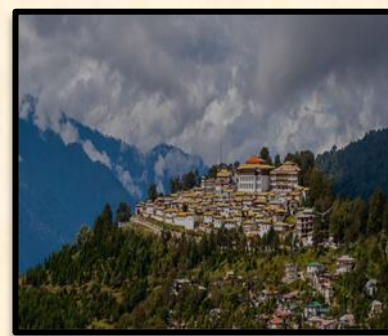
International Participants desiring to visit foreign countries like Bhutan and Thailand must send their willingness prior to at least 4 months before starting of the event.



Kaziranga National Park



Cherrapunji



Tawang

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SPONSORSHIP PLANS

Leading Cartography and Remote Sensing agencies, GIS companies, Consulting Organisations, Public Sector Organisations, Govt. Departments, Industries, Instrument Manufacturers, Mapping agencies, Publishers, Start-ups and other agencies are invited to generously sponsor the 46th INCA International Congress. Detailed sponsorship charges (excluding 18% GST) will be under 4 broad categories. The Price for each category of sponsor will include one stall of size 3m x 3m and free registration details given as under:

Strategic Sponsor	Rs. 8 lakh (with free registration of 10 delegates)
Platinum Sponsor	Rs. 6 lakh (with free registration of 7 delegates)
Gold Sponsor	Rs. 4 lakh (with free registration of 5 delegates)
Silver Sponsor	Rs. 2.5 lakh (with free registration of 3 delegates)

OTHER SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

1. Conference Kit: Rs. 6 Lakh* (6 delegates free, one folded double-page coloured advertisement in souvenir, name on kit bags at one place, Banner display, 10 min. Presentation)
2. Patron Sponsor: Rs. 2 Lakh * (3 delegates free, full-page advertisement in souvenir (coloured), Banner display, 10 min. Presentation)
3. Cultural Evening: Rs. 1.5 Lakh* (2 delegates free, full-page advertisement in souvenir (mono), banner display, 10 min. Presentation)
4. Lunch/ Dinner: Rs. 2.5 Lakh* (5 delegates free, full-page advertisement in souvenir (mono), banners in dining area)
5. Inaugural Tea: Rs. 1 Lakh* (3 delegates free, half-page advertisement in the souvenir (mono), banners in the dining area)
6. Tea during Breaks: Rs. 50,000* per session (2 delegate-free, half-page advertisements in the souvenir (mono), banners in the dining area)
7. Sponsor: Rs. 50,000* (2 Delegate free, half page-advertisement in the souvenir (mono), banner display at suitable places)

Organizations/Institutions/Companies desirous of sponsoring may send the completed sponsorship form to the Convener/Organizing Secretary along with advertisement material and details by 15th September, 2026.

*Sponsors from foreign countries shall have to make a payment equivalent to the INR amount in their respective currencies.

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SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITION

An exhibition of geospatial products, services, and equipment in cartographic surveying, remote sensing, GIS, GPS, and drones/UAVs will be organized during the Congress to promote collaboration among companies, start-ups, government and non-government organizations, and professional societies. The exhibition will provide a valuable platform for showcasing innovations beneficial to the cartographic and geospatial community. Stalls will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis due to limited space, and early booking is encouraged. Each stall will measure 3m x 3m, and the exhibition will run throughout the Congress from 19th November to 21st November 2026. It will be inaugurated on the first half of 19th November by an eminent scientist/administrator.

Stall Size	Cost (Excluding GST 18 %)
4 m X 3m (One stall)	Rs. 1,00,000/-
8 m X 3m (Two stalls)	Rs. 1,75,000/-
12 m X 3 m (Three stalls)	Rs. 2,50,000/-

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SOUVENIR

Item	Cost (Rs.) Excluding GST 18 %
Back Cover (Colour)	2,00,000/-
Front/Back Inner Cover (Colour)	1,00,000/-
Full Inner Page (Colour)	60,000/-
Half Inner Page (Colour)	40,000/-
Full Inner Page (B&W)	30,000/-
Half Inner Page (B&W)	15,000/-

The stall booking form is to be filled out online with the requisite payment by mentioning the details. For any clarifications regarding the stall and available resources, Dr. Dhanjit Deka, Organizing Secretary may be contacted (+91 9859570881). The booking request for exhibition stalls shall not be confirmed without payment.

INDUSTRY PRESENTATION SESSION

A session will be arranged exclusively for industry-sponsored presentations. Only those companies/ organisations/ institutes who want to sponsor a major event or setup a stall are permitted to make presentation. This session will provide an opportunity to the sponsors to introduce the state-of-art/latest innovations/OEM's product information to the delegates.

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LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chancellor, Gauhati University

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Assistant Organizing Secretaries:

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Dr. Mrinal Baruah, Department of Geography, GU

Members

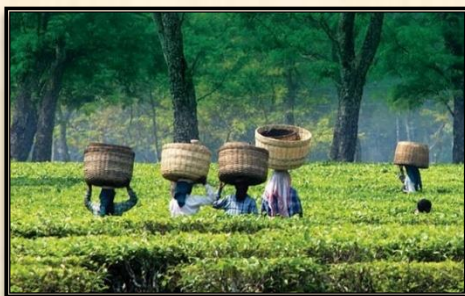
Head, Dept. of Geography, Cotton University	Head, Dept. of Geography, B. Borooah College
Head, Dept. of Geography, Pragjyotish College	Head, Dept. of Geography, Pandu College
Head, Dept. of Geography, Arya Vidyapeeth College	Head, Dept. of Geography, Guwahati College
Dr. Manash Jyoti Bhuyan, Dept. of Geography, GU	Dr. Lekha Borah, Dept. of Geography, GU

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Monabari Tea Estate



Dhola Sadiya Bridge

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NATIONAL ADVISORY MEMBERS

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Vice Admiral Lochan Singh Pathania, Former Chief Hydrographer, Govt. of India
Dr. Prakash Chauhan, Director, NRSC, Hyderabad
Shri Somya S. Sarkar, Director, SAC, Ahmedabad
Dr. Binod Kumar Singh, Director, NATMO, Kolkata
Dr. R.P. Singh, Director, IIRS, Dehradun
Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey, Chief Hydrographer, Govt. of India
Dr. Arup Kumar Misra, Chairman, Assam Pollution Control Board
Dr. Jaideep Baruah, Director, ASTEC, Guwahati
Shri Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana, Former Surveyor General of India
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