

## Student Success Stories of TU



**Class of 2009** (Journalism & Mass Communication)

**Current Status:** Journalist with Times of India and United News of India

**Nature of Job:** News Reporting, Content Development & Writing and Editing

**Place:** Agartala

**In profession:** 24 years in a row

### Dr Biswendu Bhattacharjee

I have been in the profession since 1998 as a journalist, soon after my graduation. In the process of pursuing a career, I have got involved in environmental activism, which drove me down to establish an NGO in 2003. The main object of the organisation was to assemble the talents of different fields available in Tripura under 'Association for Research on People and Nature (ARPAN)' and I succeeded. Under my leadership, the environment movement in Tripura has gained momentum and I was empanelled as a writer for Tripura Board of Secondary Education to pen the text books of Environment Studies for school students (Class VI-VIII) following the Supreme Court's verdict to include the subject in the curriculum. Along with text books, I have also written two Reference books on Climate and Nature of Tripura in both Bengali and English. Meantime, I got involved in the Right to Clean Air Campaign and Right to Walk Movement under Sunita Nairan. My relentless work in environment protection activities attracted the United States government and the US State Department to sponsor me to join their environment exposure course under the prestigious International Visitors Leadership Programme in 2008.

During my visit to the USA, I felt post graduation is most important to grow up in the field of journalism as well. With the grace of God and support of my well-wishers I got admitted to a two years regular MA programme in Journalism and Mass Communication besides, practising the profession in the first batch of the department in 2009. I pursued it very seriously and my attendance in the classes was about 80 percent, which paid me well and I became the Gold Medalist in the department. After coming out with a flying colour PG degree, I decided to obtain a PhD. And, I successfully awarded a PhD in 2020 from Tripura University in my research work on "Growth & Development of Vernacular Press". I am well recognized for my eco-sensitive lifestyle, lobbying for environment and activist journalism in India.

Besides profession and education, I led as many as five research projects of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi in Northeastern states and West Bengal. One of my edited volumes – Bio-diversity Resources of Northeast has become a reference book in many universities including Forest Training Institutes of India.

