



Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University

A Report on the First Five Years
(June 2020 - June 2025)

*Chronicle of Vision, and
Leadership Institutional
Growth Across Three
Foundational Phases*



Timeline of Institutional Growth and Development (2020–2025)

- Phase I: Foundation and Initial Growth (June 2020 – August 2020)
- Phase II: Academic and Infrastructure Development (September 2020 – December 2023)
- Phase III: Expansion, Recognition, and Sustainability (January 2024 – June 2025)

A Campus in the Making: Foundation of a Legacy in Sports Education

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SRI SRI ANIRUDDHADEVA SPORTS UNIVERSITY
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History of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University

(June 2020 – June 2025)

PREAMBLE

Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University (SASU), established by the Government of Assam, envisions becoming a pioneering institution dedicated to excellence in sports education, research, and training. Its mission is to foster a holistic learning environment that nurtures professional expertise in sports sciences, coaching, and interdisciplinary studies. The university strives to build an inclusive and environmentally sustainable residential campus that supports innovation, athletic excellence, and academic rigor, thereby contributing to the development of world-class sports professionals and researchers.

PHASE I: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIVERSITY (June 2020– August 2020)

Establishment

The Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University (SASU) was established by the Government of Assam through legislation passed under No. LGL.164/2018/7 by the Assam Legislative Assembly. The Bill received the assent of the Governor of Assam on 10th December 2018, and the official notification was issued on 14th December 2018.

Prof. Jai Prakash Verma was appointed as the Founder Vice Chancellor of the University by the Governor of Assam through Government letter No. SYW.96/2019/79, dated 6th March 2020. His initial tenure was set for three years as per the provisions of the University Act, with terms and conditions governed by the Act and Government letter No. SYW.305/2018/156, dated 6th June 2019.

Recognizing the progress under his leadership, his tenure was extended twice:

- Through eFile No. 290381/78, dated 14th June 2023, for one year from 22nd June 2023.
- Again, through eFile No. 290381/80, dated 8th January 2024, for one year from 22nd June 2024.

Both extensions were granted in the public interest and in the interest of the university.

Initial Challenges and Early Days

Prof. J. P. Verma formally assumed charge on 22nd June 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic and strict lockdowns. Upon arrival in Guwahati on 21st June 2020, he was received by officials from the Department of Sports, Government of Assam, and was quarantined at Hotel Radisson, Guwahati for two weeks. Initially, for three days, he remained confined to his hotel room awaiting his PCR test results. After testing negative, he was granted limited movement within the hotel premises during quarantine.

On 8th July 2020, Prof. Verma, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Dibrugarh to begin the groundwork for establishing the university. He was warmly received by Shri Pallab Gopal Jha, IAS, Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Dibrugarh. The Government arranged for his stay at the Dibrugarh University Guest House, providing him with a suite and an additional office room. Special arrangements were also made to operate the university mess for his convenience during the pandemic.

Community Welcome and Institutional Support

On 9th July 2020, a welcome event was organized at the DC Office, Dibrugarh, where Prof. Verma was warmly greeted by all major sports federations of Dibrugarh, with former ministers, MLAs, and prominent personalities in attendance. The following day, 10th July 2020, Prof. R. Tamuli, Vice Chancellor of Dibrugarh University, along with other academic and administrative faculty members, felicitated Prof. Verma and extended their full cooperation for the development of the newly established sports university.



Welcome Ceremony for Prof. Verma at DC Office, Dibrugarh

Recognizing the urgency of starting academic programs, and upon the Vice Chancellor's request, Dibrugarh University provided three classrooms to SASU for initiating academic activities.

Formation of Governance Structures

As per Article 45(5) of the SASU Act, which empowers the First Vice Chancellor to constitute interim structures until the formal statutory bodies are established, Prof. Verma constituted the Adhoc Management Committee, including external members, as detailed below:

Members of the Adhoc Management Committee:

- Prof. V. K. Jain, Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University
- Prof. R. Tamuli, Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University
- Prof. Sheila Stephen, Vice Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Sports University
- Prof. S. G. Deshmukh, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT Delhi
- Prof. Rajendra Sahu, Director, IIITM Gwalior

The first meeting of the Adhoc Management Committee was held on 22nd July 2020 at the conference hall of Dibrugarh University.

Key Decisions Taken:

- Establishment of three academic schools:
 - School of Human Kinetics and Health
 - School of Sports Studies and Coaching
 - School of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Approval of departments under each school.
- Decision to develop SASU as a “paperless” university, by engaging:
 - NIC (National Informatics Centre) for campus networking
 - INFLIBNET for software development and academic management solutions

Digital and Administrative Foundations

On 31st July 2020, the Government formed an Adhoc Committee of the Executive Council vide Notification No. SYW.135/2018/28. Following Section 45(2) of the SASU Act, the Vice Chancellor framed temporary rules required for university operations—such as signing MoUs with INFLIBNET,

faculty recruitment, and purchase systems—and sent them to the Government on 18th August 2020.

To fast-track digital readiness during the pandemic, the university signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with INFLIBNET (Inter-University Centre of the University Grants Commission under the Ministry of Education) on 20th August 2020, following a decision by the Adhoc Management Committee. The objective was to develop an integrated digital system for admissions, faculty recruitment, payment systems, student lifecycle management, and several other modules, along with website operations. The modules developed by INFLIBNET were later successfully utilized for online admissions and recruitment processes.

The official website of the university was launched on 6th October 2020 by the then Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, via virtual mode. He commended the university for its rapid digital transformation despite COVID-related constraints.



Inauguration of the website by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the then Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam

USP of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University in Assam

As the first and only sports university in Assam and one of the few in India, SASU brings unparalleled value to the region by serving as a catalyst for sports education and research in Northeast India. Its digitally integrated ecosystem, developed in partnership with premier agencies like INFLIBNET and NIC, and its commitment to becoming a paperless, fully residential institution demonstrate a forward-thinking approach to higher education. Strategically located in Chabua, Dibrugarh, it also provides regional access to national-level academic and athletic training opportunities, reinforcing Assam's position on the country's sports and education map.

PHASE II: INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC COMMENCEMENT (SEPTEMBER 2020 – MARCH 2022)

Strengthening Digital Systems and Academic Governance

Following the early decisions of the Adhoc Management Committee, the university operationalized its digital infrastructure through the modules developed by INFLIBNET. These modules were used successfully during the recruitment of contractual faculty and for managing the admission process of the university's first academic program—the One-Year Post Graduate Diploma in Sports Coaching.

Vision Document and Institutional Roadmap

A comprehensive Vision document for the university was developed by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. J. P. Verma, capturing the academic, administrative, infrastructural, and residential objectives aligned with the vision of a modern, sports-centric institution. The plan emphasized the development of a fully residential, environmentally sustainable campus for 2000 students. Key proposals included:

- **Academic Programs:** Three Bachelor's programs, a one/two-year BPED program, six Master's programs, five PhD programs, and twenty specialized Diploma/ PG Diploma programs.

- **Human Resource Requirements:** 393 positions, comprising 141 teaching posts (10 Professors, 15 Associate Professors, 116 Assistant Professors), 189 administrative staff, 45 coaches, 10 consultants, five scientific staff, and three academic administrators.

This Vision document, including the campus blueprint for the 200-bigha land at Chabua, Dibrugarh, was approved by the Executive Council in its 2nd meeting on 1st November 2020 under Agenda Item No. 13.

Advisory Committee for Master Plan and Infrastructure Development

To guide the infrastructure planning and campus development, an Advisory Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor vide letter No. SADSU/CHB/5/2020 dated 24.08.2020 with the following external experts:

1. Maj. General S. N. Mukherjee, Former Vice Chancellor, LNIPE, Gwalior
2. Shri Hari Singh, Retired Chief Engineer (Contracts)
3. Shri Chitranjan Saha, Former Chief General Manager (Civil), Government of India Enterprise
4. Shri Indrajit Gogoi, Executive Engineer, PWD (B), Dibrugarh
5. Prof. Alok Sharma, Director, IITTM, Ministry of Tourism, Gwalior
6. Dr. Paramananda Sonowal, Deputy Registrar, Dibrugarh University

The committee held its first meeting on 26th August 2020. Over the course of four meetings, a comprehensive and phased infrastructure plan was finalized. This plan was divided into two major stages—each with two sub-phases. The proposal was approved by the Executive Council in its 6th meeting on 17th July 2023 under Item No. 11, and was subsequently submitted to the Government for implementation.

Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony

A major milestone in the university's journey was reached on 6th March 2024, when the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, laid the foundation stone of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University. This event marked the formal initiation of the university's physical infrastructure development and was a moment of great pride for the institution and the region.



Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony by Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma, Hon'ble CM, Assam

Hon'ble Chancellor's Intervention in Accelerating Construction

Despite the formalities being completed, actual construction work did not commence for over a year



Hon'ble Chancellor cum Governor of Assam, Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya, during his address in the high-level review meeting.

due to procedural delays. The much-needed momentum came with the timely and decisive intervention of the Hon'ble Chancellor and Governor of Assam, Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya.

On 7th January 2025, the Hon'ble Chancellor visited Dibrugarh and chaired a high-level review meeting at the Circuit House. The meeting was attended by university officials, Public Works Department representatives, and the district administration, including the Deputy Commissioner. During the session, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor presented a detailed plan of the university's academic roadmap, which was greatly appreciated. Expressing concern over the prolonged delay in construction, the Hon'ble Chancellor directed PWD officials to immediately expedite the work and assured full support from the Raj Bhawan. He also noted the university's struggle in operating without proper infrastructure and committed to personally monitoring the progress.



Hon'ble Chancellor, Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya interacting with the students.

Honouring his commitment, the Hon'ble Chancellor visited the university site at Chabua on 10th March 2025, interacted with students, and reiterated that the campus would be ready soon. He instructed the PWD to submit monthly progress reports to the Raj Bhawan to ensure timely execution. Following his intervention, Phase I construction officially commenced in January 2025 under the supervision of PWD.

Current Status and Future Development

Phase I includes construction of the Vice Chancellor's Bungalow, Academic Block, Boys' and Girls' Hostels, six faculty residences, and several sports arenas. As per the PWD's execution plan, this phase is targeted for completion by August 2026.

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Phase II has already been prepared by the architect. However, it awaits final vetting in a joint meeting between university authorities and the PWD, for which the date is yet to be finalized.

Creation of Statutory Committees and Academic Planning

Exercising the powers vested under Article 45(5) of the SASU Act, the Vice Chancellor constituted the following Adhoc committee which worked on behalf of the respective statutory bodies:

- **Academic and Activity Council** – Constituted on 23.09.2020, vide letter No. SASU/CHB/30/2020/43, under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, with nominated external members. The first meeting was held on 30.09.2020, wherein it was resolved to initiate academic programs in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It also approved the launch of a One-Year PG Diploma in Sports Coaching with specializations in Athletics and Football.
- **Finance Committee** – Constituted on 27.10.2020, vide Letter No. SASU/CHB/32/2020/4, under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, with nominated external members.
- **Board of Studies** – Constituted on 06.01.2021, vide letter No. SASU/CHB/58/2020/137, with members from relevant academic disciplines. The Board held its first meeting on 07.01.2021, where the syllabus and structure of the PG Diploma in Sports Coaching were finalized. The program was then submitted for approval to the Adhoc Academic Council.

Strengthening Academic Manpower

- On the initiative of the Vice Chancellor, the Government deputed two lecturers—Dr. Hemantiji and Mr. K. K. Bora—from DIET to the university on attachment, effective from 22.10.2020, vide letter No. AEE.179/2018/237.
- Subsequently, two more lecturers were provided on attachment, vide Office Order No. AEE/23/2021/35, dated 14.12.2021.

Milestones Achieved

- In January 2021, the University received UGC 2(f) status vide File No. 9-9/2020(CPP-I/PU), dated 05.02.2021, empowering it to award its own degrees and initiate Ph.D. programs.
- On the advice of the Raj Bhavan, vide letter No. GSA.61/2020/74 dated 04.12.2020, the University was advised to begin with diploma-level programs.

Academic Commencement: Launching the PG Diploma in Sports Coaching Within Six Months of Establishment

Within six months of its establishment, the University successfully launched its inaugural academic offering — the **One-Year PG Diploma in Sports Coaching (Athletics and Football)** — on **28 January 2021**. The programme was formally inaugurated on **24 January 2021**, with five distinguished guest faculty members recruited in January 2021 and congratulatory messages read from Hon'ble Chancellor Dr. Jagdish Mukhi and the then HCM Sri Sarbananda Sonowal



Inaugural address by Prof. D. Nath, VC, Majuli University of Culture.

• Enrollment & Placement

The inaugural cohort comprised nine students. Later, one candidate's admission was cancelled as he could not submit his NOC from his employer for being a regular student, which was one of the prerequisite conditions of the program. The remaining eight students (four from Assam and four from other states) continued in the program. Upon completion of the programme, all graduates secured employment: the four students from Assam were appointed as Physical Instructors or



First batch of Post Graduate Diploma in Sports Coaching

Coaches in government departments within the state, while the remaining four accepted positions in other states— **achieving 100% placement.**

- **Student Accommodation**

For the first semester, the University arranged and managed hostel facilities for all students. From the second semester onward, participants opted to arrange their own accommodation.

Implementation of the NEP 2020 with Grading System

In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the University's approved Academic Regulations, a robust academic framework has been instituted from the inception of its academic programmes. The system ensures transparency, academic rigor, and national standardization. The following are the salient features:

1. **Credit-Based Semester System**

All programmes follow a structured semester-based credit system, where each course is defined by specific learning outcomes and assigned credits based on contact hours as per UGC norms.

2. **Continuous and Summative Evaluation**

The evaluation mechanism incorporates both formative and summative assessments. Continuous assessment includes assignments, practical work, and attendance, while summative assessment consists of mid-term and end-term examinations, ensuring a comprehensive appraisal of student performance.

3. **Letter Grading and Grade Points**

Student performance in each course is evaluated using a standardized letter grading system (O, A+, A, B+, B, C, etc.), with each grade linked to a specific grade point in accordance with UGC guidelines. This grading structure contributes to the calculation of SGPA, CGPA, and FGPA.

4. **Grade Cards and Academic Transcripts**

At the end of each semester, students are issued official grade cards reflecting their course-wise grades, credit hours, and Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA). Upon successful completion of the academic programme, a consolidated transcript is issued detailing academic performance across all semesters.

5. **Digital and Physical Documentation**

Academic records including grade cards and transcripts are provided in both physical format and through the University's secure online portal, ensuring immediate and convenient access for students.

This academic structure, first operationalized with the Postgraduate Diploma in Sports Coaching, reflects the University's commitment to quality education, learner-centric approaches, and the adoption of NEP 2020 mandates in letter and spirit.

Publications and Institutional Planning

To document and disseminate institutional activities, the university decided to publish an annual newsletter, which may later be converted into a biannual publication. The first edition was released in July 2021 and received appreciation from the Governor House, university leaders, and peer institutions. Since then, it has been published regularly.

Annual Reports were also prepared and placed for approval in the Executive Council and Court Meetings every year.

The university also developed a comprehensive Institutional Development Plan (IDP) for the next five

years, incorporating infrastructure and academic goals. This IDP was approved by the Executive Council in its 6th meeting held on 17.07.2023 through Agenda Item 11.

PG Diploma in Sports Coaching: Announcement and Challenges

In 2022, the university re-announced admission for the PG Diploma in Sports Coaching. However, due to applicants not meeting the eligibility criteria, the program could not be started. Additionally, the university had not received any grants for 2021–22, and there was a ban on contractual appointments, further limiting its ability to initiate the program.

Renewed Interest in PG Diploma Programs

After the successful placement of earlier candidates in jobs, there was renewed interest among students for the PG Diploma Programmes.

The University plans to offer these programmes once the sanctioned teaching and non-teaching positions are approved by the Government.

Framing and Approval of Statutes

As per Sections 45(4) and 25(1) of the SASU Act, the Vice Chancellor framed the Draft Statutes of the university on behalf of the State Government and forwarded them for legislative approval via letter No. SASU/VC/10032021, dated 10.03.2021.

The first set of Statutes of the university was approved by the Government and notified vide letter No. SYW.73/2021/267, dated 7th October 2021.

Membership of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and Students Participation

In 2022, the university was granted membership in the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), as confirmed via email dated 30/08/2022, with effect from 01/04/2022. Following this recognition, students from SASU actively participated in inter-university competitions in Table Tennis and Badminton during the 2023–2024 and 2024–2025 sessions. A total of 15 students represented the university in these events. Several students, especially those excelling in Table Tennis, were also invited to officiate in external tournaments, which provided them with invaluable practical experience and enhanced their employability.



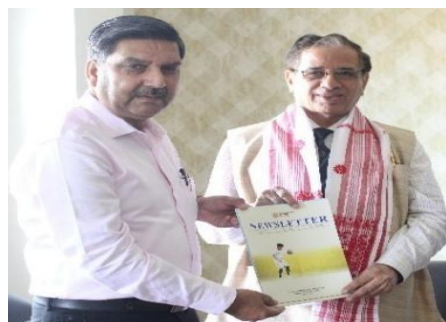
Over the course of these two years, a total of 22 students participated in various inter-university sports events. Several students achieved notable success. Shivadeep Handique secured 3rd place in the All Assam Inter-District Badminton Tournament and officiated at the AIU Inter-University Men's Tournament in 2024. Anurag Sinha won multiple titles, including the Assam Premier Club Inter-State

Champions and Zonal Champions. Arupjyoti Neog officiated at the 2024 Inter-District Table Tennis Championship, while Dipjyoti Sarania officiated at the National Kho Kho Championship and served as a National Kho Kho referee. Haripriya Dihingia competed in the Dibrugarh District Inter Club Karate Championship and the Assam State Karate Championship. Siddhartha Bhumik participated in the East Zone Inter-University Badminton Tournament and the 72nd All Assam Badminton Tournament. Dishashree Bordoloi, Kriteeka Gogoi, and Sahil Goyary took part in the Assam State Taekwondo Championship, and Krishna Kalita competed in the 57th and 58th Senior National Kho Kho Championships. These students demonstrated excellence not only through their active participation in prestigious sports events but also by contributing to the officiating duties in various tournaments, showcasing their involvement in both competitive and administrative aspects of sports.

Framing and Approval of Academic and Administrative Ordinances

A committee was constituted on 08/11/2021 via SASU/CHB/ORDI/124/2021/394 to develop a draft of the Academic and Administrative Regulations of the university. The committee included the following external members:

- Prof. G. D. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya (USTM)
- Prof. Jiten Hazarika, Registrar, Dibrugarh University



The draft ordinances were approved by the Executive Council in its 4th meeting held on 22nd April 2022 and were subsequently forwarded to the Government for legislative sanction. The Government approved both the Academic and Administrative Ordinances, issuing a notification vide No. SYW.191/2022/56, dated 03/02/2023, with retrospective effect from the date the university became operational.

PHASE III: INSTITUTIONAL EXPANSION, STATUTORY FORMATION, AND ACADEMIC GROWTH (APRIL 2022 – JUNE 2025)

Constitution of Statutory Bodies

After the Government formally notified the Statutes of the university, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University initiated the process of constituting its statutory bodies—namely the Court, Executive Council, Academic and Activity Council, Finance Committee, and the Board of Studies.

- As per the provisions of the University Statutes, a request for nominations to the Court was made to the Hon'ble Chancellor and Governor of Assam via Letter No. SASU/VC/Conf/9, dated 01/11/2021. A separate request was also made to the Government of Assam for its nominations and for the nominations from the Hon'ble Speaker of the Assembly via Letter No. SASU/CHB/Court/120/2021/382, dated 02/11/2021.
- Requests for nominations to the Executive Council, as per the provisions of the University Statutes, were also sent to the Hon'ble Chancellor and the Government of Assam through Letter No. SASU/VC/Conf./10, dated 02/11/2021, and Letter No. SASU/CHB/31/2020/383, dated 05/11/2021, respectively.

Upon receiving nominations:

- The University Court was constituted and notified vide letter No. SASU/CHB/Court/120/2021/844, dated 01/08/2022.



Hon'ble Members of the Court of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University who attended the first meeting.

- The Executive Council was formed and notified vide letter No. SASU/CHB/31/2020/603, dated 11/03/2022.



Hon'ble Members of the first Executive Council of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University

- The Academic and Activity Council was constituted through notification No. SASU/CHB/30/2020/434, dated 07/12/2021.



Hon'ble Members of the first Academic and Activity Council of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University

To date, the university has successfully conducted eight Executive Council meetings, two Court meetings, eleven Academic & Activity Council meetings, and six Finance Committee meetings, reflecting a robust governance framework.

Faculty and Administrative Appointments

In a major step toward academic consolidation, the university appointed Dr. Jogiswar Goswami as its first regular Professor in Physical Education on 18th July 2023 through a duly constituted Selection

Committee. Despite multiple advertisements, suitable candidates for the remaining two Professor positions and the post of Finance and Accounts Officer could not be finalized, and these positions remain vacant. Efforts to fill them are ongoing.

To ensure the continuity of academic delivery, the university submitted a proposal to the Government (Letter No. SASU/CHB/286/2024/2251, dated 26/12/2024), seeking approval to appoint Assistant Professors on a contractual basis against the sanctioned Professor posts. Approval from the Government is awaited.

As per the Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University Act, the first Registrar and the Finance and Accounts Officer were to be deputed by the Government for the first three years of the university's establishment. In line with this provision, the Government deputed Shri Sanjoy Dutta, ACS, as the university's Registrar vide Letter No. SYW.121/2020/37, dated 16/09/2020, for a period of one year. Upon completion of his term, he was succeeded by Shri Partha Pratim Bairagi, ACS, who was deputed as Registrar for a term of one year, vide Letter No. AAA.11/2016/70, dated 28/09/2021. His tenure was subsequently extended one year at a time, for two additional years—up to 3rd October 2024.

Similarly, Shri Gunajit Medhi, AFS, was assigned the charge of the university's Finance and Accounts Officer on an attachment basis from the Dibrugarh Treasury Office. Over time, the charge changed hands: Dr. Arun Das, AFS, and later Shri Rubul Baruah, AFS, successively took over the responsibilities. As of June 2024, Shri Rubul Baruah, AFS, deputed by the Government, is serving as the Finance and Accounts Officer. He also holds the positions of Chief Accounts Officer, Zila Parishad, and Treasury Officer, Dibrugarh.

In another important administrative milestone, the university appointed its first regular Registrar, Shri Pankaj Borthakur, and its first Controller of Examinations, Shri Arinjit Hazarika, in November 2024 through a duly conducted selection process and with the approval of the Executive Council.

Earlier, the university had also appointed its first regular Finance and Accounts Officer, Shri Kamaleswar Kalita, vide Letter No. SASU/CHB/214/REC/2023/1460, dated 07/07/2023; however, he resigned from the position on 19th January 2024 due to personal reasons.

Additionally, a Librarian, Shri Sonu Kumar, was selected through the Selection Committee and issued an offer letter dated 28th December 2023. However, the offer letter of appointment was later cancelled upon the discovery of a false certification. Although he challenged the cancellation in the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court, the court ruled in favour of the university.

National and Global Collaborations

In pursuit of a unified national policy on student mobility and sports education, the university invited Vice Chancellors of various sports universities to join its statutory bodies. As a result, the Vice Chancellors of Manipur Sports University and Delhi Sports University became members of the Executive Council. The Vice Chancellors of Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education (Deemed University) and Punjab Sports University were included in the University Court, while the Vice Chancellor of Gujarat Sports University joined the Academic Council.

To strengthen the industry-academia interface, the university inducted prominent technologists and industry experts:

- Prof. S. G. Deshmukh from IIT Delhi was inducted into the Court
- Prof. Rajendra Sahu, Director, IIITM Gwalior, joined the Academic Council
- Mr. Pankaj Singh, Secretary of the Sports, Physical Education, Fitness and Leisure Skills Council (SPEFL-SC) of India, became a member of the Executive Council

To ensure students benefit from mentorship and vision of experienced sports legends, the university inducted Olympians and award-winning athletes across its governing bodies. These include:

- Shri Zafar Iqbal (Hockey), Olympian
- Shri V. S. Chauhan (Athletics), Olympian and "Iron Man of Asia"
- Smt. Karnam Malleswari (Weightlifting), Olympian

- Shri Ashok Kumar (Hockey), Olympian
- Smt. Monalisa Baruah Mehta (Table Tennis), Arjuna Awardee
- Prof. J. P. Bhukar (Athletics), Asia Pacific Masters Games Gold Medalist
- Dr. Prem Chand (Gymnastics), National Gold Medalist

Hon'ble Chancellor's Key Role in NEP 2020 UG Programme Launch

In alignment with the Government's directive to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 from the academic year 2023, the university launched a pioneering four-year undergraduate programme titled "*Bachelor of Physical Education (Honours) with/without Research*". This innovative programme was designed with multiple entry and exit options and offered majors in Exercise Physiology, Sports Psychology, and Sports Biomechanics, along with a minor specialization in one sport and exposure to five sports disciplines.



Hon'ble Chancellor Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, visits the Study Centre

The programme created multiple career pathways for students:

- Pursuit of higher education through Master's and PhD programmes
- Entry into school teaching via a two-year BPED after three years of UG study
- Sports coaching through a one-year postgraduate diploma
- Employment through various specialized diplomas in sports management, journalism, analytics, adventure sports, and more (20 Diplomas/PG diplomas were planned)

Despite the academic strength of the programme, the university initially faced severe space constraints, with only three classrooms available at Dibrugarh University. At this crucial juncture, then Hon'ble Governor of Assam and Chancellor of the University, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, provided decisive leadership. During his visit on 9th June 2023, a high-level meeting was convened at Dibrugarh Airport, followed by a visit to DHSK College. There, owing to his personal initiative, the Principal, Dr. Sasi Kant Saikia, graciously agreed to allot an entire floor— comprising two large halls and two rooms—for the NEP undergraduate programme. The university deeply acknowledges the Hon'ble Chancellor's timely and visionary intervention, which laid the foundational infrastructure for the successful rollout of the NEP 2020-aligned academic programme.

Generous Support from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam

The University gratefully acknowledges the pivotal support extended by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, whose visionary leadership significantly advanced the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Recognizing the University's unique mandate and evolving

needs, the Hon'ble Chief Minister approved a special NEP grant of ₹3.89 crore (Sanction Order No. FS/SYW_2023_24(1) 76 dated 16/08/2023). This timely intervention marked a turning point in the University's academic and infrastructural development.

The grant facilitated significant progress in establishing essential infrastructure and academic resources. It enabled the university to procure a dedicated bus, gym equipment, IT infrastructure, digital boards, podiums, laboratory apparatus, library materials, and necessary furniture. It also supported the recruitment of faculty members specifically for the NEP undergraduate programme, thereby strengthening the academic foundation of the institution.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma, addressing the NEP 2020 Conclave.

Although a few items—such as a tractor, ambulance, and certain large laboratory equipment—could not be procured due to the general elections declared on 16th March 2024 and the unavailability of suitable storage and parking facilities, the university remains deeply appreciative of the state's exceptional support. In adherence to government norms, the unutilized portion of the grant was respectfully returned.

Grants Received Since Inception

Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University has been the recipient of various state-supported grants since its establishment. In 2020–2021, it received ₹1,58,52,000 (salary) and ₹1,29,98,000 (non-salary). In 2021–2022, while no new grant was disbursed, the university operated using carry-forward funds from the previous year. This led to a temporary halt in academic activities. In 2022–2023, the university received ₹76,32,000 (salary), ₹1,00,00,000 (non-salary), and ₹3,65,000 (special programme grant). A landmark increase occurred in 2023–2024, with ₹1,15,91,000 (salary), ₹1,55,00,000 (non-salary), and the transformational ₹3,89,80,000 grant to implement the New Education Plan. In 2024–2025, the university was further supported with ₹1,00,21,172 (salary) and ₹40,00,000 (non-salary).

The constant support and visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister have played a crucial role in empowering the university to fulfill its mission and contribute meaningfully to the development of sports education in the state and the country.

Academic Progress and Research Milestones

The first academic session of the new undergraduate programme commenced in 2023 with 24 students. An inaugural function was held on 25th August 2023 at the DHSK College auditorium, the designated study centre. Subsequently, five students withdrew due to personal reasons.

The second academic session was launched in 2024 with 22 enrolled students. The inaugural ceremony was held on 18th November 2024, with Prof. D. P. Agrawal, former Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), New Delhi, gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest.

As part of the ceremony, Prof. Agrawal pinned badges to the office bearers of various student bodies, symbolizing their responsibilities and leadership roles. In his address, he congratulated the students and delivered a warm and inspiring speech that left a lasting impression on the audience. He lauded the University for achieving significant development within a short period and expressed admiration for the high calibre of students and their commendable achievements in sports.



Prof. D.P. Agrawal, former Chairman, UPSC (in the middle), with students during the inaugural ceremony of academic session.

The event was also attended by distinguished guests including Prof. Ajanta Borgohain Rajkonwar, (Vice Chancellor of Women University), Prof. J. P. Saikia (former Vice Chancellor of BSSRV, Golaghat), and Shri S. K. Saikia, Principal of DHSK College. Their presence added to the significance of the occasion, and they collectively appreciated the university's steady progress in academic and co-curricular spheres.

PhD Program Launch

Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University marked a significant academic milestone by launching its PhD program in January 2025. Following a rigorous selection process, four full-time research scholars were enrolled. This step reflects the university's growing academic maturity and its commitment to fostering high-quality research in sports education and allied disciplines.

The admitted scholars shall undertake research across a range of impactful areas, including sports psychology, exercise physiology, sports biomechanics, physical education pedagogy, and performance science. Their work is expected to make meaningful contributions to both academic discourse and the practical advancement of sports and physical education in India. The selected scholars, are as follows:



First batch of PhD students along with the Vice Chancellor and other officials

1. Mr. Mondeep Chetia
2. Mr. Dimba Borah
3. Ms. Gitali Moran
4. Ms. Parinita Mili

This launch of the PhD program is not only a symbol of the university's evolving research culture but also a foundation for developing a robust academic ecosystem that supports innovation, inquiry, and excellence in sports sciences.

Foundational Documents Prepared During the First Five Years (2020– 2025)

To ensure structured growth and smooth functioning, the university prepared the following key documents in hierarchical order:

A. Legal and Statutory Framework

1. The Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University Act
– Legislative foundation enacted by the Government for establishing the university.
2. The First Statutes of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University
– Governance framework outlining authorities, their powers, and structural functioning.

B. Regulatory and Policy Documents

3. Ordinances (Academic and Administrative Matters)
– Regulations guiding academic procedures and administrative functioning.
4. Ordinances & Regulations for Ph.D. Program
– Framework for doctoral-level research and admissions.
5. Ordinances and Regulations of Undergraduate Program + Curriculum Structure & Syllabi
– Structure and detailed syllabi for undergraduate education.
6. Ordinances and Regulations of Diplomas/PG Diploma
– Rules governing the conduct of diploma and postgraduate diploma programmes.

C. Strategic and Planning Documents

7. Vision Document
– Defines the long-term academic and developmental vision of the university.
8. Institutional Development Plan (IDP)
– Strategic roadmap for phased growth and quality enhancement.
9. Draft Model of the University's Master Plan
– A detailed Framework for the university's buildings and Infrastructure.

D. Administrative and Resource Planning Documents

10. Details of Staff Requirement with Justification (Teaching and Non-Teaching)
– Rationalized staffing plan based on program needs and institutional objectives.
11. Infrastructure Details
– Documentation of the physical infrastructure for academic, residential, and sports facilities on the campus.

E. Academic Operational Documents

12. Standard Operating Procedure for Academic Program
– Guidelines to standardize the delivery and assessment of academic programs.
13. Prospectus of Undergraduate Program
– Student-facing document outlining courses, eligibility, and other program details.

F. Reporting and Communication

14. Annual Report (4 Volumes, 5th Volume under process)
– Formal annual report of institutional performance and governance.
15. Annual Newsletter (4 Volumes, 5th Volume under process)
– Highlights of events, achievements, and university activities.
16. Directory of Physical Education and Sports Institutions/Departments in India
– Comprehensive listing of institutions and departments across the country engaged in physical education and sports.

Distinguished Visitors to the Sports University in the last five years

Since its inception, the Sports University has been privileged to host several eminent personalities from academia, administration, governance, and sports. Their visits have greatly enriched the university's academic, administrative, and institutional development. A list of notable visitors includes:

1. Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya, Hon'ble Chancellor and Governor of Assam
2. Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh

3. Dr. Jagdish Mukhi, Former Governor of Assam
4. Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Former Chief Minister of Assam
5. Shri Bimal Bora, Former Sports Minister, Government of Assam
6. Shri Rupesh Gowala, MLA, Assam
7. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tassa, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha
8. Shri Punakan Baruah, Hon'ble MLA, Chabua LAC
9. Shri Rituparna Baruah, Former MLA, Lahowal LAC
10. Prof. D. P. Agrawal, Former Chairman, UPSC, New Delhi
11. Smt. Karnam Malleswari (Padmashree), Olympian, Vice Chancellor, Delhi Sports University
12. Shri Zafar Iqbal (Padmashree), Olympian, Former Captain, Indian Hockey Team
13. Shri Vijay Singh Chauhan, Olympian (Iron Man of Asia), Former Director of Sports, UP
14. Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Jagbir Singh Cheema (Retd.), Former Vice Chancellor, Sports University, Patiala
15. Prof. G. D. Sharma, Former Vice Chancellor, USTM, Meghalaya
16. Prof. Ram Lakhan, Former Vice Chancellor, NPU University, Jharkhand
17. Prof. Rajendra Prasad Das, Vice Chancellor, KKHOU, Guwahati
18. Prof. Ganga Prasad Prasain, Vice Chancellor, Tripura University
19. Prof. Jyoti Prasad Saikia, Founder Vice Chancellor, BSSRV, Golaghat, Assam
20. Prof. Debabrata Das, Vice Chancellor, ARGUOCOM, Assam
21. Prof. Ajanta B. Rajkonwar, Vice Chancellor, Assam Women's University, Jorhat
22. Prof. Rajendra Sahu, Former Director, IIITM, Gwalior
23. Prof. Dambarudhar Nath, Former Vice Chancellor, Majuli University of Culture
24. Prof. Bhabesh Chandra Goswami, Former Vice Chancellor, Cotton University, Guwahati
25. Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla, Vice Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University
26. Prof. Alak Kumar Buragohain, Former Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University
27. Prof. Kiran Hazarika, Pro Vice Chancellor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
28. Shri Moloy Bora, IAS (Retd.), Former Commissioner & Secretary, S&YW, Govt. of Assam
29. Shri Paban Borthakur, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Assam
30. Dr. Manika Debnath, Former Professor & Head, Deptt. of Health Science and Fitness, LNIPE, Gwalior
31. Dr. Prem Chand Kashyap, National Gymnast & Former ED, Sports Authority of India
32. Shri Nibedan Das Patowary, ACS, Former Director, Directorate of S & YW, Govt. of Assam
33. Mr. Dharmakanta Mili, Director, Directorate of S & YW, Government of Assam
34. Dr. Subhash Basumatary, Regional Director, Sports Authority of India, Guwahati
35. Shri Pankaj Singh, Director, FICCI
36. Prof. M.L. Kamalesh, Former Principal, LNIPE Trivendrum
37. Dr. Dayananda Borgohain, Chairman, Assam Higher Sec. Edu. Council
38. Shri Rukma Gohain Baruah, Former Chairman, Assam Higher Sec. Edu. Council
39. Mr. Islam Kassem, Renowned Football Coach, Egypt National Team

Path Ahead

With a strong foundation laid over its first five years, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University is poised for its next phase of strategic growth. The university plans to fully operationalize its permanent residential campus at Chabua, expand its academic offerings including additional postgraduate and diploma programs, and deepen its engagement in sports research and innovation. Emphasis will be placed on building global partnerships, enhancing faculty strength, and developing specialized laboratories and training centers. SASU will also focus on increasing student intake, fostering industry collaboration, and contributing to national sports policies. Guided by its vision and buoyed by strong government and community support, the university is committed to emerging as a national leader in sports education and a beacon of excellence in the North-East.

Summary of the First Five Years (2020–2025)

The journey of Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University, Assam, from its inception in June 2020 to June 2025, reflects a remarkable story of vision, resilience, and institution-building in challenging times.

Starting amid the global COVID-19 pandemic, the University overcame initial logistical and infrastructural constraints to lay a strong academic and administrative foundation. Under the dynamic leadership of Prof. J. P. Verma, the Founder Vice Chancellor, the University quickly constituted its governing bodies, launched academic programs aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and earned key recognitions including UGC's 2(f) status and membership in the Association of Indian

Universities (AIU).

Significant achievements include:

- Steps taken towards establishing a digital and paperless administrative system in collaboration with INFLIBNET.
- Launching the first academic program in 2021 — PG Diploma in Sports Coaching — with 100% placement.
- Designing and initiating an innovative 4-year UG program in Physical Education under NEP 2020.
- Successfully launching a PhD program in 2025 with a strong focus on research.
- Forming robust statutory and advisory bodies with national-level academicians, technocrats, and Olympians.
- Creating and approving a comprehensive Vision document and Institutional Development Plan for phased growth.
- Receiving Government support including a ₹3.83 crore NEP implementation grant.

The University has held multiple statutory meetings—8 Executive Council, 2 Court, 11 Academic and Activity Council, and 6 Finance Committee meetings—ensuring strong participatory governance. It has also actively published newsletters and annual reports to ensure transparency and academic engagement.

The campus infrastructure development began as per a master plan developed by an expert advisory committee, and academic operations were sustained through strategic space-sharing partnerships with institutions like DHSK College.

The involvement of Olympians, Vice Chancellors of other sports universities, and senior technocrats in the university's governance speaks to its national character and commitment to excellence. Their mentorship and policy inputs have shaped the institution's ethos.

Through these coordinated efforts, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University has not only fulfilled its foundational mandate but also positioned itself as a premier emerging sports education institution in India, dedicated to fostering academic excellence, sporting talent, and research in the North-Eastern region and beyond.

Luminary Visitors



Shri Zafar Iqbal (Hockey)
Padma Shri Awardee and Olympic Gold Medalist (1980)
Member, Court



Shri V. S. Chauhan (Iron Man of Asia)
Asian Gold Medalist
Member, Court



Lt. Gen. J S Cheema (Retd.)
Former Vice Chancellor, MBS Punjab Sports University
Member, Court



Smt. Karnam Malleswari
Padma Shri, Arjuna Awardee
India's first woman Olympic Medalist
Member, Executive Council



Dr. Prem Chand Kashyap
Former Executive Director, Sports Authority of India
Member, Court



Shri Ashok Kumar (Hockey)
Arjuna Awardee
Key player in India's 1975 Hockey World Cup win
Member, Academic & Activity Council



Smt. Monalisa Baruah Mehta (Table Tennis)
Arjuna Awardee
National Table Tennis Champion
Member, Academic & Activity Council



Prof. D. P. Agrawal
Ex - Chairman
Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)



Ms. Amanpreet Kaur
National Boxer
Head Coach Indian Youth Women Boxing Team



Mr. Islam Kaseem
Egyptian Footballer
Professional Football Coach & Certified Fitness Trainer

