

**Director-General, NICMAR on a three-day visit to Kaziranga University**

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, the Director-General of the National Institute of Construction Management and Research (NICMAR) Pune, Dr. Mangesh G. Korgaonker, arrived at Kaziranga University (KU) for an official three-day visit.

Dr. Mangesh Korgaonker is an academician of eminence, having served at IIT Mumbai and IIM Ahmedabad and on several government committees for growth and development. Briefing the media on 1<sup>st</sup> December, Dr. Korgaonker outlined the philosophy of creation of NICMAR and the programmes offered. He also mentioned that there are no quality programmes offered in the field of infrastructure and construction management, which happens to be the most important and focused growth sector in India. He also mentioned that the partnership with Kaziranga University will provide to the region development of talent to undertake mega infrastructure projects currently being executed by the state government.

Dr. P.K Mishra, President NEKF, applauded the achievements of NICMAR in offering high-quality programmes for the infrastructure sector in various geographies in India. He also mentioned that NICMAR has agreed to create a 'Centre of Excellence' for construction and urban infrastructure development at KU, under an exclusive arrangement in the whole of the North-East.

Dr. Sunil Rai, Vice Chancellor of Kaziranga University, informed about the two initiatives being undertaken immediately, namely: National Immersion Programme – a six-day training-cum-internship module for Civil Engineering graduates to be conducted at NICMAR, Pune; MBA in Construction and Infrastructure Management to be launched in July 2017 wherein students will do one trimester at NICMAR, Pune, in their second year, which will be followed by an internship-cum-placement drive.

Ms. Rainy Khetan, Director KU, remarked that the KU-NICMAR collaboration is going to provide opportunity for the youth of the North-East, particularly Civil and Mechanical engineers to acquire the requisite knowledge to serve in higher-level jobs in the construction sector. She welcomed Dr. Korgaonker assuring him of all support in bringing excellence in the region in the field of infrastructure.

The KU-NICMAR initiative is a unique project which has come at the right time that the State of Assam is launching on mega-projects such as 4-laning of the National Highway and developing Guwahati as a 'smart city' under the Government of India's initiative.