## **Institutional Distinctiveness**

Nongtalang College is located in Meghalaya close to the International border with Bangladesh. This area is a primarily rural area far away from any towns and cities and is also about 40 kilometers away from the District Headquarter, Jowai. There are no colleges providing degree level education in the area and the nearest colleges are located in Jowai or Shillong which are not accessible to students from here who wish to pursue higher studies. The students coming from the villages surrounding Nongtalang village are also from poorer economic backgrounds and are not able to afford college and hostel fees charged in the City. Due to these reasons Nongtalang College aims to provide quality and affordable Education to all and especially to the under privileged section of the society residing in the remote International Border Area (Indo-Bangladesh). In line with this vision the College has always ensured that the fees charged by the Institution remain affordable and within the reach of the students residing in the area. Students are also admitted to the College without any bias whatsoever and all students who seek admission are admitted to the College. It is through these measures that the college provides accessible education to all concerned even though this is a major cause for the financial constraints that are faced. As the College is located in this remote area, it is sometimes difficult to find dedicated teachers, however, in order to maintain a high standard of education it is ensured that teachers are appointed through proper procedures and must possess the necessary qualifications. In order to provide holistic education and to also ensure that students do not suffer on account of the remote location, special programmes are organized in the college by inviting resource persons and agencies like Avenues to upgrade the skills of students in the College.

> Principal Nongtalang College Nongtalang