



## ADBU and Dhruva Space Partner to Build Space Research Infrastructure in Northeast India

**Assam Don Bosco University deepens its Academic–Industry partnership with Dhruva Space, building on LACHIT-1 by expanded capacity building, Ground systems, as well as critical and hands-on Space infrastructure for students across the region**

**Guwahati, Assam, INDIA [29 January 2026]** The Northeast is fast emerging as a strategic hub for India's next phase of Space Tech growth, with increasing focus on building critical infrastructure and specialised talent. In a significant step towards this vision, Assam Don Bosco University has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Dhruva Space, a Hyderabad-based full-stack Space Engineering company. Formalised on Wednesday, 28 January 2026 at the Tapesia Campus, the partnership lays the foundation for establishing and strengthening Space-technology infrastructure and research capabilities across the Northeast.



*Leadership from Assam Don Bosco University (Rev. Fr. Dr. Jose Palely, SDB, and Prof. Vikramjit Kakati) and Dhruva Space (Mr. Sanjay Nekkanti and Mr. Avinash Maramraju) with students and faculty of ADBU*

The MoU builds on ADBU's ongoing engagement with Dhruva Space, which includes the building, launch, and operations of LACHIT-1, the Northeast's first satellite, alongside Space-focused coursework, amateur radio training, and technical sessions conducted both on campus and at Dhruva Space's facilities in Hyderabad. This engagement has been supported by authorisation guidance from IN-SPACe, ensuring regulatory alignment across mission and ground-segment activities.



With Dhruva Space's support, the University has also established the Northeast region's first VHF/UHF Ground Station and Mission Control Centre, enabling students and faculty to gain hands-on operational familiarity with Ground Data systems and Space-based communication workflows, whilst supporting ADBU's objective of expanding experiential learning in Space systems engineering.



*The VHF/UHF Ground Station antenna established by Dhruva Space and ADBU at the Tapesia campus of Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati.*

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Sanjay Nekkanti, CEO of Dhruva Space said: "Today is a memorable milestone for both institutions. Assam Don Bosco University has demonstrated a clear and sustained commitment to building real capability in Space engineering, and that commitment is evident in the discipline of its students and the intent of its faculty. This collaboration is significant not only for the university but also for the broader Northeast, where interest in Space Technology and research is steadily growing. By creating Space infrastructure in the region in partnership with ADBU, we look forward to contributing meaningfully to this momentum by supporting skill development, strengthening hands-on engineering pathways, and reinforcing the region's long-term participation in India's expanding Space programme."



Rev. Fr. Sebastian Kuricheal, SDB, appreciated Dhruva Space for taking the lead in initiating a collaboration that would serve the long-term interests of the institution and its students. He remarked that the signing of the MoU would go a long way in strengthening academic-industry collaboration and opening new avenues of research and innovation for both partners.



*The mission control centre established by Dhruva Space and ADBU at the Tapesia campus of Assam Don Bosco University, Guwahati.*

Prior to the official signing, Rev. Fr. Dr. Jose Palely, SDB, introduced both parties and highlighted the importance of such partnerships in fostering experiential learning and advanced research opportunities for students.

Also present at the event were Rev. Fr. Dr. Zacharias George, SDB, Registrar; Rev. Fr. Bivan Rodrigues Mukhim, SDB, Vice Provincial; Rev. Fr. Jayaprakash Anthonimuttu, SDB, Economer; Mr. Avinash Maramraju, Additional Director - Sales & Business Development; Salesians working at Assam Don Bosco University; faculty members; and students.

Till date, ADBU's Space Tech endeavours have earned accolades from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma; Hon'ble Cabinet Minister for Higher Education, School Education, Tribal Affairs Shri Ranoj Pegu, and Hon'ble Minister of Tourism & Higher Education of Nagaland Shri Temjen Imna Along, amongst others.

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#### **About Assam Don Bosco University**

Assam Don Bosco University (ADBU) was established as the first State University of Assam in the private sector on 29 March 2008, and set up by Don Bosco Society in response to the felt educational needs of the people of North-East India. In a little over 10 years, Assam Don Bosco



University has become one of the best Universities in the Northeast and has the distinction of the only private University in Assam with an 'A' Grade from National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The University has also been given a 12B status by the University Grants Commission, hence, becoming the first private University to attain this status in Northeast and the fourth in the country.

#### **About Dhruva Space**

Dhruva Space Private Limited is a full-stack Space Engineering solutions provider based in Hyderabad, India. The company is active across Space, Launch, and Ground segments and supports Civilian and Defense clients worldwide.

Dhruva Space offers Satellite/s coupled with Earth Station/s and Launch Service/s as an integrated solution or individually as technology solutions to power Space-based applications on Earth and beyond.