# **Voice of East**

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# Teachers' Association of Eastern University (TAEU)

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Voice of East' is the official magazine of the Teachers' Association of Eastern University (TAEU), published since 2022. TAEU is a trade union registered under the Trade Union Ordinance No. 14 of 1935 with the Department of Labour. It is also a member of the Federation of University Teachers' Associations (FUTA). TAEU primarily serves as the collective voice of its academic staff members, advocating for their rights and acting as the "voice of the voiceless" to foster a university environment rooted in transparency and good governance. It strives to ensure a dignified existence for academics, enabling them to serve students, the university, the community, and the country at large—free from undue influence and pressure. TAEU represents the academic staff of the university, communicating and acting on their behalf to protect and promote the dignity, rights, and well-being of individuals, the university community, and the institution as a whole.

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Neither the Teachers' Association of Eastern University nor the editors necessarily take any responsibility for views expressed by the authors of various articles published in this volume.

#### Message from the President, TAEU



It is with great honor and pride that I present this message as the President of the Teachers' Association of Eastern University, Sri Lanka, for the 4<sup>th</sup> Volume of Voice of East, the official magazine of our Association. As we continue our academic journey together, this publication stands as a testament to our shared commitment to excellence in education, research, and community engagement.

Over the past year, the Teachers' Association has remained steadfast in its mission not only to enhance the academic and professional standards of our university but also to uphold the dignity, rights, and welfare of our members. Throughout our tenure, we have actively

engaged with the university administration through numerous discussions, negotiations, and representations. We are proud to have resolved several grievances of our members, ensuring that their voices were heard and their concerns addressed. These efforts reflect our unwavering dedication to fostering a fair, respectful, and empowering environment for all academic staff.

Voice of East continues to serve as a vital platform for sharing the views, suggestions, achievements, and aspirations of our esteemed members and the broader academic community. This volume, like those before it, showcases the hard work and dedication of our members who inspire not only through their teaching, but also through their research and community outreach.

As we step into another year of growth, it is important to remember that our university is more than a center of learning; it is a vibrant community committed to nurturing intellectual curiosity, fostering critical thinking, and contributing meaningfully to society.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to every member of the Teachers' Association for their steadfast support and dedication to the cause of education. Together, we will continue to cultivate an environment where innovation, creativity, and leadership can flourish. The success of Voice of East is not just a reflection of our past achievements but also a mirror of our collective aspirations for a brighter future for our students, our university, and society at large. As we celebrate this milestone, let us also look ahead with hope, determination, and a renewed commitment to the values that unite us as educators.

Thank you for your continued support, and my sincere appreciation goes to the editor for her tireless efforts in bringing this publication to life. I look forward to the collaborative success that the coming year promises. Let us move forward together, in service and solidarity.

Professor. M. Sugirtharan

President, Teachers' Association of Eastern University Sri Lanka

### Message from the Secretary, TAEU



It is with great pleasure that I extend my greetings to the readers of *Voice of East*. The Teachers' Association of Eastern University (TAEU) has remained steadfast in its commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of our members, both at the university level and through active engagement with the Federation of University Teachers' Associations (FUTA).

As a responsible trade union deeply concerned with the well-being and integrity of our university, TAEU has not hesitated to raise its voice against administrative malpractice. The past tenure was especially challenging in this regard, demanding courage, resilience, and unity. We take pride in having faced those challenges head-on and in achieving meaningful progress. Yet there are many issues that need to be addressed with strong hand of unity.

While thanking our members for their unwavering support and solidarity, we sincerely hope that our members will continue to stand with the same spirit of unity in the future as we navigate the path ahead together.

At this moment, I wish to express heartfelt appreciation to the editor of *Voice of East* for compiling nine insightful articles contributed by our members—an admirable effort that highlights the intellectual engagement of our academic community. I also extend my sincere gratitude to the Executive Committee members of TAEU for their tireless efforts and support throughout the past tenure.

I conclude my message with a quote by Samuel Gompers:

"Where trade unions are most firmly organized, there are the rights of the people most respected."

In solidarity,

Mr. S.Santharooban
Secretary
Teachers' Association of Eastern University (TAEU)

## Message from the Editor, TAEU



It is with great pride that I welcome you to the 4<sup>th</sup> volume of our University Teachers' Union magazine 'Voice of East'. As we continue to navigate an ever-changing academic landscape, our role as educators and researchers remains more vital than ever. Our union remains committed to creating a fair and supportive environment for all university staff, and your participation is crucial to achieving this mission.

In this volume, we have published selected articles on a range of topics, including political, philosophy, medicine, technology, education, history, culture, and so forth. The articles are presented in a way that brings diverse research topics into public discussion and sharing, with the characteristics expected of a university researcher.

Thank you for your continued dedication to your students, your institutions, and to one another. As always, we welcome your feedback, contributions, and voices in shaping future editions.

In solidarity, Mrs. Gowry Luxmykanthan Editor, Voice of East - Vol.04

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