

# THE ASSAM JYOTI

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## Government to install a grand statue of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika at the zero point of the Dholak-Sadiya Bridge : Dr. Sarma



**Dispur :** Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma participated in the 'Shraddhanjali' programme organized by the Department of Cultural Affairs,

Government of Assam, at Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Samannay Tirtha, Jalukbari, Guwahati, and led the state in paying rich tributes to the bard of the Brahmaputra on

his 14th death anniversary. During the event, a human chain formed, performed the iconic song 'Manuhe Manuhor Babe' in unison. Joining the chorus, the Chief Minister through the song also paid heartfelt tribute to Sudhakantha.

Expressing his feeling on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that on this day, people of Assam as well as the people belonging to Assamese communities living abroad are paying homage to Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika through various programmes organized in their respective places. He informed that synchronizing with the occasion special homage programmes were organized in all 35 districts and 27 sub-divisions of the State, where thousands of students, youth, and citizens

participated in human chains and collectively lent their voice on 'Manuhe Manuhor Babe'. Around two lakh artistes, and citizens across the state both Barak and Brahmaputra valleys participated to pay their respects on the occasion. The Chief Minister thanked all artistes, students, youth, and citizens for their participation and congratulated Cultural Affairs Minister Bimal Bora and officials of the department for the successful organization of the event.

The Chief Minister stated that Dr. Bhupen Hazarika's song 'Manuhe Manuhor Babe' is not just Assam's treasure; it belongs to all humanity. The State government is working to get the song recognized as the Anthem of Humanity, as the *see page 10*

## Receiving the Prestigious 'Sadasyi Barenja' Honour from Asam Sahitya Sabha



**M. Hashim Ali, Dibrugarh :** One of the foremost personalities of Assam's national life, a towering figure in Assamese literature, and a man of few but powerful words. Dr. Nagen Saikia was on 2 November 2025, conferred with the highest honour of Asam Sahitya Sabha, "Sadasyi Barenja". The felicitation ceremony, organized at Rameswar Lal Saharia Sanhati Bhawan, Chowkidingee, Dibrugarh, was presided over by Dr. Basanta Kumar Goswami, President *see page 10*

## CM visits proposed site of Swahid Kanaklata Barua State University at Gohpur

**Dispur :** Continuing the unrelenting journey toward women empowerment through Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyan (MMUA), Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma distributed cheques worth Rs. 10,000 to each of the 31,045 beneficiaries of Naduar LAC at a function held at Jamugurihat in Sonitpur. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that the process of implementing Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyan,



launched on April 1 this year in Bihalilegislative assembly constituency constituency, is now underway across all constituencies of the state. He said that State government has been working tirelessly to fulfil every promise made during the last election. As a result of its

efforts, the government has been able to appoint more than one lakh youth to government jobs. He stated that no State government in the seventy-five years since India's independence had ever made such a large number of appointments.

The Chief Minister said that *see page 10*

## Srimadvagawata, Dasham the tenth canto:

**SRI SRI SANKARDEV &  
ANANTA KANDALI'S**

**DASHAM**  
(The Sun of the myths)

দশম

(পুরাণ সূর্যী উদ্যোগী বৈকুণ্ঠ মুদ্রণ কার্য্যালয়)

Translated by  
**RITA BORUAH**

In the frightful sea of this world  
Sorrows have no end.  
You have only to immerse in pain.  
Knowing it, give up any other pleasure  
Cross it by worshipping Madhava (God)  
"With a heart so sincere and plain.  
The Lakshmi (the goddess of wealth) with whom you  
hope  
And ever long for it  
Even she is tickle minded  
All the worldly pleasure end with sorrows  
Trying it, you die in vain.  
The body for which you perform exertion  
Is also the home of distress  
The more your wealth increases  
The more your dimese is closer  
There is no more distress than it is.  
Human beings in this world have to suffer from sor-  
rows  
The entire world is full of sorrows  
All the beautiful women are  
The most frightful destroyers,  
No other suffering is as dangerous as they are.  
All other desires are the most horrible ways  
Still you attach yourself in it  
Soul is the most beloved sea in this world  
But you have no interest in it.  
One can achieve heaven By moral religious works  
But still can have no peace there  
Even Indra the king of heaven has to fall.  
If one can get the place of Brahma  
By performing many austerities  
Even there too, one can not get rid of death  
It is very painful that "One falls due to his own fault,  
Can not hear the praise of Krishna, the Lord  
Devoiding the praise of Krishna  
And believing others  
Dies in endless frightful pain  
The four Vedas and fourteen scriptures m tell  
It's the primitive Truth of all.

■ Rita Boruah  
99545-94823

## Majuli Turns into 'Second Baikuntha' as Raax Mahotsav Fills Island with Devotion

**Majuli:** The sacred land of Sattras and Namghars, Majuli, has transformed into a "Second Baikuntha" with the celebration of the annual Raax Mahotsav, filling the river island with devotion, culture and spiritual fervour. As part of the festivities, the Majuli District Administration organised a special boat procession on Tuni River under the theme "Baikunthar Horinam, Tuni Nodiye Di Ujai Jao" (Chant the name of God and sail along the Tuni River). The event observed huge participation

from devotees, monks and visitors from across Assam, all coming together to celebrate Lord Krishna's divine tales through music, dance and chanting. The serene atmosphere of Majuli echoed with naam-kirtan and devotional songs, offering a glimpse of the island's deep-rooted spiritual heritage. During the event, Sudhakantha Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was fondly remembered for his everlasting contributions to Assam's culture and music, with participants paying musical tributes in his honour.

## Para-cyclist Nisha Kumari visits Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University

**Dibrugarh :** Under the initiative of the Fit India Movement, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019, Nisha Kumari, a distinguished para-cyclist and mountaineer currently undertaking a cross-country campaign titled 'Pedal to Plant 2025,' visited Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University (SASU), Dibrugarh, on Monday. The university accorded a warm welcome to the team led by Kumari at its study centre and organized an interaction programme with students, faculty members, PhD scholars, and the officials of the University. The visiting team included Niksha Barot, Nilesh Barot, and Anjana Yadav. The event was jointly facilitated by Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University and the Sports Authority of India (SAI), coordinated by Pankaj Borthakur, Registrar, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University (SASU), along with officials from SAI's

Upper Assam regional centres. The cross-country cycling expedition began at Pangsa, Arunachal Pradesh, and will conclude at Mundra, Gujarat, covering over 4,000 km across multiple states. The initiative integrates cycling, recycling, and plantation drives to promote fitness and environmental responsibility. The mission aims to plant 1,00,000 saplings while engaging schools, colleges, and communities in awareness programmes dedicated to the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Organized under the theme 'Change Before Climate Change,' the 60-day expedition commenced on October 31, 2025, with a core team of around 10 cyclists supported by a logistics crew. Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University, in collaboration with SAI, successfully hosted the interaction and plantation activities on campus as part of this national-level campaign.

## Bongaigaon University conducts academic & administrative audit to strengthen quality standards

**Bongaigaon :** Bongaigaon University, recently upgraded to university status, conducted an academic and administrative audit on November 3 to evaluate the progress of its academic departments. Held on the university campus, the audit focused on curriculum implementation, student outcomes, faculty performance, research activities, and departmental best practices.

The audit team, led by Prof Mridul Hazarika, former Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University, and Prof Ratul Mahanta of Gauhati University, reviewed detailed departmental presentations and interacted with stakeholders. Prof Hazarika stressed the importance of regular audits in strengthening institutional quality, while Prof Mahanta

highlighted the need for stronger extension activities for community engagement. Vice-Chancellor Prof Taranee Deka said that such audits helped uphold a culture of accountability and drove innovation in academic practices. The initiative was coordinated by Dr Rahin Chandra Das, Director (i/c) IQAC, who noted that the exercise provides valuable insights for future planning and institutional growth. The audit team appreciated the university's efforts toward implementing NEP-2020, enhancing research, and introducing innovative teaching methods. The programme concluded with constructive recommendations aimed at further improving academic performance and interdisciplinary collaboration.

# Dr Hriday Kalita: The Pole-Star of Baihata Chariali's Healing Horizon

■ Heramba Nath

A doctor is truly like God to the patient. Therefore, I would like to call doctors an incarnation of God without hesitation. It is worth mentioning that the doctor's amiable behaviour makes the patient sigh with happiness and satisfaction; therefore, the patient feels happiness in an instant. By coming to him, we regain our lost health. I often hear patients say this after recovery. In fact, it is an emotional expression of extreme achievement and health; otherwise, a patient will never be able to speak as mentioned. The fact that the world is now mechanised does not mean that human qualities have disappeared from people. Many people say that there are no people like in the past. Now people have become completely self-centred. Today's people have become lifeless machines and have forgotten to share each other's happiness and sorrow. No one seems to have time; actually, goodwill or lack of time? It is suspected that the subconscious mind is only filled with the desire to acquire huge money, wealth and power. It seems that money is everything. Money speaks and everything else is false. But some people we meet in life prove that so-called thinking is completely false. It quickly brings appropriate changes to the mind. I got ample proof of this — when I went to COSMO DENTAL in Baihata Chariali, Kamrup district for dental treatment, where usually, Oral & Dental Surgeon Dr Hriday Kalita treats patients regularly. Dr Kalita is truly a humanitarian doctor and his personality is incomparable. Surprisingly, the young doctor has not been touched by the current greedy mentality.

In every age and every corner of the world, there rise certain individuals whose service transcends their profession. Their existence becomes a gentle assurance that humanity, compassion, and ethics still survive amid the restless rhythm of modern life. Among the quiet lights illuminating the medical fraternity of Assam, one finds the steady and reassuring presence of Dr Hriday Kalita, an oral and dental surgeon whose work has redefined healthcare in the Baihata Chariali region of Kamrup. His contribution is not confined to curing ailments; it extends to restoring faith in the nobility of the medi-

cal profession itself.

Born to Labanya Kumar Kalita and Ranu Kalita of Baihata Chariali, Dr Hriday Kalita's upbringing was steeped in the values of humility, respect, and service. His father, a retired railway accounts officer, was known for his good administrative skills and sense of discipline, while his mother, a homemaker from a highly educated family, is known for her kindness and nurturing nature. Together, they shaped in him a spirit of compassion and sincerity from an early age. In their home, education was not just a path to employment but a way to understand one's duty to society. From his childhood, Hriday grew up observing kindness as a daily practice and discipline as a quiet virtue. The seeds planted by his parents would one day bloom into the moral foundation of his professional life.

Even as a child, he exhibited a rare combination of gentleness and focus. He was neither loud nor attention-seeking, yet his actions always reflected clarity and responsibility. Those who knew him during his early years remember him as a polite, disciplined boy with an innate sense of respect for others. His natural curiosity about the world and his empathy for people hinted at the compassionate doctor he would one day become.

His academic journey began at Sankardev Sishu Niketan, Karara, where teachers recall his exceptional diligence and good manners. He completed his Matriculation Examination in 2010 with 84% marks and five letters, which demonstrated his academic brilliance and consistency. His educational path continued at Srimanta Shankar Academy, Panbazar, Guwahati, where he completed his Higher Secondary education with 74% marks. Teachers and classmates alike remember him not merely for his intelligence but for his sincerity and balanced personality. He was a student who combined quiet confidence with deep humility — a trait that would become the signature of his professional identity.

After completing his Higher Secondary studies, he chose to pursue a field that allowed both science and compassion to coexist — dentistry. He enrolled in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) programme under Dr Ram

Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya, a respected institution known for its academic discipline and clinical excellence. During his years of study, he proved himself as one of the most sincere and dependable students. Professors recall his calm attention during clinical sessions and his remarkable ability to blend theoretical understanding with human empathy. For him, dentistry was not merely a profession but an opportunity to heal and to serve. After completing his BDS degree and internship, he pursued further training in Orthodontics, refining his technical precision and expanding his expertise in dental alignment and facial aesthetics. This advanced training enabled him to master both the scientific and aesthetic aspects of dentistry — from the structural understanding of dental anatomy to the art of creating confident smiles. His professional growth was marked by patience, observation, and the desire to learn continuously.

Before returning to Assam, he gained valuable professional experience at Awasthi Dental Clinic, Lucknow, where his sense of discipline, ethical conduct, and gentle handling of patients made a lasting impression. His colleagues often mention his politeness and professional integrity, while patients recall his reassuring voice and clear explanations of procedures. His ability to make even the most anxious patient feel at ease became one of his defining qualities. The clinical experience he acquired in Lucknow not only honed his technical skills but also deepened his understanding of how empathy can transform the patient–doctor relationship.

When he eventually returned to his home region, he carried with him not only medical expertise but a sense of moral duty. In Baihata Chariali, he founded COSMO DENTAL — a modern clinic that quickly became a symbol of ethical and compassionate dental care. Located near the Traffic Police Point on Guwahati Road in Kamrup district, this clinic represents a blend of modern facilities and traditional ethics. Yet, beyond technology, what distinguishes COSMO DENTAL is its humane atmosphere — a calm, reassuring space where science meets empathy.

The clinic is also equipped with an advanced Chinese-manufactured digital X-ray machine that



ensures precision and clarity in diagnosis, along with a highly sophisticated modern dental chair designed with advanced technological features for patient comfort and safety. Both these facilities reflect Dr Hriday Kalita's emphasis on maintaining the highest standards of dental care. His choice of such equipment underscores his commitment to integrating science and compassion — ensuring that every patient receives treatment in a hygienic, technologically advanced, and humane environment. By combining modern diagnostic precision with personal attention, he has transformed COSMO DENTAL into a model of excellence for the entire region.

Stepping into COSMO DENTAL, one feels a distinct harmony — an environment that balances professional precision with emotional warmth. Patients describe the ambience as peaceful and comforting, where the fear often associated with dental treatment gently dissolves. The walls of his chamber, though filled with modern instruments, resonate with a deeper human energy — the silent assurance of being cared for by someone who genuinely values people over profit. In today's healthcare landscape, where commercialisation often overshadows compassion, Dr Hriday Kalita represents a refreshing exception. He views his profession not as a business but as a noble responsibility entrusted by society. Every patient, regardless of background or status, receives the same level of respect, time, and attention. He listens carefully, explains every procedure patiently, and never hurries through a consultation. Many of his patients recall that even before any treatment begins, his gentle voice and understanding smile ease half their pain.

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In Sanskrit literature, particularly in the Harivamsa, an appendix to the Mahabharata, the earliest reference to a dance resembling Rasa Nritya appears. Here, multiple gopis form a circle around a single male, performing a circular dance. The Harivamsa commentator defines Rasakrida explicitly, "Ekasya pumso bahubhiih stribhiih kridanam saiva rasakrida" the play of one man with many women. Sridhara Swami, in his commentary Bhagavat Bhavartha Dipika on the Srimad Bhagavatam, elaborates, "Anonyavyatisakta hastanam stripumsam gayatam mandali rupenabhramatam nrtyavivinodo rasonama" men and women, hands interlocked without separation, revolve in a circle, singing and reveling in dance, this is Rasa.

The gopis' circular formation was also called Hallisa and Salikya, making these terms synonymous with Rasa. The Vishnu Purana provides a detailed account, stating that Lord Krishna participated personally. Similar references appear in the Agni, Vayu, Kurma, and Padma Puranas.

The great Vaishnava saint Mahapurusha Sankaradeva expounded Rasakrida's spiritual depth in his Bhagavata Purana, the play Keligopala, and the Kirtana-Ghosh. Drawing from the Srimad Bhagavatam's Tenth Skandha, he presented Rasakrida not as sensual indulgence but as profound metaphysical allegory. Krishna is the Supreme Purusha — God, Brahman, Paramatma, the substratum of creation. Rasakrida is its supreme manifestation.

'Rasa' means essence, divine

# The Spiritual Essence of Rasakrida

■ Lalit Nath

Itakhola, Sonitpur

emotion, transcendent love. 'Lila' means divine play or dance. Sridhara Swami clarifies, "Rasa kridam rasonama bahu narttikiko nrtya visesastam kridam" a special circular dance infused with rasa, performed with many dancers. Love is another name for bliss. Within bliss lies pure beauty and beauty is rasa. Thus, Rasakrida is the poetic embodiment of divine love.

The setting is magical autumn's full moon bathes the Yamuna's sandy banks in silvery light. Fragrant forests of Vrindavan bloom. Under Yogamaya's influence, Krishna resolves to honour His promise. Sankaradeva writes, "Sarata kalara ratri ati vitopana" bahubidha puspe vikasita vrndavana" dekhi yogamaya bale harise tahita" rasakrida karite krsnara bhaila cita" (11860) "Sensing the gopis' intense longing, Krishna plays His enchanting flute. Its melody pierces the night, captivating every heart. The Vraja maidens, entranced, abandon household duties some mid-cooking, others mid-adorning and rush to Vrindavan, heedless of danger. Their sole desire: proximity to the Supreme.

Krishna tests their resolve. He warns, "Durghora rajani preta pisacara gati" nathakiba aita torasaba strimati" tomasaka

nedekhiya pitr matr bhai" pati putra cai phurai thai thai" (11888) "He speaks of ghosts, societal norms, wifely dharma and the sin of paramour worship. The gopis, wounded yet unwavering, remain firm. Their devotion transcends fear and convention. Finally, compassion awakens in Krishna. The Supreme Soul, the universal well-wisher, engages in Rasakrida to fulfill their longing.

Sukadeva narrates this to the dying King Parikshit, bitten by a serpent. In such a grave moment, erotic discourse would be inappropriate — yet the Bhagavatam includes it. Why? Because Rasakrida is not carnal, it is the highest spiritual metaphor.

At its core lies bhagavat prema divine love and devotion's glory. Sankaradeva's Rasalila is not man-woman union but the soul's yearning for God. Hindu dharma's essence is jivatma-paramatma reunion. Krishna symbolizes Paramatma; the gopis, jivatma. Their irrepressible desire to merge with the Divine is allegorized through dance.

The Bhagavad Gita (4.11) affirms: "Ye yatha mam prapadyante tamstathaiva bhajamyaham" mama vartmanuvartante manusyah partha sarvasah" "However My devotees approach Me, I recip-

rocate accordingly. All follow My path, O Arjuna."

Only love dissolves the individual into the cosmic. Earthly love breeds attachment; devotional love yields knowledge. From knowledge flow compassion, loyalty, empathy, and non-violence qualities that elevate humanity.

Rasakrida thus nurtures civilization. It transforms society through bhakti-prema, making life noble. Spiritual discipline fosters introspection, restraint, generosity, humility, and empathy. Even in Krishna's era, marked by conflict, despair, and oppression the name Krishna eradicated all suffering. "Love is the world's noblest emotion — eternal, celestial. Rasakrida invites reflection on love's depth, diversity, divinity and intoxication. Yet today, Assam witnesses rising rape, plunder, deceit, and farce. Consumerist mechanization erodes tender love's sanctity. Faith, understanding, sacrifice, and dedication wane.

To revive them, love's antidote must strengthen. Educators, youth, couples society's enlightened must deepen awareness of love's spiritual expanse. Only then will new perspectives emerge, purging mental impurities and materialism. Spiritual consciousness awakens through such pursuit. "Rasakrida is not historical spectacle but living allegory. It teaches that true fulfillment lies in surrendering the self to the Divine. In an age of fragmentation, it remains a beacon calling humanity from sensual chaos to spiritual harmony, from isolation to union, from mortality to eternity.

Mobile : 99541-39493

# Biswanath's Grand Raax Mahotsav Begins with Cultural Splendour

**Biswanath:** The largest and most anticipated religious and cultural celebration of North Assam, the Biswanath Raax Mahotsav, began with great enthusiasm and devotion at the Railgate grounds. Organised by the Uttar Chari Ali Sarbajanin Raax Utsav Committee, the three-day festival has drawn large crowds from across the fragrance of incense, the rhythm of music, and the spirit of faith. The Raax Mahotsav, which depicts the life and divine play of Lord Krishna, entered its second evening on a

vibrant note. Five short plays based on the childhood episodes of Krishna were beautifully staged, followed by a performance of the timeless classic 'Kalajayi Keligopal'. The performances, filled with devotion, colour, and music, captured the essence of Assam's deep cultural roots.

This year's festival holds special emotional significance as it has been dedicated to Assam's most beloved artist, Zubeen Garg. The organisers paid tribute to the late singer by keeping a special chair

reserved in his name inside the music room, a heartfelt gesture recalling his close association with the festival. It may be mentioned that Zubeen Garg was scheduled to attend this year's Raax Mahotsav on 5 November, like he did in the past two years. During his visit last year, he had spent time with local musicians, even sitting in the music room to play the tabla, a moment fondly remembered by his admirers.

Adding to the tribute, renowned artist Nilim Mahanta has painted a beautiful portrait

of Zubeen Garg, which was unveiled at the venue amid emotional applause from the audience. In a striking moment of artistic expression during the Raax performance at Vrindavan, performers portrayed Siddharth Sarma and Shyamkanu Mahanta being symbolically tied to a post and hanged, holding a placard reading "#JusticeForZubeen." The dramatic scene was intended to express the performer's call for justice for the late singer and resonated deeply with the audience.

## সমাজ উন্নয়ন বাটিকটীয়াসফলোল সম্মান প্রদর্শনোৱা



অসম বেঙ্গল অসম সৌন্দৰ্য অসম সৌন্দৰ্য



বিভিন্ন শ্রেণীলৈ আগবঢ়োৱা  
অনবদ্য অবদানৰ স্বীকৃতিস্বরূপে

ৰাজ্যৰ সর্বোচ্চ অসামৰিক বঁটা-২০২৫ ৰ বাবে

## মনোনয়ন আহ্বান

### বিষয় সূচিবিবৰণ

- নগদ পুৰস্কাৰ
- চৰকাৰী আৰু তালিকাভূক্ত বাক্তিগত চিকিৎসালয়ত  
ৱালাখ টকালৈ বিনামূলীয়া চিকিৎসাৰ যুবিধা
- চৰকাৰী আৰু ভৱন, অতিথিশালা আৰু অসম ভৱনত  
বিনামূলীয়া ধকা-মেলাৰ ব্যৱস্থা
- চৰকাৰী অনুষ্ঠানসমূহত বিশিষ্ট অতিথিকাপে
- নিয়মীয়া আনন্দণ
- অসম বাজ্যক গবিনহণ নিগমৰ বাছত বিনামূলীয়া ধন্যণ

▷ এগৰাকী ব্যক্তিয়ে নিজকে বা আন এগৰাকী ব্যক্তিক  
মানোনীত কৰিব পাৰে

▷ **assamcivilianawards.assam.gov.in**  
প'টেলৰ জৰিয়তে লাভ কৰা মনোনয়নসমূহকৈছে কেৱল  
বেৰখ বুলি বিবেচনা কৰা হ'ব।

মনোনয়ন দাখিলৰ অন্তিম তাৰিখ

২০ নৱেম্বৰ, ২০২৫

তথ্য আৰু জনসংযোগ সঞ্চালকালয়, অসমৰ ধাৰা প্রচাৰিত

In the lush green valleys of Assam, where the mighty Brahmaputra River winds its way like a silver thread through the heart of the land, a voice was born that would echo across generations. That voice belonged to Bhupen Hazarika, a man whose life was as vast and nurturing as the river he loved so deeply. People in Assam still call him the Bard of the Brahmaputra, or Sudha Kontho, the sweet-throated singer, because his melodies carried the soul of their homeland far beyond its borders. Born on a crisp September morning in 1926, in the quiet town of Sadiya, Bhupen came into a world rich with stories, songs, and the gentle rhythm of nature. His father, Nilakanta Hazarika, was a simple man who worked in the railways, but it was his mother, Shantipriya, who first filled young Bhupen's ears with the magic of music. She would sing him lullabies in the evenings, soft tunes drawn from Assam's ancient folk traditions, weaving tales of love, loss, and the beauty of the everyday. As the eldest of ten children, Bhupen grew up in a home buzzing with laughter and learning, where music was not just entertainment but a way to connect with one's roots.

From his earliest days, Bhupen showed a spark that set him apart. His family moved around Assam a bit, following his father's job, but it was in Tezpur, at the age of just ten, that his talent truly blossomed. During a public event at a local school, little Bhupen stepped onto the stage and sang a Borgeet, one of those timeless devotional songs from Assam's Vaishnava heritage, taught to him by his mother. The audience included two giants of Assamese culture: Jyotiprasad Agarwala, a poet, playwright, and the pioneer of Assamese cinema, and Bishnu Prasad Rabha, a fiery artist and freedom fighter. They were stunned by the boy's pure, heartfelt voice. It was like hearing the river itself sing. Moved by his gift, they invited him to Kolkata, then the cultural heartbeat of eastern India. There, in 1936, at the Aurora Studio, ten-year-old Bhupen recorded his very first song for the Selona Company. Standing on wooden crates to reach the microphone, he poured his young heart into the melody, and a star was born. By twelve, he was already lending his voice to Agarwala's groundbreaking film Indramalati, singing tracks like Kaxote Kolosi Loi and Biswo Bijoyi Naujawan. These were not just songs; they were bridges between childhood dreams and a lifelong passion for art that spoke to the people.

As Bhupen grew into his teens, his love for music deepened

# The Bard of Brahmaputra

■ Satyabrat Borah

alongside his thirst for knowledge. He finished his schooling in places like Dhubri and Guwahati, where the mix of Assamese and Bengali influences sharpened his ear for diverse rhythms. The Bhatiali boatmen's songs from the riverbanks became his favorites, their haunting calls blending sorrow and hope in a way that would later define his own work. After matriculating in 1940, he headed to Cotton College in Guwahati for his intermediate studies, then to Banaras Hindu University for a bachelor's in arts. By 1946, he had earned a master's in political science, but his mind was always wandering back to the melodies of home. Music and politics intertwined early for him; he saw songs as tools for change, much like the freedom struggles stirring across India. In those post-independence years, Bhupen joined All India Radio as a producer, but the pull of bigger horizons was too strong. He left for New York in 1948, enrolling at Columbia University to pursue a doctorate in mass communication. It was there, amid the skyscrapers and jazz clubs, that he discovered influences that would transform his art. He befriended Paul Robeson, the legendary African-American singer and civil rights activist, whose powerful rendition of Ol' Man River left an indelible mark. Robeson's song mourned the struggles of Black workers along the Mississippi, and Bhupen, homesick for his own river, reimaged it as Bistirno Parore, a poignant Assamese ode to the Brahmaputra's wide shores, where the waters whispered of inequality and resilience.

Returning to India in 1953 with his PhD in hand, Bhupen dove headfirst into the cultural renaissance of Assam. He briefly taught at Gauhati University, sharing his knowledge of film and communication, but soon shifted to Kolkata, the hub of Bengali and Indian cinema. There, he became a force in the Indian People's Theatre Association, using plays and songs to rally for social justice and unity. His voice, now richer and more commanding, filled auditoriums and airwaves. He composed music for documentaries and films that highlighted the lives of ordinary folks, from tea garden workers to river traders. One of his early triumphs was the

film Era Bator Sur in 1956, where he wore multiple hats as director, producer, and composer. But it was his songs that truly captured hearts. Bhupen wrote over a thousand of them, mostly in Assamese, each one a mirror to the joys and pains of his people. Tracks like Bistrina parore and Ami asomiya painted vivid pictures of the Northeast's landscapes, from misty hills to flooded plains, urging listeners to cherish their heritage while dreaming of a fairer world. His lyrics often wove in themes of universal brotherhood, drawing from the Borgeets and folk tunes he grew up with, but infusing them with modern empathy. In an Assam grappling with identity and change, his music became a gentle conscience, soothing the wounds of insurgency and migration with calls for harmony.

Bhupen's reach extended far beyond Assam's borders, thanks to his work in cinema. He directed and scored several Assamese classics, like Shakuntala in 1960, Pratidhwani in 1964 and Lotighoti in 1966, earning the President's Medal for their evocative storytelling. These films weren't just entertainment; they showcased the raw beauty and struggles of rural life, with Bhupen's scores using traditional instruments like the dotara and flute to evoke the river's flow. His foray into Bengali and Hindi cinema brought Assam's folk essence to a national audience. He collaborated with directors like Kalpana Lajmi on films such as Rudaali and Saaz, where his song Dil Hoom Hoom Kare, a duet that tugs at the soul, introduced Northeast rhythms to Bollywood. Sung with a depth that mirrored the film's themes of widowhood and resilience, it became an anthem of quiet strength. In Bangladesh, his tunes were beloved, bridging cultures with shared stories of rivers and longing. Even in Arunachal Pradesh, he was honored with a gold medal in 1979 for uplifting tribal voices through his art. Bhupen once called himself a jajabor, a wandering minstrel, and indeed, he roamed from studios in Kolkata to stages in Delhi, always carrying Assam in his heart.

What made Bhupen truly iconic was how his music touched the everyday lives of people in Assam. During the turbulent

Assam Agitation of the 1970s and 80s, when tensions over immigrants boiled over, his songs became rallying cries. Yet, ever the humanist, he critiqued the violence while performing to foster peace. Tunes like Moi Eti Jajabor were more than ballads; they were invitations to wander through life's uncertainties with grace, reminding folks that the Brahmaputra, for all its floods, always renewed itself. His words celebrated the tea pickers' toil, the fishermen's solitude, and the warmth of Shillong's hills, making the marginalized feel seen. In a region often overlooked by the rest of India, Bhupen was a proud ambassador, blending local dialects like Mising and Boro into his compositions to honor Assam's mosaic of ethnic voices. He wrote books too, fifteen in all, filled with poems, essays, and children's stories that echoed his belief in education as a path to equality. As president of the Asam Sahitya Sabha in 1993, he championed literature that spoke truth to power.

The world took notice of this unassuming genius. In 1992, he received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, India's highest cinema honor, for his lifetime of blending song and screen. Padma Shri in 1977, Padma Bhushan in 2001, and posthumously the Padma Vibhushan in 2012 followed, but it was the Bharat Ratna in 2019 that sealed his place among India's immortals, only the second from Assam after Gopinath Bordoloi. Stamps bore his image, and the grand Dhola-Sadiya Bridge over the Brahmaputra was renamed Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Setu in his memory, a fitting tribute to the man who sang its praises. Yet, Bhupen remained grounded, often joking about his nomadic life, saying he had no fixed address but the river's banks.

On November 5, 2011, at 85, Bhupen left this world in Guwahati, his voice silenced by illness. But oh, how it lingers. Today, as we mark nearly a century since his birth, his songs play on river ferries and in school assemblies, teaching young Assamese children about their roots. They remind us that art can heal divides, that a simple melody can carry the weight of a nation's hopes. In an era of fleeting trends, Bhupen's work endures like the Brahmaputra eternal flow, nurturing dreams and washing away sorrows. He wasn't just a singer; he was the heartbeat of Assam, a friend who whispered that humanity's greatest strength lies in its shared stories. And in every note, every word, he invites us still to listen, to feel, and to sing along.

# First Foundation Day of Sonowal Kachari Cultural Society Celebrated in Dibrugarh

**Tribal languages and cultures are under threat-- Debendra Nath Basumatary**



**M Hashim Ali, Dibrugarh :** The Sonowal Kachari Cultural Society, an organization formed under the initiative of the Cultural Department of the Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council, celebrated its first foundation day (03-11-25) at the Bathou Temple premises in Dulia-Dainjan, Dibrugarh, with a day-long colorful program. The celebration began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp with four wicks and offering prayers to the revered deity Bathou. After that, the president of the organization, Bhuban Chandra Borah, hoisted the flag. Then, lamps were lit in front of the portraits of the late artist Zubeen Garg, eminent advocate Keshab Chandra Sonowal, former MLA Khiroda Saikia, writer Shiva Nath Sonowal, Diganta Hazarika, artist Gayatri Hazarika, retired DPI Rudreshwar Sonowal, and social worker Mridul Sonowal. Subsequently, an open meeting and cultural presentation was held at a temporary auditorium presided over by Bhuban Chandra Borah. Delivering the keynote address as chief guest, Debendra Nath Basumatary, President of the Assam Tribal Cultural Mahasabha and retired anchor of Doordarshan Guwahati, stated that small indigenous tribes around the world are gradually being absorbed by larger ones. He warned that tribal languages and cultures are facing existential threats, and the distinctiveness of traditional art and culture is disappearing. He observed that even today, tribal art and culture do not receive due recognition. Emphasizing the need for unity among all culturally conscious members of various tribes, he said, "Only through collective efforts can we preserve our tribal traditions and culture—and thereby protect the greater Assamese identity as well." The meeting, jointly conducted by Society Secretary

Monikanta Sonowal and Publicity Secretary Ratan Hazarika, was graced by Registrar of Dibrugarh University, Dr. Parmananda Sonowal, as a distinguished guest. Dr. Sonowal highlighted both positive and negative aspects of the community and urged the Cultural Society and other related organizations to work unitedly in preserving and promoting their culture. Delivering his written welcome speech, President Bhuban Chandra Borah said that the main aim of the Sonowal Kachari Cultural Society is to study, research, practice, promote, preserve, and popularize the rich and distinctive folk art, music, instruments, dances, attire, cuisine, customs, traditions, rituals, heritage, and the ancient Bathou worship of the Sonowal Kachari community, bringing them into a refined and universally appreciable form. He further noted that the Khring Khring Bathou worship culture is the core foundation of the ancient Sonowal Kachari heritage. In his inaugural speech, Tongeswar Sonowal, Chief Executive Member of the Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council, announced that a corpus fund of ₹3 crore would soon be released for the Society. He expressed hope that with a scientific and inclusive plan, the Society would play a significant role in the cultural upliftment of the community. On this occasion, Dibrugarh Zilla Parishad Chairperson Pushpanjali Sonowal unveiled the annual souvenir "Ebosoriya Parikrama" edited by senior journalist Ratan Hazarika to mark the first anniversary of the Society. Eminent social worker and former MLA Jyotsna Sonowal unveiled the Society's theme song "Asomir Kolate Son Hoi Jilike" composed, written, and conceptualized by Monikanta Sonowal. She also released two more songs "Bhekuli Biyar Nam" and a modern num-

ber "O Pakhi Bonoriya" both composed by Monikanta Sonowal. During the event, six eminent personalities of the Sonowal Kachari community Pramod Chandra Sonowal (Bathou culture practitioner), educationist Shantanu Das Borhajuwal, artist Durgeswar Sonowal, Jairam Hazarika, writer Bhupati Baruah, and Bathou

temple priest Heramba Sonowal were felicitated with golden gamosas, seleng shawls, and citations. On behalf of all the honorees, Pramod Chandra Sonowal delivered a brief speech of gratitude. The program venue came alive with vibrant Sonowal huchori performances by the No. 2 Charaihabi group, Log Bihu by the Borpathar Rongagora team of Dangari, Lacheri dance by the Khatri Shal Nritya Academy of Teperguri, and group folk instrument performances. "The event was also attended by Dewananda Chelleng, President of the Sonowal Kachari Students' Union, Mohan Sonowal, President of the Sonowal Kachari Sahitya Sabha, along with leaders of various organizations, several distinguished persons, and thousands of people from the Sonowal Kachari community from across the state.

## Awareness programme on vulture conservation held at Chaiduar College

**Biswanath Chariali :** A vulture conservation awareness programme was held at Chaiduar College (Autonomous), Gohpur, jointly organized by the Department of Zoology, DBT-NER Advanced Level Institutional



Biotech Hub, and the Department of MLT, in collaboration with the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, and the Assam Forest Department on Tuesday. The event was inaugurated by Dr Kishor Singh Rajput, Principal of Chaiduar College, who emphasized the vital role of vultures in maintaining environmental hygiene and urged students to participate in conservation efforts. The technical session was anchored by Dr Ranjit Kakati, Research Associate, DBT-NER Advanced Level Institutional Biotech Hub, who coordinated the proceedings. Dr Mohini Mohan Borah, Head of Zoology, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the ecological importance of vultures and the threats posed by NSAIDs, pesticides, and habitat loss.

Gitartho Borah, Biologist at the Vulture Conservation and Breeding Centre, Kaziranga, delivered the main talk, presenting insights on vulture behaviour, threats, and conservation strategies, including the creation of Vulture Safe Zones in Assam. Over 100 students and faculty members participated actively in the programme.

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## Dr Hriday Kalita: The Pole-Star of Baihata Chariali's Healing Horizon

His approach to medicine is deeply rooted in the philosophy that healing is both a science and a moral art. Machines and medicines can only support; true recovery begins when a patient feels heard, respected, and cared for. This philosophy forms the invisible foundation of COSMO DENTAL. Patients who visit him often remark that he brings comfort even before he begins treatment. For many, his calm presence, modest demeanour, and soft-spoken nature become a form of healing itself.

For Dr Hriday Kalita, professionalism means far more than clinical precision. It means integrity, punctuality, and responsibility. He is known for his unwavering commitment to his schedule, his meticulous attention to hygiene and sterilisation, and his gentle yet confident manner during procedures. He never allows interruptions when attending to a patient — for him, each individual before him deserves complete focus and respect. Such quiet discipline has earned him admiration among his colleagues and trust among his patients.

The clinic's reputation has grown largely by word-of-mouth. He does not seek publicity; instead, his work and humane conduct travel through grateful patients who recommend him to neighbours and relatives. From nearby villages to distant towns, people come to COSMO DENTAL not merely for dental care but for trust — the trust that they will be treated with fairness, honesty, and compassion. This steady flow of goodwill has made his clinic one of the most respected dental institutions in North East Kamrup. Many patients have shared stories of how his kind assurance helped them overcome fear, or how his words of comfort eased their anxiety before treatment. It is this humane touch that distinguishes him from the impersonal approach often found in modern healthcare.

Outside the clinic, Dr Kalita lives a life of simplicity and balance. He maintains his health through regular exercise, often visiting the gym and occasionally playing cricket — two activities he believes help him remain energetic and mentally composed. He values physical vitality as an extension of professional discipline. Despite his busy schedule, he never loses touch with the social fabric around him. He interacts with people of all walks of life, from villagers to pro-

fessionals, with equal warmth and sincerity. His humility and accessibility make him not just a respected doctor but a beloved member of the Baihata Chariali community.

Those who know him personally describe him as gentle in words but firm in principles. He is polite yet determined, soft-spoken yet strong in conviction. His humility does not come from weakness but from strength — the strength of a man who knows that kindness, when practised consistently, becomes the highest form of leadership. His clinic does not display any extravagant décor, nor does he promote himself through advertisements; instead, his reputation has travelled through word of mouth, carried by the genuine gratitude of hundreds of satisfied patients.

In an age when many clinics prioritise profit over people, Dr Hriday Kalita's example serves as a reminder that the essence of medicine lies in ethics, not economics. He embodies the timeless principle that a true doctor is a servant of humanity before being a specialist of science. His conduct revives the ancient Indian ideal of "Vaidyo Narayano Harih" — the doctor as a manifestation of divine compassion.

His colleagues across Assam and beyond regard him with professional admiration. They see in him a rare combination of technical mastery and moral steadiness. While some practitioners chase visibility through publicity, he remains focused on silent excellence. His success is not loud but lasting — not driven by fame, but by the unbroken chain of goodwill that links one grateful patient to another.

For the community of Baihata Chariali, his presence has become a quiet pillar of assurance. The town, often described as the gateway between rural and urban Assam, has found in him a doctor whose heart bridges both worlds. Farmers, teachers, traders, and students — all find in him the same gentle attention and honesty. His contribution has enhanced the moral and professional landscape of Baihata Chariali, making it not just a hub of dental service but a beacon of ethical healthcare.

In the moral sense, Dr Hriday Kalita is more than a doctor — he is a reminder that compassion still breathes within the walls of medicine. His life reaffirms the belief that success, when guided by ethics, becomes a form of service. He has demonstrated that one can be modern without being materialistic, scientific without being soulless.

When one looks closely at his journey, it reveals more than the story of a successful dental surgeon; it mirrors the story of human goodness finding its rightful place in a

world increasingly defined by speed and superficiality. His dedication, sincerity, and quiet discipline remind us that greatness often wears the garb of simplicity.

The name Dr Hriday Kalita today stands not merely for dental expertise but for moral clarity. His clinic, COSMO DENTAL, shines as a small yet steadfast lighthouse of humane medical practice — illuminating the path for young doctors who aspire to serve, not just to succeed. His patient care reflects his spiritual integrity, while his professional ethics reflect his inner discipline. The combination of both makes him a complete professional — one who heals through both science and soul.

As he continues his journey, his humility remains unchanged. He treats his growing recognition not as personal achievement but as divine responsibility. Those who visit him never leave as strangers; they leave as part of a larger human family connected by trust and respect.

In the corridors of medicine, where commercial motives often overshadow compassion, Dr Hriday Kalita stands as an emblem of moral resilience. His story is a living lesson that in the pursuit of progress, humanity must never be left behind.

He once said in a casual conversation with a patient, "A smile is not just created by teeth; it is created by trust." That one line perhaps defines his entire philosophy. His work restores smiles, but more importantly, it restores faith — faith in ethics, faith in empathy, and faith in the enduring goodness of human service.

If one were to describe his life in a single metaphor, it would be that of a Pole-Star — calm, unwavering, and luminous, guiding countless others across the dark expanse of doubt and despair. For Baihata Chariali, for Assam, and for the moral conscience of the medical community, Dr Hriday Kalita remains that Pole-Star of healing — illuminating the horizon of humanity with his humility, dedication, and grace. In his quiet ways, he proves that greatness does not need noise, and service does not demand applause. The world may celebrate power, position, and possessions, but the true measure of worth still lies in how one touches another life with sincerity and compassion. His service is not a mere profession — it is a silent prayer offered through every act of care, every comforting word, every gentle smile, and every life he helps to heal.

What makes his journey remarkable is not just his professional achievement but his moral stillness — a serenity that springs from inner conviction and ethical clarity. In every patient he treats, he recognises a fragment of humanity,

and in every act of service, he finds divine purpose. His work reminds us that the essence of medicine is not contained within walls of clinics or chambers of technology; it lives in the pulse of empathy that flows from one heart to another. He has shown that when knowledge is guided by conscience, medicine becomes a sacred dialogue between science and soul.

For the people of Baihata Chariali, his clinic has become more than a dental centre — it is a sanctuary where fear transforms into faith, and pain transforms into peace. Each patient who leaves COSMO DENTAL carries not only relief from ailment but a renewed belief in human goodness. Such doctors are rare — they do not merely treat teeth or bones or flesh; they touch the very spirit that sustains life. Through his unwavering discipline, his refusal to be corrupted by commercialism, and his consistent humility, Dr Hriday Kalita has become the living face of ethical medicine in rural Assam.

As he continues his noble journey, his legacy grows silently like a river — nurturing, sustaining, and flowing with purpose. There will be new technologies, new instruments, and new systems in the world of dentistry, but the human heart that beats behind his stethoscope will remain timeless. In the years to come, when people will speak of doctors who combined skill with soul, compassion with competence, and humility with honour, the name Dr Hriday Kalita will shine among them like a beacon of goodness.

His story ultimately teaches us something profound — that no act of kindness ever fades into oblivion. Every patient healed, every smile restored, every word of reassurance whispered in pain adds light to the collective faith of humanity. The true glory of a doctor does not lie in wealth or recognition, but in the blessings of those whose suffering he silently alleviates. In that measure, Dr Hriday Kalita has already achieved immortality — not in fame, but in the grateful hearts that remember him.

As the horizon of healing glows with his humble light, "I pray that Dr Hriday Kalita is blessed with enduring health, infinite peace, and the quiet joy that comes from serving humanity." "May his compassionate hands never tire," "may his spirit remain ever gentle yet strong," and "may the smile he restores in others return to his own heart a thousandfold." "His journey is not just of medicine but of moral grace — a reminder that goodness, when practised with humility, becomes eternal." "May his path ahead be filled with serenity, success, and divine satisfaction — for he is not merely treating lives, but touching souls with the purity of his service."

## Varun Dhawan's fierce first look from Border 2 unveiled, set to release on January 23, 2026



After the overwhelming response to the first poster of Border 2 featuring

Sunny Deol, the makers T-Series and JP Films have now revealed the highly anticipated first look of Varun Dhawan, ushering in a new generation of courage for India's biggest patriotic film. The poster features Varun Dhawan in a powerful and intense depiction of an Indian soldier on the battlefield captured mid-action with a gun in hand, symbolizing the courage and spirit of the nation's heroes. Dressed in full army uniform with a fierce expression, Varun's look embodies the strength and emotion at the heart of Border 2, showcasing the actor in a striking new avatar.

## Abhishek Bachchan, Saiyami Kher starrer Ghoomer re-releases on November 7



As India celebrates the historic World Cup victory of the Indian Women's Cricket Team, the spirit of cricket and inspiration returns to the big screen with Ghoomer, the critically acclaimed sports drama directed by R. Balki. Starring Abhishek Bachchan and Saiyami Kher, Ghoomer is all set for a special theatrical re-release this Friday, November 7, in celebration of the nation's enduring love for the game and the women who continue to redefine it. Originally released on August 18, 2023, Ghoomer tells the inspiring story of a cricketer who overcomes immense personal challenges under the guidance of a

determined coach who refuses to let her quit. Directed by R. Balki and produced by Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, Abhishek A. Bachchan, Gauri Shinde, Wg Cdr Ramesh Pulapaka (Retd) and Anil Naidu, the film highlights themes of resilience, mentorship, and the unbreakable spirit that lies at the heart of Indian cricket. Speaking about the re-release, director R Balki said, "I'm thrilled that Ghoomer is releasing again to celebrate the incredible achievement of our women cricketers. Ghoomer was always a tribute to women's cricket and the resilience of women cricketers. And they did it at the same stadium

where Ghoomer was shot. Two matches, one fiction, one fact, on the same pitch. I can't wait to see audience reactions again." The film's message feels even more powerful today. The Indian Women's Cricket Team's historic World Cup win echoes the very soul of Ghoomer a story rooted in determination, discipline, and the will to rise beyond limitations. What Ghoomer captured on screen the grit, grace, and glory of women breaking barriers has now come alive in reality through the champions who have made the nation proud. Ghoomer stands as a tribute to every dreamer who refuses to give up, and to every coach, mentor, and supporter who helps them rise again. Its re-release not only celebrates India's recent cricketing triumph but also reignites the pride, joy, and hope that every cricket fan holds dear. Returning to theatres this Friday, November 7, Ghoomer offers audiences the perfect chance to relive a story of spirit, resilience, and victory both on and off the field.

## Harshvardhan Rane joins John Abraham starrer Force franchise



Harshvardhan Rane, who is currently basking in the success of his recent action romance Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat, has officially joined the cast of one of Bollywood's most popular action franchises — Force. The announcement has generated massive buzz, as the actor revealed his association with Force 3 through a heartfelt post on social media.

Taking to his Instagram story, Harshvardhan shared a photo of himself at the revered Trimbareshwar Temple in Maharashtra, dressed in a traditional dhoti and performing prayers. Alongside the image, the actor made the exciting revelation, writing, "John Abraham locks Harshvardhan Rane for taking FORCE franchise forward, under him."

## Delhi HC intervenes in case of Celina Jaitly's brother held in the UAE



The Delhi High Court has taken up the case on its own initiative involving Major (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitly, brother of Bollywood actress Celina Jaitly, who has been detained in the United Arab Emirates since September 2024. On November 3, 2025, the court issued directives to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and other relevant Union authorities to ensure that Vikrant receives effective legal representation and that his family is kept fully informed about his status and legal proceedings abroad.

### LOST

I have lost my Birth Certificate. My name is Prapti Konwar. Father name : Keshab Konwar, Address : Lakshinagar, Dist. : Nagaon. Registration No. 732. My birth date is 15-11-2006.

**From page 1**

## Receiving the Prestigious 'Sadasyi'

of Assam Sahitya Sabha. The event was jointly organized by the Assam Sahitya Sabha, Dibrugarh Regional Office, Dibrugarh District Sahitya Sabha, and Dibrugarh Sahitya Sabha. In the ceremonial program, conducted by Secretary of the Sabha, Debojit Bora, the distinguished litterateur Dr. Saikia was warmly welcomed with traditional "khol-tal-gayan bayan". After he took his seat, the members of the Dibrugarh Sahitya Sabha rendered the song "Chir Senehi Mor Bhakha Jononi". The ceremony was attended by several eminent personalities including Dr. Jiten Hazarika (Vice-Chancellor, Dibrugarh University), Dr. Kamal Bora (Vice-Chancellor, Lakhimpur University), Dr. Nirod Baruah (Vice-Chancellor, Majuli Cultural University), Dr. G. Singhania (Vice-Chancellor, Sati Sadhani University), Maheshwar Saharia (of the donor Saharia family), Padum Rajkhowa (Vice-President), Sahityacharjya Dr. Karabi Deka Hazarika, Sahityacharjya Dr. Bhimkanta Baruah, Dr. Kandarp Kumar Deka (former Vice-Chancellor, DU), noted translator Devi Prasad Bagrodia and many other prominent writers and intellectuals from across Upper Assam. Dr. Shantanu Lahkar, Secretary of the Dibrugarh Regional Office, and Mahesh Saharia, donor of the Dibrugarh Regional Office, along with many distinguished and eminent personalities, were present at the event. At the beginning of the meeting, the President of Assam Sahitya Sabha, Dr. Basanta Kumar Goswami, Secretary Devajit Bora, and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Jiten Hazarika lit the ceremonial lamp in front of the portrait of the recently deceased "Heart of the Assamese people," Zubeen Garg. "At the conclusion of the grand event, a red sandalwood sapling was planted in the premises of the regional office. After the Assam Sahitya Sabha conferred its highest honour on the eminent writer Dr. Nagen Saikia, a felicitation ceremony was formally held by various organizations, including: the Dibrugarh Regional Office of Assam Sahitya Sabha, Dibrugarh District Sahitya Sabha, Dibrugarh Sahitya Sabha, Lekhika Sanstha, Assam Kendriya Samiti, Dibrugarh District Committee, Greater Dibrugarh Press Club, Dibrugarh Press Club, Dibrugarh District Journalists' Association, Asom Gana Parishad Dibrugarh District Committee, Dibrugarh District BJP, Abhriti and Cultural Branch of Kumaranichiga, Jewti Alay, Greater Dibrugarh City, Regional Bihu Sanrakshan Samiti, National Janagosthiya Aikya Manch, Communist Party of India Dibrugarh District Committee, Koch-Rajbanshi Students' Association, and Sampriti Asom, as well as organizations such as Sishu Sahitya Samaj Asom, Dhemaji District Sahitya Sabha, Lakhimpur District Sahitya Sabha, Charaideo District Sahitya Sabha, and Tinsukia District Sahitya Sabha altogether nearly a hundred institutions and organizations offered their felicitations. While addressing the gathering, Dr. Nagen Saikia reflected deeply on the role and responsibilities of the Assam Sahitya Sabha. He emphasized that the Sabha now bears the moral guardianship of Assam. In an emotional tone, he remarked, "We are standing amid a crisis in our national life. The Assam we had envisioned for this century now seems entangled in complications. The Sahitya Sabha must embrace all beyond caste, creed, religion, and language. It must raise its voice whenever the nation faces challenges." Overcome with emotion, Dr. N Saikia expressed both joy and sorrow during his speech. He tearfully mentioned that, despite his strong desire to continue working for the progress of Assamese society, his health has become an obstacle. For a man ~~who had never let tears show in public, this emotional moment touched everyone~~ present in the hall. The President of Assam Sahitya Sabha, Dr. Basanta Kumar Goswami, along with General Secretary Debojit Bora and other central committee members, jointly presented the award to Dr. Saikia in a grand and heartfelt manner. The event, held under the leadership of the Dibrugarh Regional Office and Dibrugarh Sahitya Sabha, was attended by over a hundred people, all paying their deep respect and admiration to the venerable writer, Dr. Nagen Saikia.

## Government to install a grand statue

government has decided to submit a formal request to the United Nations for this recognition. Just as the present government succeeded in obtaining UNESCO World Heritage status for the Charaideo Maidam and Classical Language status for Assamese, he expressed confidence that Assam will also succeed in securing recognition of 'Manuhe Manuhor Babe' as the Anthem of Humanity in the coming days.

Dr. Sarma further said that the centenary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika's birth anniversary is being celebrated across the nation with great solemnity. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had participated in the inaugural programme of the year-long centenary celebration of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika and unveiled a commemorative coin issued by the Reserve Bank of India in memory of the doyen. The Chief Minister announced that the State government as a part of the year-long celebrations of the birth centenary of the Bard of the Brahmaputra, will hold similar cultural programmes in Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, and Ahmedabad, with the concluding function to be held in Delhi.

The Chief Minister moreover said that this year during Rongali Bihu celebrations, steps have been taken to dedicate at least one evening exclusively in the memory of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika. The Government has decided to provide additional grants to Bihu committees for organizing such dedicated evenings, celebrating Dr. Hazarika's rich legacy.

## CM visits proposed site of Swahid

before the last election, when the State government launched the Orunodoi scheme, the opposition criticized it, claiming it would end after the election. But instead of discontinuing it, the scheme's scale, access and reach has increased. Besides enhancing from Rs. 830 to Rs. 1,250, the government has decided to provide Rs. 250 for the purchase of LPG cylinders to Orunodoi beneficiaries, raising the total benefit to Rs. 1,500.

Dr. Sarma said that during the last Lok Sabha election, the State government had promised to provide Rs. 10,000 to each member of self-help groups. The opposition criticized this, questioning how the government would raise around Rs. 4,000 crore needed for such a large scheme. They accused the government of making empty promises for political gain and claimed that women from self-help groups would never receive the money. "But we have kept our promise," Dr. Sarma added.

The Chief Minister said that MMUA represents a broader vision. With determination and hard work, women have built a culture of productivity. Before forming self-help groups, most women in rural markets stayed home and supported their families through household work. After forming these SHGs, women have entered the world of finance and enterprise, gaining exposure to new opportunities. If the government continues to support them, they will surely establish themselves as successful entrepreneurs. Dr. Sarma also mentioned about the initiatives for permanent grounds for the *Baresahariya Bhaona*, construction of stadium, and establishment of hospitals in the area.

Citing examples of few successful entrepreneurial ventures of Naduar LAC, Dr. Sarma said that Monalisa Devi, a member of the Nandini Women's Self-Help Group from Itakhola village in the constituency, began her journey toward self-reliance by starting a small cake business. Later, with a loan of Rs 2 lakh from the CLF, she established her own bakery and processed food enterprise. She now earns about Rs. 35,000 per month, and has become one of the successful 'Lakhpatti Baideus.'

Similarly, Rashmi Rabha, a member of the Pragati Self-Help Group from Hatbor, Jamugurihat, used Rs. 1 lakh loan from the CLF and another Rs. 1 lakh through the self-help group's bank linkage to start fish farming, vegetable cultivation, and paddy production. By selling her produce, she now earns about 133,000 per month. The Chief Minister on the occasion also urged upon the women beneficiaries to use the Rs. 10,000 seed capital wisely, saying that Assam's women have already proven what they can achieve if given the right opportunity.

Dr. Sarma said, "A society can progress only when women live with dignity. My goal is to eliminate child marriage, educate every girl child, ensure respect for women, and create an environment where women can contribute meaningfully to Assam's economy."

Minister Water Resources and Guardian Minister of Sonitpur district Pijush Hazarika, MP Banjita Dutta, MLA and Chairman of the Gorukhuti Agricultural Project Padma Hazarika, MLAs Prithiraj Rabha, Krishnakamal Tanti, Ganesh Kumar Limbu, Pramod Borthakur, Diganta Ghatowar, and a host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Thereafter, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma visited the proposed site of Swahid Kanaklata Barua State University at Gohpur. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will lay the foundation stone of the University on November 8. During the visit, the Chief Minister reviewed the preparations for the event and gave necessary instructions to ensure its success.



# Visit of His Excellency Mr.Thierry mathou

Ambassador of France to India to Nameri National park



**Chandan Sarma, Tezpur :** Visit of His Excellency Mr. Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India visited Nameri National park. Tiger Reserve on 2nd November 2025. The visit formed part of his official tour to observe the ongoing initiatives under the Assam project on Forest and Biodiversity conservation (APFBC) phase (11) supported by the Agence Francaise Developement (AFD). His Excellency was accompanied by Mr. Lise Breuil, Country Director, AFD, New Delhi, Mr. Thierry Morel, Consul General of France in Kolkata, Mr. Samuel Bouchard, charge de mission. Influence cooperation and Shri Anurag Singh IFS, APCCF project Director, APFDC phase (11). During the visit, the Ambassador interacted with Shri Pira Soodan, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam Wildlife Division - Cam-Field Director, Nameri Tiger Reserve and other Officials of Nameri Tiger Reserve. The Field Director delivered a detailed presentation highlighting various interventions undertaken under the APFBC phase (11) project, particularly those fo-

cusing on habitat restoration, wetland reservation, eco-tourism, and conservation of white-winged wood duck. The Ambassador also interacted with members of the Eco-Development committee. Operating in the buffer areas of Nameri Tiger Reserve and appreciated their significant role in community-based conservation and eco-tourism promotion. Later, His Excellency undertook a Gypsy safari inside Nameri Tiger Reserve to experience its diverse habitats and wildlife. He expressed appreciation for the ongoing conservation initiatives under the project - particularly the efforts towards the conservation of the white-winged wood duck, the state bird of Assam, and the establishment of the Nameri Eco-camp at Hatigate, which effectively integrates local community welfare with nature-based tourism. The visit concluded with a stop at the Nameri Eco-camp at Hatigate, where the Ambassador and accompanying dignitaries were hosted for an ethnic lunch arranged by the community-run eco-camp management.

## Burglary at Mirza shop raises alarm in South Kamrup

**Deepshikha Nath, Chhayaon :** A major burglary has been reported in Mirza under Palasbari police station, a key commercial hub of South Kamrup, where unidentified miscreants looted mobiles and computers worth more than Rs 8.5 lakh from a local electronics store. The incident has triggered widespread concern among traders, who say theft cases are increasing alarmingly in the region.

According to reports, thieves broke into Mirza Electronics, located near Mamoni Raisom Goswami Chowk, by cutting through the roof of the shop late Thursday night. The burglars decamped with several branded mobile phones, laptops and accessories, leaving the shop severely damaged.

The owner of the store, Niranjan Mahanta, told this correspondent that this was not the first such incident. In 2022, the same shop had been targeted by bur-

glars who took away goods worth more than Rs 12 lakh. Despite the police station being located nearby, Mahanta said the stolen items from that incident were never recovered. He expressed deep frustration, calling the repeated thefts a sign of failing law and order.

Meanwhile, locals have complained that thefts are becoming rampant across, Palasbari, Mirza, Bijaynagar and Batarhat, affecting both business establishments and households. Farmers too have been hit hard, with frequent cattle thefts reported from nearby villages. Recently, two families from Hudumpur village lost their cattle to thieves, adding to the growing sense of insecurity in the area. Traders and residents have urged the authorities to intensify night patrols and take strong action against those involved, warning that the situation is getting out of control and hurting Mirza's business environment.

## Anti-drug awareness programme and free health camp organized in Nazira

**NAZIRA:** Reversal Foundation, a local NGO, organized an anti-drug awareness programme and a free health camp at Bauli Maidam High School, Nazira, on November 3. The camp, which started in the morning, was inaugurated by the school's Principal, Achyut Kalita, while the awareness programme, held in the afternoon, was attended by local residents, parents, teachers, and students. The programme was addressed by notable speakers, including Dr. Munindra Nath Bhuyan, Nilupal Talukdar from ICTC, Rupa Mahanta, Chairperson of Nazira Gaon Panchayat, and Abhijit Gogoi, Vice-President of Asom Jatiyatabadi Yuba Chatra Parishad, Sivasagar district committee, etc. The speakers emphasized the importance of staying away from drugs and creating a healthy and strong society.



**FINE DINE** *Taste of Assam*

**ভাত**

মাছ, মাংস, পর্যা, পুরি, রুটি

- Chowmin
- Burger
- Chicken Item
- Maggi
- Biryani
- Pasta
- Fried Rice
- Roll
- Mutton Item
- Paneer
- Pakora
- Coffee
- Tea

A.T. Road, Near Morigaon Bus Stand  
Nagaon (Assam)