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YOGA FOR ONE EARTH, ONE HEALTH—Yoga Day celebrated at Basantilla kalibari Amrit Sarovar, Kukital GP, Sreebhumi District

Empowering Villages

THE ROLE OF GBSIPRD IN ASSAM'S RURAL TRANSFORMATION



Munindra Sharma, IAS

Special Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
P&RD & Director GBSIPRD, Assam.

In pursuance to the Cabinet decision taken in its meeting held on 28-05-2025; the Governor of Assam has notified that the State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam under the administrative control of Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Govt. of Assam, shall henceforth be known as the '**Golap Borbora State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, (GBSIPRD)**', Assam'. The institute is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 during the month of April, 1998. Since then, the institute has been functioning with administrative and financial autonomy as conferred by the government.

Rural development is an ongoing effort aimed at improving the economic and social well-being of people living in rural areas. As per the 2011 census, 68.84% of India's population resides in villages. Hence, it becomes the primary responsibility of every government to prioritize the advancement of rural regions in each state, ensuring inclusive growth for rural communities, which is an essential step toward the holistic development of the nation.

GBSIPRD ASSAM AT A GLANCE

The Golap Borbora State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam under the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of Assam is the premier institute of Assam in the field of training and research in the extensive areas of rural development. The primary aim of the across the expansive domain of rural development. It regularly conducts diverse training and capacity-building programmes aimed at empowering officials from Panchayati Raj institutions,

Rural Development and associated departments, elected Panchayat representatives, members of non-governmental organizations, self-help groups, unemployed youth, women, farmers, and other key stakeholders engaged in rural development and Panchayati Raj.

The headquarter of the institute is at Khanapara, Guwahati-22. The Institute is headed by Sri Munindra Sarma, IAS, Spl. Secretary to the GoA as Director with three joint directors. The Institute is well equipped with state-of-the-art modern gadgets to help the faculties in imparting the training successfully to various clientele groups.

INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The Golap Borbora State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam has twelve extension centres in all over Assam and it has its second campus at Kahikuchi, Azara, near Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, where the institute also has the resource centre in IT and Skill Development and a Satellite Hub to organize satellite based training with other centres located in extension centres.

SATELLITE BASED TRAINING FACILITY

ning system utilizes a dedicated channel provided by ISRO to broadcast educational programs to designated centers where trainees and students can view the sessions. Each center is equipped with a two-way communication setup, allowing trainees to pose questions directly to resource persons stationed at the central studio. Responses from these experts are transmitted across the network, ensuring wide accessibility.

This integrated approach enables efficient training of large groups at once. GBSIPRD established the Satellite Hub along with 16 Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs), with support from the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), ISRO Ahmedabad, the North Eastern Space Applications Centre in Shillong, and DECO Ahmedabad, which provided technical assistance to GBSIPRD. As a result, the institute can now train up to 800 participants in a single day through this system.

Tie up with other institution

The GBSIPRD, Assam has been working jointly in few Upper Assam districts for –livelihood generation scheme called **RUPANTAR** with Navaratna PSU, **Oil India Limited (OIL)**. The programme has proven highly effective in creating employment opportunities for educated but unemployed youth. Hundreds of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) have been successfully mobilized, availing subsidized bank loans to engage in diverse sectors such as agriculture, veterinary services, handloom, grocery retail, poultry farming, and more. To enhance its impact further, the Institute has entered into Memoranda of Understanding with the Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar, and Tezpur University. These partnerships aim to foster joint efforts in research and training focused on rural development.

Exposure Tour to and from other states

The Institute has undertaken extensive tours by PRI members, officials and faculties to other states to get on the spot knowledge about the functioning of the local bodies in their respective states. Similarly PRI members and officials of the local bodies of other state like Maharastra has already visited our state to get first-hand information about the functioning of the PRIs in our state.

Peoples' Plan Campaign (GPDP)

Since 2015-16, Assam is conducting the People's Plan Campaign under the Name of "Amar Gaon Amar Achoni".

GBSIPRD is coordinating the entire process of GPDP in the state in coordination with the Department. The state is also making effort to roll out the DPDP/BPDP/GPDP in the Sixth Scheduled Areas. All plans implemented for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA and Finance Commission Award Grant are based on GPDP since 2015 – 16.

Training Progress and Performance

The institute, like every year, as approved by the CEC of Revamped RGSA, in 2025-2026, will conduct general orientation training for the newly elected representatives of three tiers of PRIs. The general orientation training, which is of 5 day duration per batch, will be conducted in a decentralized manner.

The training will be of residential format. Sessions for Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of Zilla Parishads (ZPs), Members of ZPs, Chairpersons of Anchalik Panchayats (APs), and Presidents of Gaon Panchayats (GPs) will be conducted at GBSIPRD Headquarters located in Khanapara and Kahikuchi. Meanwhile, training for Vice Chairpersons and Members of APs, as well as Vice Presidents and Members of GPs, will be organized at the Extension Training Centres and District Panchayat Resource Centres (DPRCs).

In the FY 2023-2024, the Institute surpassed its training goals by achieving 110% of the target. A total of 7,234 courses were conducted, reaching 354,627 participants across the state. During the FY 2024-2025, GBSIPRD achieved 68% of its training target by organizing 4,424 courses, covering 147,389 participants. The reduced outreach was due to the absence of elected representatives in the state during this period.

National Panchayat Awards (NPA)

Since 2011, the Golap Borbora State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development (GBSIPRD) has actively encouraged Panchayats across Assam to participate in the various categories of the National Panchayat Awards. Through consistent handholding and institutional support, Panchayats from the state have emerged as strong contenders, securing recognition at the national level across multiple award categories.

On the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Diwas 2025, GBSIPRD was conferred the 3rd prize in the National Panchayat Award in the Panchayat Kshamta Nirmaan Sarvottam Sansthan Puraskar category. This honor recognized the Institute's outstanding contributions in strengthening the institutional capacities of Panchayats to achieve LSDGs. The award was received by the Director and Joint Director of GBSIPRD from the Hon'ble Prime Minister in an august gathering held in Bihar.

Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI)

GBSIPRD has been anchoring the process of Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI), which was earlier known as Panchayat Development Index (PDI). PAI (pai.gov.in) is a multi-domain and multi-sectorial index that is intended to be used to assess the overall holistic development, performance & progress of Panchayats. The Panchayat Advancement Index takes into account various socio-economic indicators and parameters to gauge the well-being and development status of the local communities within the jurisdiction of a panchayat.

The Institute has played a key mentoring role in the state for rolling out the Panchayat Assessment Index (PAI) process, focusing on training initiatives, capacity-building efforts, and strengthening inter-departmental coordination to ensure the collection of accurate and reliable data.

Anganwari Centre

NURTURING A BRIGHTER TOMORROW FOR EVERY CHILD



Jugantor Konwar
Block Development Officer.
Lowairpoa Dev. Block.

An ganwadi is a type of rural childcare centre in India. It was started by the Indian government in 1975 as part of the Integrated Child Development Services program to combat child hunger and malnutrition. A typical Anganwadi centre provides basic health care in a village. It is a part of the Indian public health care system. Basic health care activities include contraceptive counselling and supply, nutrition education and supplementation, as well as pre-school activities.

With an objective to improve the nutritional & health status of children (0-6 years), lay the foundation for proper physical, psychological and emotional development of the child, reduce incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school drop-out and to achieve effective coordination of policy and implementation among various departments to promote child development an Aganwari Centre under MGNREGA scheme was decided to construct at Isarpar Village of Isabheel Gaon Panchayat. The construction of the Anganwadi Centre with an estimated cost of Rs. 16.214 Lakhs helped provide better infrastructure as the existing building was very old and dilapidated, and low lying, resulting in inundation of water during the rainy season. The new building with modern infrastructure and all basic facilities including toilet, kitchen, etc. created better environments for the growing children.

Implementation process

The technical team of the Gaon Panchayat, concerned PRIs and local VMC Committee were actively involved in the scheme. The scheme was implemented under strict monitoring of the Block Development Officer, Lowairpoa Development Block, the Chief Executive Officer, Karimganj Zila Parishad and regular monitoring and field visit by the District



Commissioner, Karimganj.

Impact

- **Job Creation and Community Development:** The implementation of Anganwadi Centers through Mahatma Gandhi NREGA has created job opportunities for residents with 646 person-days while strengthening the women and child development sector.
- **Construction of New Buildings:** The construction of new Anganwadi buildings has been transformative for the rural community, providing spacious and well-equipped facilities.
- **Improved Kitchens for Nutritious Meals:** The new buildings feature well-equipped kitchens, enabling staff to prepare nutritious meals for children.
- **Enhanced Hygiene Standards:** The inclusion of toilets in the new centers has significantly improved hygiene standards for both children and staff.
- **Increased Capacity and Access:** The improved infrastructure has allowed Anganwadis to accommodate more children, expanding access to quality childcare services for more families.
- **Increased Attendance:** The enhanced facilities have resulted in higher attendance rates, as parents are more confident in sending their children to Anganwadis due to the safe and healthy environment.

Overall, the construction of modern Anganwadi buildings with kitchens and toilets has significantly contributed to both economic development and improved social welfare in the community.

NATIONAL PANCHAYAT AWARDS 2023-24

SHOWCASING GRAM PANCHAYAT EXCELLENCE THROUGH LSDG THEMES



Sujata Bhagawati

Planning Monitoring
and Evaluation Officer,
RGSA Program

The National Panchayat Awards, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India, shine a spotlight on the innovative spirit and commitment of Panchayats across the nation. The awards recognize the outstanding achievements of Gram, Block, and District Panchayats in advancing the *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* through people-centric governance and local solutions.

Thriving Panchayats, Transforming Lives:

Aligned with nine themes covering all 17 SDGs, the awards honour exemplary Panchayats who lead the way in:

LSDG Theme & Logo	Panchayat Awarded	Why Awarded	Role of Gram Panchayat
 Poverty free and enhanced livelihoods Panchayat	Galibeedu Gram Panchayat, Madikeri Block, Kodaku District, Karnataka	Eliminating poverty, large-scale tree plantation, 100% social security pension coverage, universal child and maternal welfare registration, comprehensive PDS coverage, effective nutrition and healthcare, widespread MGNREGA-backed rural enterprises	Beneficiary identification, job card distribution, facilitating PDS registration, driving income generation, enhancing land productivity, empowering SHGs, and converging development funds
 Healthy Panchayat	Bommasamudrum Gram Panchayat, Irala Block, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh	Achieved 100% first-trimester pregnancy registration, increase in institutional deliveries, zero maternal/child deaths, universal digital health IDs, intensified sanitation and health campaigns	Ensuring maternal/child health, driving full immunization, preventing/treating diseases, community health awareness, care for elderly, and AYUSH promotion
 Child Friendly Panchayat	Jengrai Gram Panchayat, Ujani Majuli Block, Majuli District, Assam	Universal nutrition and early education, 21 schools and multiple playgrounds, large sports infrastructure, zero child labor and abuse	Providing nutritious food, monitoring health and ICDS services, developing Nutri-Gardens, conducting health camps, ensuring water and hygiene in schools, child protection initiatives, organizing Bal Sabhas
 Water Sufficient Panchayat	Nyayampudi Gram Panchayat, Nakkapalle Block, Anakapalli District, Andhra Pradesh	Established Women-led Water & Sanitation Committee, 100% tap water connections, OHSR tanks, women trained for water quality monitoring, weekly testing	Promoting water usage best practices, maintaining sanitation assets, adopting modern water management, ensuring potable water, empowering citizen committees for sustainable management
 Clean and Green Panchayat	Tagarampudi Gram Panchayat, Anakapalle Block, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh	Daily segregated waste collection, large-scale vermicompost production, universal sanitation, expanded green cover, adoption of natural farming, appointment of green ambassadors	Promoting renewable energy, sanitation access, efficient waste management, natural resource stewardship, organic farming, banning single-use plastics, facilitating conservation committees
 Self-sufficient infrastructure in Panchayat	Keeranatham Gram Panchayat, Kulam Block, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu	Emerged as IT hub, implemented multiple water tanks/pumps, achieved 100% IHHL and water connections, constructed integrated sanitation complexes, maintained waste dump-free status	Developing and maintaining essential infrastructure, building sewage and health facilities, ensuring village connectivity, adopting ICT in governance, community-based asset management, energy planning
 Socially Just and Socially secured Panchayat	Muppalla Gram Panchayat, Chandarlapadu Block, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh	Universal access to pensions, health IDs, wide-scale ration card distribution, women empowerment via self-help groups and enterprises	Providing safe environment for women/girls, supporting rehabilitation and legal aid, fostering inclusive education, ensuring infrastructure quality, enabling job opportunities and registration

 Panchayat with Good Governance	Vavkulli Gram Panchayat, Ghoghamba Block, Panch Mahals District, Gujarat	Implemented 29 development projects, digitized payments/services, streamlined certificate provision, robust digital grievance redressal, accessible primary health center	Adoption of e-Governance, empowerment of standing committees, citizen charter implementation, efficient grievance redressal, participatory planning
 Women-Friendly Panchayat	South Manubankul Gram Panchayat, Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council	Established the “SRESTHA” SHG product brand, scaled women entrepreneurship, recognized “Lakhpatis” as financial role models	Ensuring Mahila Sabha, providing safe and inclusive spaces, improving healthcare for women/girls, equal access to all development schemes and education, promoting SHGs, setting budgets for women’s advancement, enforcing equal pay

The Spirit of Local Solutions

The National Panchayat Awards embody the transformative impact of rural leadership, where inclusive participation, transparent processes, and innovative thinking bridge aspirations and action. By recognizing these best practices, the Ministry fuels a spirit of healthy competition and inspires Panchayats everywhere to strive for integrated development, ensuring no one is left behind on the road to 2030.

Together, let us celebrate the architects of grassroots change—our Panchayats—whose dedication is weaving a resilient, equitable, and vibrant rural India.

Transforming Lives through Water Conservation at Man Kro Gaon



Reeta Millickpi

BDO, Lumbajong Development Block.
Manja, Karbi Anglong

Man Kro Gaon, a small village under Singhason Village Development Committee (VDC) in Karbi Anglong district, Assam, with a population of around 130 and 30 households, had long struggled with acute water shortages. The village, located in a hilly terrain, faced challenges in accessing water for drinking, domestic use, and agricultural purposes. The scarcity of water stood as a major hindrance to the daily lives and livelihood activities of the villagers.

To address this persistent issue, a water conservation scheme was proposed and implemented under the Lumbajong Development Block during the Financial Year 2020–21. With an estimated cost of ₹5.00 lakhs—comprising ₹95,850.00 for wages and ₹3,36,085.00 for materials—the scheme focused on constructing a water tank to collect and store water from a nearby natural spring or stream. The main objective of the scheme was to restore and conserve available natural water sources to ensure year-round availability. One of the key highlights of the project was the generation of 111 persondays, providing employment to local workers during the implementation phase. This created short-term economic support for the villagers, especially for those who were unemployed or dependent on daily wage labor.

Post-implementation, the impact on the community has been remarkable. The availability of stored water has



significantly improved the standard of living in the village. Farmers, who previously struggled with inconsistent water supply for irrigation, can now engage in farming more confidently. As a result, agricultural productivity has seen a noticeable increase, thereby enhancing the overall livelihood of the villagers.



শ্ৰী অচ্যুত কৃষ্ণ হাজৰিকা
খণ্ড উন্নয়ন বিষয়া, লাহোৰাল

"একৰ এক গ'ল থাকিল শূন্য, দুইৰ এক গ'ল থাকিল এক.....।"

.....ঘূৰণীয়াৰ বগৰী গছজোপাৰ তলত বহি এই প্ৰক্ৰিয়া আৰম্ভ হয়। বিশেষ লয়লাস,কণ্ঠত প্ৰাৰল্যতা; স্থান আৰু সময় অনুযায়ী সলনি হয়। ঘূৰণীয়া ঘেৰাটোৰ মধ্যত থিয় হৈ হাতত "অৰুণ প্ৰকাশন"ৰ নেওতাৰ কিতাপ খন লৈ থিয় হয়; শ্ৰেণীৰ সেই বিশেষ ওজা ল'ৰাটো বা ছোৱালী জনী। কণ্ঠত এক দৃঢ় মতেৰে সৈতে দীঘলকৈ দিয়া সুৰতোৰে নেওতা খন আওৰোৱা হয়। লগে লগে সুৰ ধৰিব বাকি পিলো- পালা কেইটাই। এক সুন্দৰ বাতাৱৰণ। কাষত গৰুৱে ঘাঁহ খাই থাকিব,শালিকা কেইটাই জঁপিয়ায় আনন্দ কৰিব, বিম্বিম বতাহজাকে দেহ মন সাত পেলাই যাব... তাৰ মাজতে বগৰী সৰিব,পখিলা উৰিব,"ছাৰ প্ৰসাৰ কৰি আহিব পাৰিমনে" - মাতটোও উক্ত লয়লাস যুক্ত ভংগীমাত বিধিনি দিব..কিন্তু এই বিশেষ লয়লাসযুক্ত প্ৰক্ৰিয়া একে ভংগীত চলি থাকিব, অবিৰত।

স্কুলীয়া জীৱন এনেকুৱাই। দিল্লী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ত অধ্যয়ন কৰি থাকিলেও হঠাতে চিৰিঙকৈ মাৰে সেই স্মৃতিৰ ব্ৰহ্মাস্তই..স্মৃতিৰ ৰোমন্থন আৰু এক নস্টালজিক মন। সততে উৰি যায় এল.পি স্কুলৰ বাৰান্দাখনলৈ, সেই বগৰী জোপাৰ তললৈ নাজানো সেই বগৰী জোপা আজি আছেনে নাই...বহুদিন হ'ল নেদেখা,আঁতৰি অহা। অথচ, কিমান কি যে জড়িত হৈ আছে বগৰীজোপাৰ লগতে..কিমান কিযে কথা হৈছিল *লেইজাৰ* পিৰিয়ডত..কোনে বগৰী আনিছে,কোনে জলফাই তাৰো হিচাপ চলিছিল

তাৰ তলতেই...শিল মাৰি মূৰ ফুটোৱা অজিতৰ স্মৃতিৰ পৰা, বগৰী গছত উঠি ডাল লৰাই বগৰী খোৱা পৰ্যন্ত - কত যে কি হৈছিল বগৰীজোপাৰ তলতেই। সকলোবোৰ মনতো পৰা নাই আজি,অতীতৰ চাকনৈয়াত বহুখিনি স্মৃতিয়েই গতি কৰিলে..তথাপিও,সেই মিঠা স্মৃতিয়ে যেতিয়া মনটো জোঁকাৰে, সি সততে দি যায় এক মিঠা অনুভৱ, যি অতুলনীয়; বৰ্তমানৰ ব্যতিক্ৰম। অনুভৱ যি লিখনিৰ দ্বাৰা সম্ভৱ নহ'ব ছাগে!!

এল.পি স্কুলৰ প্ৰথম দিন আজিও মনত পৰে। স্কুললৈ যাম বুলি খুৰাই কিনি দিয়া ৰংচঙীয়া ছাতিটো প্ৰথম দিনাই ভাঙিলো..আছলতে, সেইসময়ত হাতত ছাতি পালে মনতো খটাসুৰ হৈ পৰে...যাৰে তাৰে লগত ছাতি যুদ্ধ হয়। ভাঁওনাৰ বচন মাতি কিবা এটা কাণ্ড ঘটেই... সেইদিনা সেই খটাসুৰ মোৰ গাত লগিছিল। লাগিলো ছাতিৰ যুদ্ধ,নীলিম বোলা গুণ্ডা লৰাটোৰ লগত..কিন্তু সেই ছাতি যুদ্ধত বেয়া কৈ হাৰিব লগা হ'ল। ফলত প্ৰথমদিনাই নিজৰ ছাতিতো ভাঙিলো। পৰিৱেশ সেইদিনা ভাঁওনা ঘৰৰ সদৃশ হৈ গৈছিল। মুখৰ বচন,আৰু মুখেৰে উলিওৱা খোলৰ চেঙঁত ক্লাছৰুম ৰজনজনাই গৈছিল..কথা গৈ হেড ছাৰৰ কাণত পৰিল। তাৰ পিছত তপিনাত চেকনিৰ যি কোব পৰিল তাৰ বেদনা বৰ্ণনাৰো অতীত। উক্ত ঘটনাই প্ৰথম দিনটোক বেদনাময় কৰি পেলাইছিল।

গাঁৱৰে এল.পি স্কুলৰ শিক্ষকসকলৰ কাঢ়া শাসনত আমি চলিছিলো। হেড ছাৰৰ ৰঙা চকু, বীৰেণ ছাৰৰ চেকনিৰ কোব সৰ্বজনবিদিত আছিল। আনহাতে কুটুম ছাৰ আছিল সকলো ল'ৰা-ছোৱালীৰ কল্পনাৰ ভাওনাত অসুৰ; কালকেতু। ক শ্ৰেণী,খ শ্ৰেণীত টাৰপলিন বস্ত্ৰত বহিয়ে পঢ়িলো। তাতে নেওতা আৰু কবিতাৰ শিতানৰ লগত পৰিচয় হৈছিল। বৰ্ণমালা,কবিতা আৰু নেওতা মুখস্থ শিতানত কালৰূপে থিয় দিছিল এই শিক্ষকসকলে.."ছেঁকনিৰ আগত বিদ্যা",সচক্ষুৰে পাইছিলো। সেয়েহে হয়তো সেই সময়ত মুখস্থ মতা কবিতা আজিও মনত আলোড়িত হৈ

থাকে।

উত্তীৰ্ণ হৈ প্ৰথম শ্ৰেণী পালো।পূৰ্বৰ শিক্ষকৰ ঠাইতনতুন শিক্ষকৰ আগমন হ'ল। শুধু বগা কাপোৰ পৰিধিত নতুন হেডছাৰ। পাঞ্জাবী ধুতি, ডাঙৰ ফ্ৰেমৰ চশমা যোৰ আৰি বঙা পুৰণি splendor খনেই তেওঁৰ চিনাকি। যি কি নহওক চেকনীৰ মাৰ খাই সদায় আধা মৰা হোৱা লৰা ছোৱালী খিনিৰ কাৰণে তেওঁ কঢ়িয়ায় আনিলে আশাৰ সঞ্চাৰ,প্ৰকৃত্যৰ্তত সকাহ। তেওঁৰ ক্লাছত যি মজা আছিল সেই মজা কতো পোৱা নাছিলো। "এটা এটা কে পাঠটো পঢ়" - বুলি কৈ বিছনী খন লাহে লাহে ঘূৰাই চকীতে টোপনিত লালকাল দিয়ে। তাৰপিছত পাঠ পঢ়ে-নপঢ়ে সেয়া লৰা ছোৱালীৰ ওপৰত কথা।

সেইবোৰৰ মাজতে বিদ্যালয়লৈ আহিছিল "the most sincere teacher of that time" বিষ্ণুৰাম মেধী ছাৰ।বিশেষ gentleman পোছাক, বীত চকু যোৰ, গহীন-গম্ভীৰ মাত; এয়াই তেওঁৰ পৰিচয় আছিল। সকলো সময়তে গহীন শিক্ষকজনৰ ওচৰত টুই-মুই কৰিলে যি ব্যৱস্থা লয় সি সবৰে জ্ঞাত আছিল। যি সুন্দৰকৈ "গেলেছীয়া পূৰণ" তেখেতে শিকাইছিল সি আজিও মনত বৈ আছে। জিৰণি ঘণ্টাত ফুটবল খেলাৰ অনুমতি বিচাৰি কৰা দৰ্খাস্তৰ প্ৰায়ে খিনি নাকচ কৰিছিল তেখেতে। কিন্তু,চতুৰ্থ শ্ৰেণীত বৃত্তি পৰীক্ষাৰ বাবে অতি ভালদৰে সাজু কৰোৱাইছিল আমাক। আশা আছিল, স্কুললৈ এটা নাম কঢ়িয়ায় অনা। পিছে, আমিবোৰ বৰ গাধ আছিলো সেয়ে,এই আশা, আশা হৈ য়ে ব'ল।

ছেকনীৰ পিটন, কাঢ়া শাসনৰ সত্বেও এটা বস্ত্ৰে লৰা-ছোৱালীবোৰক স্কুলত থাকিবলৈ আশা দি ৰাখে, সি হ'ল বগী জেঠাইয়ে সুন্দৰকৈ বন্ধা থিছিৰিৰ সোৱাদ। সেই থিছিৰিৰ সোৱাদ সাঁচাই অতুলনীয় আছিল। এইটো নুই কৰিব নোৱাৰি যে, থিচিৰিকণৰ আশাতে কেইটা মান ল'ৰা ছোৱালী স্কুললৈ বেছিকৈ আহে। চৰকাৰৰ মধ্যাহ্ন ভোজন আঁচনিৰে কিমান পুষ্টিৰ যোগান ধৰিব পাৰিছে সেই কথা নাজানো কিন্তু, এইটো থিক যে - ই এল.পি. স্কুলত ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীৰ উপস্থিতি বৃদ্ধিত সহায়ক হৈছে !!

এল.পি. স্কুলৰ শিক্ষা আৰু থিচিৰিৰ উপৰিও আৰু কিছুমান স্মৃতিয়ে মনক আমনি কৰে। এল.পি. স্কুলৰ সময়ত সৰু-সুৰা লাগতিয়াল কামবোৰ ল'ৰা-ছোৱালীৰ হঁতুৱাই কৰোৱা হৈছিল। সি "কাষৰ বেতনিৰ পৰা ছাৰহঁতৰ কাৰণে বেত কটাই" হওক নাইবা ফিল্টাৰত পানী দিয়াৰ পৰা ধৰি গৰমৰ বন্ধত পাৰ্চী- খৰাহী, বাঁৰু- হাতৰ কাম কৰি দিয়াই হওক। এইদৰে ব্যক্তিত্ব বিকাশৰ শিক্ষা দিয়া হৈছিল। সাহিত্য-সংস্কৃতি সকলো ক্ষেত্ৰতে আগৰণুৱা হোৱাৰ নিৰ্দেশনাও প্ৰদান কৰা হৈছিল সেই এল.পি. স্কুলতে। সৰ্বাংগীন বিকাশৰ শিক্ষা স্কুলীয়া দিনতে এনেদৰে আৰম্ভ। নতুন ধাৰণা,নতুন চিন্তাৰ এক বিকল্প খোৰাক যি প্ৰাৰম্ভিক অৱস্থাতে পাইছিলো তাক বৰ্তমান বৰ্তমান সময়ত কামত লগাবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছো।

তাৰ উপৰিও বহু স্মৃতি বিজৰিত হৈ আছে এই এল.পি.স্কুলৰ সৈতে। আনন্দৰে ভৰি আছিল,ৰসেৰে পাৰ হৈছিল দিনবোৰ; মনতোক এৰি দিয়া হৈছিল কেৱল আকাশ চুবলৈ। কিন্তু, সমান্তৰালভাৱে চলি আছিল বিকাশৰ প্ৰক্ৰিয়া, তাকো সৰ্বাংগীন বিকাশ। বৰ্তমান সময়ৰ চাকনৈয়াত এই সকলোবোৰ ক্ৰমঃশ অতীত হৈ পৰিছে...স্মৃতি ৰূপে ভাঁহি উঠে কেৱল মনত।

স্কুলীয়া সময়ৰ আছিল সুকীয়া স্মৃতি আৰু সৰল জীৱন। তাৰ অভিজ্ঞতাৰ কোনো তুলনা নাই; ই অতুলনীয়। সেই এল.পি.স্কুলত থাকোতেই দুষ্টামিৰ কাৰণে দুবাৰ গালে-থুঁতৰিয়ে চিগি চিলাইও পৰিছিল, যদিও সেই স্মৃতিয়ে দুঃখ দি নাযায়, দি যায় - এমোকোৰা হাঁহি- সাধাৰণ, সৰল,নিভাঁজ হাঁহি। এৰি যায় স্মৃতি যি আপুৰুগীয়া; বিনন্দীয়া।

ক'ৰবালৈ গুচি যোৱা



মই আজি অকলে

মোৰ ছাঁ ঘূমটিত

গুচি যাওঁ নেকি অজানা এঠাইলৈ
দূপৰীয়াৰ কোনোবা হাবিতলীয়া পথলৈ
শুকাব ধৰা নদী এখনৰ কাষলৈ
নাইবা পানেৰিৰ বাগানখনৰ দৰে ক'ৰবালৈ

মই মোক তাৰপৰা চাম নেকি এবাৰ
মোৰ কঁপালত ঘাম হৈ জিলিকিছেনে ফিৰিঙটি
মোৰ লেলাউটিত বাহ পাতিছেনে লাভাই
চিনি পামনে মই মোক তাৰপৰা

জ্যোতিষ্ক দুটা ছিঙি আনি লগাই ল'ম নেকি মোৰ চকুত

আজি মই অকলেই আছোঁ
ইচ্ছা কৰিলেই মোক আজি লৈ যাব পাৰা
অন্তেষপুৰৰ পৰা নিৰ্জন এঠাইলৈ

শীত নে তাপত মই কঁপিম
চকুৰে ধোৱা দেখি দেখি অন্ধকাৰ দেখিম

অন্ধকাৰ মানেইতো ব্ৰহ্মাণ্ড

আৰু অলপ পিছত হয়তো মই অকলেই থাকি যাম
অনন্তকাললৈ

ভূগোলবিহীন এক স্থানু জগতত

ক'ৰবাত কেতিয়াবা মোক দেখিলে সেপ নুধুকিবা

তোমালোকৰ আঁহবোৰ মোৰ গাত লাগি থাকিব।

হীৰকজ্যোতি বৈশ্য

প্ৰকল্প প্ৰৱন্ধক (জীৱিকা প্ৰশিক্ষণ আৰু দক্ষতা বিকাশ)
অসম ৰাজ্যিক গ্ৰামীণ জীৱিকা অভিযান



Nilotpal Misra
State Program Executive
(Works), Pmay-G

In the heart of Assam's verdant landscapes, where the Brahmaputra carves its timeless path, a quiet revolution is unfolding. The *Lakhimi Mistri* initiative represents more than just a skills program – it's a fundamental reimagining of women's roles in rural development, combining practical training with profound social transformation.

A Watershed Moment for Gender Inclusion

On 17th May 2025, history was made in Guwahati as the Hon'ble Union Minister of Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, joined Assam's Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma to launch this groundbreaking initiative. This ceremonial launch marked Assam's decisive step toward gender-inclusive development under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) framework, positioning the state as a national leader in women's economic empowerment.

From Helpers to Skilled Professionals

The program's genius lies in its dual focus: equipping women with market-relevant construction skills while systematically dismantling deep-rooted gender barriers. Participants progress from unskilled laborers earning ₹150-200 per day to certified masons commanding ₹400-600 daily – a transformative leap in financial autonomy.

Skills, Stipends & Self-Reliance

The Lakhimi Mistri program combines rigorous skills

When Women Build

How Assam's Lakhimi Mistri Program is Redefining Rural Development

development with thoughtful social support to create transformative opportunities. Participants receive comprehensive training in **disaster-resilient construction techniques**, with curriculum specifically designed for Assam's flood-prone geography, enabling them to build safer, more durable homes. The program's **NSQF-aligned certification** ensures these skills meet national standards, giving graduates recognized qualifications for employment across India's construction sector. To make participation economically viable, trainees receive a **daily stipend of ₹500** throughout the 53-day training period – a crucial support that compensates for lost daily wages while they invest in their futures. The initiative further removes barriers through **on-site crèche facilities**, allowing mothers to train without childcare concerns, and provides **complete post-training toolkits**, equipping graduates with everything needed to immediately begin working as professional masons. This holistic approach doesn't just teach construction skills; it builds an enabling environment where women can fully participate in and benefit from the growing infrastructure sector.

Advanced Upskilling for Greater Opportunities

The Lakhimi Mistri initiative offers specialized upskilling courses to help women expand their earning potential. Beyond basic masonry, participants can enroll in two nationally-certified programs: **Mason Tiling** (NSQF Level 4) for precision surface work, and **Assistant Electrician** (NSQF Level 3) for electrical installation skills. These advanced courses, delivered through approved training providers, equip women with diversified expertise to take on higher-paying projects while supporting rural infrastructure development. Interested candidates can register through program coordinators or GP office, gaining access to hands-on training, certification, and placement support. By combining core construction skills with specialized training, Lakhimi Mistri is creating a new generation of multi-skilled women professionals ready to lead Assam's building revolution.

Strategic Implementation Creating Direct Employment Pathways

The Lakhimi Mistri program has been strategically designed to create direct employment linkages through its innovative on-site training model. Participants will receive hands-on instruction while working on actual PMAY-G housing projects, simultaneously building skills and permanent homes for their communities. This practical approach ensures immediate application of learned techniques while addressing Assam's



when a woman builds a house, she doesn't just build walls—she builds a foundation for generations to stand on

rural housing needs. The program's integration with three flagship missions creates multiple employment channels - PMAY-G for house construction, Swachh Bharat Mission for toilet building, and Jal Jeevan Mission for water infrastructure projects. By training women on active worksites, the initiative achieves dual objectives: participants gain real-world experience from day one, while the government secures a skilled workforce to accelerate critical rural development projects. This symbiotic model guarantees that every trained Lakhimi Mistri will have immediate opportunities to apply her skills on government projects in her own community.

The Ripple Effects of Empowerment

With 18.5 lakh PMAY-G homes in Assam registered under women's names, *Lakhimi Mistri* adds profound new meaning to property ownership. Women are now building the very homes they own - a powerful convergence of asset ownership and skilled labor that redefines women's economic participation.

Building a Sustainable Ecosystem for Women Masons

The Lakhimi Mistri program creates a complete support ecosystem that extends far beyond skill training. Through the Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan, women receive startup grants to purchase



tools or launch micro-enterprises, transforming them from wage workers into entrepreneurs. The formation of women mason collectives fosters solidarity, enables collective bargaining, and allows groups to bid for larger contracts together. Complementary financial literacy programs equip participants with crucial money management skills, helping them maximize earnings and plan for the future. Finally, NABARD credit linkages provide access to formal financing, allowing graduates to scale their businesses by investing in equipment or expanding services. Together, these components create a virtuous cycle where trained masons gain not just skills, but the financial tools and peer support needed to build sustainable, independent livelihoods while contributing to Assam's infrastructure development.

Redefining Rural Progress Through Women's Leadership

Lakhimi Mistri represents a transformative shift in development philosophy - one where women evolve from passive recipients to architects of their communities' future. This pioneering model demonstrates how skill empowerment, when combined with systemic support, can dismantle generations of gender barriers while addressing critical infrastructure gaps. As Assam's first cohorts begin training, they carry more than tools; they embody a fundamental reimagining of rural women's potential. Each brick laid and wall raised symbolizes dual progress - tangible improvements to homes and villages, alongside intangible but profound shifts in social perception. The program's true legacy lies not merely in the structures built, but in the new reality it creates: one where daughters grow up seeing their mothers as skilled professionals, where communities recognize women as drivers of development, and where economic growth becomes inseparable from gender justice. In this vision, every home constructed stands as both shelter and statement - proof that when women lead, entire regions rise.

SPORTS MADE EASY FOR ALL

New Playground in Sewaguri Sparks a Positive Transformation



Tamasa Das

Block Development Officer,
Golaghat South Development Block

The rural playground at Sewaguri village, located in the Tengahola Gaon Panchayat under the Golaghat South Development Block, is a significant infrastructure developed. The project was implemented under MGNREGA in a phased manner, ensuring community participation and transparency throughout the process. The implementation of the play field at Sewaguri, while predominantly material-intensive, also prioritised wage generation, providing local employment opportunities alongside ensuring transparency and quality in resource utilization. Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). This facility goes beyond a recreational space, offering a dedicated arena for sports and athletic activities. It serves as a platform to nurture local talent, promote physical fitness, and encourage community participation, making it a vital asset for the holistic development of the village.

The Construction of Play Field at Sewaguri is a flagship project located in Sewaguri under Tengahola Gaon Panchayat. Funded under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), this initiative has been executed in four phases with a total sanctioned amount of ₹178.21705 lakh, including ₹17.60171 lakh for wages and ₹160.61492 lakh for materials. Commenced on 15th March 2022 and completed on 15th November 2024, the project spans an area of 210 meters in length and 130 meters in breadth, with a seating capacity of 4,000 spectators. Designed as a modern sports complex/playground, it



serves as a venue for diverse athletic and recreational activities. This facility not only promotes sports and fitness but also fosters a sense of community, offering the residents of Sewaguri and surrounding areas an excellent platform for sporting events and cultural gatherings.

The playground at Sewaguri, though completed, requires further enhancements to achieve its full potential. Installation of proper lighting and sports equipment is essential to enable evening activities and professional training. Additionally, constructing a secure and welcoming entrance gate would add to its functionality and aesthetic appeal.

Such schemes play a pivotal role in fostering developmental administration by addressing rural infrastructure needs and promoting sustainable growth. For Panchayats, they enhance local governance capacity, enabling community-driven planning and execution. In rural areas, projects like the play field at Sewaguri improve quality of life by creating employment, boosting local talent through sports, and fostering social cohesion, contributing to holistic rural development.

The projected impact of the play field at Sewaguri includes significant contributions to rural development and community well-being. It is expected to serve as a platform for nurturing sports talent and promoting physical fitness among youth. The facility will boost community engagement through sports events and gatherings, enhancing social cohesion. Additionally, it will create avenues for economic activities, such as small-scale vendors during events, contributing to the local economy. In the long term, the play field is envisioned to become a key hub for recreation, talent development, and fostering a vibrant rural community.





ECO PROJECT

**HAHSORA TO BAGODI ROAD BUILT USING
WASTE PLASTIC UNDER BARPETA'S BAGODI GP**



Juri Kalita, ACS

I/c BDO, Ghilajari-Rupshi
Dev. Block (Formerly
Barpeta Dev. Block)



Urmee Sultana

S.O. Assistant cum District
Incharge (Barpeta) Swachh
Bharat Mission Gramin, Assam



In a major step towards managing plastic waste in rural Assam, Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) and the Panchayat & Rural Development (P&RD) Department, in collaboration with PWD (Roads), have started using plastic waste in road construction.

A new 1.13 km road stretch from Hahsora to Bagodi, under Bagodi Gaon Panchayat in Barpeta Block, has been successfully built using around 1.8 ton of plastic waste admixed with Bitumen. This plastic was collected from nearby villages through Mini Material Collection Facilities (Mini MCFs) and centralised MCFs set up under SBM-G and P&RD.

The collected non-recyclable plastic was properly segregated and processed, then mixed into the bitumen used for the road. This method not only reduces plastic pollution but also improves road quality—making it more durable, water-resistant, and cost-effective in the long run.

A dedicated Plastic Waste Management Unit has also been set up in Barpeta Block to streamline the collection, segregation, and processing of plastic waste. This unit plays a key role in ensuring a continuous supply of processed plastic for similar infrastructure initiatives.

This innovative project reflects Barpeta Block's commitment to sustainability and is expected to encourage similar eco-friendly road construction efforts across Assam.

Tamulpur Development Block Shines at the National Level

Ranks 1st among 500 Development Blocks across India



In a significant recognition of its development efforts, Tamulpur Development Block has secured the 1st position among 500 Aspirational Blocks across the country, as announced today in a virtual meeting conducted by NITI Aayog. This achievement is based on performance assessments for the months of January, February and March 2025.

This prestigious ranking is based on 40 key performance indicators across critical sectors such as health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion and skill development and infrastructure development. Tamulpur Development Block was commended for its outstanding performance across these parameters.

In recognition of this national achievement, Tamulpur Development Block has been awarded ₹3 crore by NITI Aayog to further strengthen development efforts in the region.

During the virtual event, Shri Pankaj Chakravarty, ACS, District Commissioner of Tamulpur, credited the success to the collective efforts of all officials and stakeholders.



Editorial Column



Keerthi Jalli, IAS
Commissioner, PnRD

Dear Team,

Each time we approve a PMAY tranche or sanction a job card under MGNREGA, we do more than process files, we uphold the dignity of a household. But are we executing these programs with the rigour they demand?

Dr. Atul Gawande, in The Checklist Manifesto, writes that “under conditions of complexity, not only are checklists a help, they are required for success.” Schemes like PMAY and MGNREGA span thousands of villages and lakhs of families. Even the most committed among us can miss steps under pressure. That’s where discipline; personal and systemic matters.

We’ve all seen cases where:

Job cards exist on paper but no work is given.

Toilets and houses are marked complete but don’t exist.

Fund transfers are delayed due to a missing photo or unverified geotag.

These are not small errors, they erode both dignity and trust.

In book Better, Gawande describes high-performing professionals as those who:

1. Keep asking how to improve the system,
2. Take small actions to do so,
3. Persist, even when it’s inconvenient.

We’ve seen this in action, a junior engineer in Morigaon helping carry bricks to speed up PMAY work. A Panchayat Secretary in Majuli validating MGNREGA demand with households, not just MIS data. This isn’t “beyond duty”, it’s duty done right.

Let’s shift from a compliance mindset to a credibility mindset. Every checklist we follow, every ground-level question we ask, is a step towards transformation.

Let’s not settle for completion. Let’s strive for credibility. Excellence is not an act, it’s a practice. The habits of thoroughness and reflection don’t just improve governance, they improve us. Done consistently, they bring clarity, self-respect, and even better relationships.

Yours in service

To share your valuable thoughts on উৎকর্ষ

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