

# ବଦ୍ୟାପ୍ତ

*The Matchless...*



**VOLUME 1**

**ISSUE 2**

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## From HoDs Desk



Holi is a festival of colour; India celebrates this festival in spring. Indian culture is inherently related to Holi. At this juncture, while the country is celebrating this festival with different colours, the students of the Integrated M Com programme of the Department of Commerce, Tezpur University have taken up the task of coming out with 2nd Adwitiya- the matchless, the e-magazine of the students of the Department of Commerce, Tezpur University. It is an effort of the students to jot down their contributions in the form of an e-magazine. This issue is specially focussed to the North Eastern Region of country, to portray its diversity, the rich cultural heritage, abundant inventory of natural resources and so on. This is an effort of the young enthusiastic group and hence, there may be some chances of errors and mistakes. The effort made by the Team Adwitiya is really praiseworthy. However, it is to be taken as a stepping stone to move forward and I hope that the subsequent issues will make Adwitiya – really matchless.

Subhrangshu Sekhar Sarkar



## Faculty Advisor



Adwitiya – the matchless, an initiative in form of E-Magazine by the students of Department of Commerce breathed initially with 69<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of this nation. Inherent with an attempt to stimulate independent, creative and innovative contemplation among our students, we desire to build this platform as their stepping stone. The expedition has already began and our students are confident to mark it a glorious one. We are eager to see their dreams turn to reality.

On the occasion of vibrant and colorful festival of Holi, we take absolute pride and honor to profoundly present to our readers the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of our E-Magazine, comprising ADWITIYA (matchless) contributions from our students, envisioning a colorful India, which you can't take your eyes off.

I am thankful to all the students for their notable contributions. We are even more gratified to see the earnest efforts of Team Adwitiya and congratulate them on successful launch of this edition.

Rishabh Goswami





Abinash Sarma



Bohniiman Baruah



Debaleena Goswami



Pragya Haloi



Priya Jaiswal

## The Colour of Hope

With the “au revoir” of winter and “get set go” of spring, 2k16’s Holi brings out “Adwitiya” in its second avatar. This time, our team has put in its heart and soul in taking it a step forward towards the abyss of excellence, in which we hope not to stand still. This quest is going to be onerous for newbies like us and more often than not, we resort to following rather than innovating. But as the rain of seconds creep in and refreshes the foreign ideas, therein shall our true colour bloom and grow; the root of which shall venture deeper down till it can hold our tip at the zenith. This isn’t a faraway dream. It’s a goal towards which we have stepped, and there shall be no turning back.

This issue shall escort the readers towards the rich diversity of North-East, of which we all are a part. The theme for Adwitiya’s second issue was given to be “Colours of the North-East”; viewing the vibrancy of its launch in the Holi celebration.

It is a pleasure for all of us in the team Adwitiya to be a part of something which bears immense importance for the entire Department of Commerce. We shall be more than glad to receive any kind of feedback related to this, so that the upcoming issues see better days. We are thankful to our HOD, faculty instructor and our fellow batch mates for their support and contribution all along. Here’s hoping a good response from all.

Team Adwitiya



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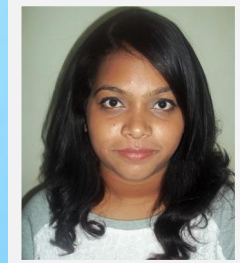
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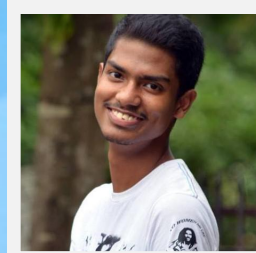
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## North-east India!

A paradise of  
unconditional love...

Satyajeet Bhuyan  
2nd Semester



Surrounded by the mighty mountains and gently rolling hills, with the vibrant rivers and sacred lakes, lies the most mystic part of the country, the north-eastern India. With the touch of the exotic natural beauty of its flora and fauna, it makes itself count among the finest places of the world! North-east has been able to keep a strong grip over its rich heritage and culture, with its different distinguished colours of every tradition; yet it has still many things to be explored.

Many mysteries of the nature are to be solved. Every place of this region makes you taste the welcoming nature of the people! It's not only a region of different culture and tradition, but it is a place where you can experience diversity with the warmth of togetherness. Without being affected by the faster pace of modernization, the people of this region are able to preserve its culture

and tradition alive among the youths. And to be a part of such region, we feel the greatness among us! And I do feel so!

Despite having less opportunity than the rest, people of this region have been able to prove their excellence in many distinguished fields such as literature, sports etc. Yet, many are still to come under the lime-light, and show their ability in representing the nation.

The title, "North-east India! -A paradise of unconditional love" truly depicts the authenticity of the region in a single statement. A perfect judgmental statement for a perfect region. A paradise of humanity, mankind, and belongingness with variant colours of different culture and tradition yet summarized as one! That's what north-east actually is! A paradise of unconditional love and affection.

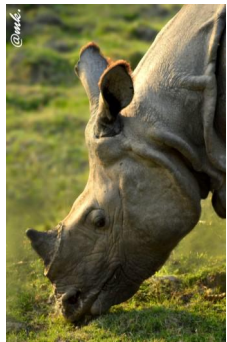


# A Tourist's Utopia

Arbita Chkravarty  
2nd Semester

Housing around 200 fascinating tribes having diversified attires, food habits, life-styles and cultures, North-eastern India is one of the most diversified regions of the world. Be it its green carpet or the spectacular blue hills, the flawless beauty of the mighty Brahmaputra flowing across the region or the springs gushing with exultant joy, North east has all it takes to take away the breath of its visitors and them fall in eternal love with its personified beauty. Popularly known as 'the eight sisters' (erstwhile seven sisters), the region comprises of eight states namely: Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The region shares international borders with countries like Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar and due to insensitivity of the region most of its places are unexplored and thus it's peerless beauty goes unseen and unheard of. Described below are some of the many holiday destinations where one can escape to and collect a bunch of indelible memories and pleasure:

**ASSAM :** Coming to North east one can art, craft and other traditional productions definitely not afford to miss a visit to this state which is better known as 'the land of the blue hills and red rivers'. A faultless concoction of lush greenery, majestic landscape, historical monuments and skillful

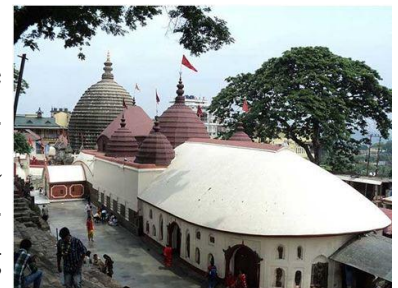


## KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK:

Housing the majestic one-horned rhino to the tiger, elephant, Indian Bison, deer and around a score of other wild species, this 430 sq. km large park can offer every fun that a an animal lover and adventurer would envisage. Rightly declared as a World Heritage site, Kaziranga National Park hosts hundreds of national as well as international visitors every year.

## KAMAKHYA SHRINE:

Lying in the shoulders of the Nilachal Hills, this is a shrine where pilgrims come from far off places to experience the inexplicable joy of its divinity and sacredness. The Kamakhya temple, located in Guwahati city with the Brahmaputra embracing its tip, has worshippers flooding in especially during the Ambubachi Puja.







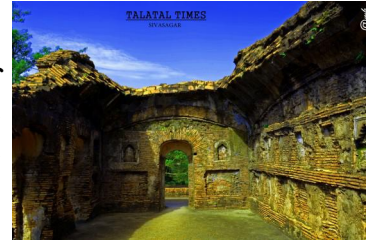
#### TEZPUR:

Tez' meaning blood and 'pur' meaning full, the very name of the place talks volume of the mythological war of Hara-hari. The golden city of Tezpur celebrates the everlasting and unparallel love of Usha and Aniruddha. The picturesque town has a lot to offer to its tourists which include: The Agnigarh Hill, Bamuni Hills, Cole Park, Ganesh Ghat, Mahabhairav Temple, Bhairavi

Shrine, Ganesh Ghat and many more.

#### SIVSAGAR:

Literally meaning the Ocean of Lord Shiva, the city of Sivsagar had been the capital of the Ahom kingdom for more than a couple of centuries. Sivsagar still preserves the reminiscences of the legendary Ahom kingdom which makes it a perfect place for every history lover as well as amateur photographer to visit. The major attractions include: Shivadol, Gaurisagar Tank, Joysagar Tank, Rang ghar, Talatal Ghar etc.



#### MAJULI :

A little of history and a whole lot of nature makes Majuli the best place to visit in Assam. It is the largest river island in the country and it also has one of the most important Satras established by Sri Sankardev and Madhavdev. With no hotels having homestays as the only option for visitors, Majuli is unique in its own way.

Apart from the aforementioned places, Dibru Saikhowa National Park, Sualkuch, Barak Valley, Orang National Park and many more have a lion's share in making Assam a place worth touring.

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH:** It is the state which holds the most north-eastern positions among all the north-east states , sharing borders with the state of Assam and Nagaland and international borders with Bhutan , Burma and China. It is also known as ' the Orchid State of India' or 'the Paradise of Botanists'. On account of its aesthetics and diverse cultural heritage and rich store of greenery, it possesses a great tourism potential. Some of the worth visiting places that one must definitely not miss are :-



**BHALUKPONG:** The gateway of Arunachal Pradesh, Bhalukpong is a place which still speaks epochs of the Mahabharata. Huddled by the dense forest and rinsed by the Kameng river , Bhalukpong is a popular picnic spot. Adventure lovers have a lot in store for them here starting from trekking to rafting and angling. A visitor in March gets to enjoy the local Nyetnidow festival as well.

**ITANAGAR:** one of the most popular tourist destinations in Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar is a state capital and a well connected city. From a simple holiday maker to an archaeologist , this place has great value to be explored. Major tourist attractions here includes –



- A: Ita fort ( made of special bricks )
- B: The famous picnic spot Gyakar sinwi.
- C: Jawaharlal Nehru museum which exhibits indigenous tribal culture of Arunachal,
- D: Gompa Buddha Vihar, an astounding amber roofed shrine; etc.



**PARASURAM KUND:** A famous Hindu pilgrimage that hosting many pilgrims from all across the country, Parasuram Kund has that magnetic natural ambience to please the eye of an onlooker. Well connected by road from Tinsukia and Dibrugarh, this sacred place should be visited during November to February to witness its beauty in the best form.



TAWANG: Nestled amidst Gudpi and Chong Chugmi ranges, Tawang has all the beauty and charm to make a tourist fall in love with it. Some of the most captivating tourist attractions that Tawang has are:-



- A: The famous Tawang monastery (where lies a 28 feet high golden statue of lord Buddha )
- B: Indo-China border,
- C: Jaswant Ghat,
- D: Tawang craft centre,
- E: Bap Teng Kang Waterfall,
- F: Nuranang fall, etc



NAMDHAPA NATIONAL PARK: Claimed as the largest national park in India, the park covers an area of 1,985 sq. km. It is set on different levels of altitudes perched with unique varieties of flora. From Asiatic small bears to Eurasian otters, wolves, clouded leopard, red foxes, red panda and mush deer, the park is a home to the wild. For birdies, it is a paradise with more than 500 species of birds.

Not only these but Arunachal Pradesh has a lot more for its tourists including the land that lets you eye the snow packed Himalayan peaks- Bomdila, Ziro- an exotic place for trekking, Pasighat, Tuting, Roing and many more.

Manipur: Be it the beauty of nature or the low are some of the many elegant charms of culture of the land, Manipur justifies the title, the jeweled state:- given by Jawaharlal Nehru, 'jewel of India' in every sense. Located in north east amidst breathtaking blue hills, Manipur is the apt destination for nature enthusiasts. Listed be-

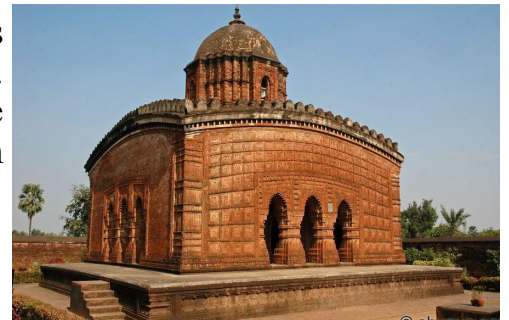
IMPHAL: The capital city of Imphal is located in the heart of the majestic Manipur valley. Lush green forest and grassland along-with the rice tradition of the dwellers make Imphal a place tourists should never miss. Major tourist attractions in Imphal include – Manipur state museum , Kangla fort, Red Hill Lokpaching, Sirohi National Park, Matai garden etc



UKHRUL: Huddled by spectacular valleys, majestic hills, enchanting water falls and resplendent streams , Ukhrul is a dream destination that offers more than just visual delight. Given below are some top destinations of Ukhrul:- Khayang peak, Nillai tea state, Khangkhui cave, Shirui Kashung Peak, Ango Ching.

BISHNUPUR: Famed as a pious land , Bishnupur gives place to the many temples that add to it a holy ambience. The ancient temples located here personify the rich culture of the land alongwith its architectural excellence. Given below are the leading tourist attractions in Bishnupur:-

- a: Rasmancha,
- b: Jorbanga Temle,
- c: Radhya shyam temple,
- d: Sridhara temple.



THOUBAL: Thoubal is yet another picturesque destination in Manipur. Studded with lush greenery , mesmerizing rivers and lakes making the place so perfect for outdoor activities. The local people here plant banyan tree, along the roadside and fruit bearing trees in their premises thereby adding to the greenery here. Here some top destination of Thoubal are:-

- A: Thoubal river
- B: Waithou lake
- C: People's museum
- D: Thoubal bazaar
- E: Khonjor war memorial

Apart from these, Chandel, Senapati, Tamenglong, Chura Chandpur etc are other places with which Manipur can steal the hearts of its visitors.



MEGHALAYA: Literally meaning the 'abode of clouds', Meghalaya is an enchanting state that can filch the onlooker's heart in a fraction of seconds. Its heavy rainfall makes it the wettest land in India . The innumerable tourist places which form the backbone of Meghalaya tourism include:

SHILLONG: Having a hilly landscape and cold climate, Shillong is a heaven away from heaven. Its picturesque beauty makes tourists wonder if it has very meticulously created by the almighty. The major attractions here include : Shillong peak, Elephanta peak, Ward's lake, Lady Hydari Park, All Saint's Church etc.



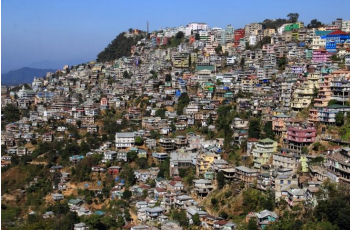
CHERRAPUNJI: Considered the wettest land on planet earth, Cherrapunji is a sub divisional town in the East Khasi Hills district. It hosts a large number of tourists every year who come here to sightsee places like the Double Decker Living Root Bridge, Mawsmai cave, Ka Khoh Ramhah etc.

MAWLYNNON VILLAGE: It is famous for its matrilineal society as well as having been dubbed as Asia's cleanest village. These and many other qualities make Mawlynnon a village worth having a stay in,



Thus, a variety of many caves, lakes, rivers and hills make Meghalaya stand head and shoulders above all other states.

MIZORAM: The name of the state implies that the Mizo people have a share in making it the highest in 'land of the hill people' with 95% of its inhabitants pertaining to diverse tribes. Ornamented with rolling hills, valleys, rivers and lakes, Mizoram experiences a mild climate with an average rate of rainfall which together



AIZAWL: Rightly called the 'home of highlanders', the state's capital Aizawl boasts of both its picturesque landscapes surrounded by the ridges of hills and its cultural richness. Here are some leading destinations in Aizawl: Durtlang Hills, Bung, Tamdil Lake, Mini Zoological Garden, Mizoram state museum, Khawlung Wildlife Sanctuary.

CHAMPHAI: Located at an altitude of 1678 mtrs, Champhai overlooks the largest plains of Mizoram and houses several ancient relics and monuments giving an insight of its glorious past. Better known as 'the fruit bowl of Mizoram' it has several tourist attraction spots like Murlen National Park, Rih Dil Lake, Leng teng Hills etc.



LUNGLEI: Standing next to Aizawl as the second largest city of the state, Lunglei is an ideal location to have some of the most resplendent sights the state can offer. Major tourist attractions here include the following: Saza Wildlife Sanctuary, Nghasih Stream, Serkawn etc.

SERCHHIP: Embraced by the Mat and Tuikam rivers on either sides, Serchhip offers various remarkable sites like the state's highest waterfall, the 8th highest mountain, a wide range of endangered species and the Mizo handloom industry.



Besides, Lawngtlai, Palak lake, Tuirial Dam, Dampa Wildlife Sanctuary are some other places in Mizoram which cater to the sightseeing needs of its tourists.



**NAGALAND:** With 16 major tribes dwelling in it, Nagaland is a largely mountainous state having a largely monsoon climate with high humidity levels and is carpeted with sheer greenery. A colorful land of impeccable culture and unprecedented tradition, this lesser known state has an enticing destination to explore. Here goes the list of places in Nagaland that a visitor must not leave unexplored:

**DIMAPUR:** The town of Dimapur exhibits flawless elegance through its scenic landscape and provides nature aficionados and history lovers ample opportunities. Noteworthy tourist attractions here include Nichuguard Village, Diphuphar, Zoological Park, Ao Baptist Church, Green Park etc.



**KOHIMA:** The capital city of Kohima stands out with its charismatic natural charms, reminiscence of the 2nd world war and a perfect melange of culture and history. The major sightseeing places here include Dzukou Valley, Japfu Peak, Kohima War Cemetery, Kohima State Museum, Kohima Zoo and Naga Bazaar.

**MOKUKCHUNG:** A home to the Ao tribe, Mokukchung is gradually becoming a hotspot for tourism due to its pristine elegance. The most enchanting place in Mokukchung are Changtongya, Mokukchung park, Longkhum, Ungma, Chuchuyimlong etc.



**MON:** Famed for warriors with tattooed faces, head hunting prowess and black toothed people, Mon is a fascinating place to visit. Here, one can catch glimpses of the Chief's residence where he resides with his 60 wives and the vibrant colours of the harvest festival called Aoleong Monya festival held in the month of March. Other major attractions include Longwa Village, Veda Peak, Chui Village, Shangyu Village.

Not only these but Nagaland has a lot more of eye-feasting places which include Wokha, Dzukou Valley, Toupheima Village, Khonoma Green Village etc.

SIKKIM: Tucked away in the lap of the beauty but also offers an engrossing list of Himalaya, the lately recognized 8<sup>th</sup> sister of things to do thereby making it a blissful holiday north east is an absolute treat to the eye. The day destination. Major attractions of Sikkim gateway to the north eastern corridor of India include:- Sikkim not only boasts of its prismatic



GANGTOK- Snuggled by serene beauty , lush forests and gurgling rivers, Gangtok is a place the alluring charm of which can just not be resisted. The city's elegance is enough to win the hearts of nature lovers while it can win the hearts of adventure lovers by providing ample fun through cable car rides, river rafting, mountain biking and several other activities.

YUKSOM- The once a capital of Sikkim, Yuksom is better known as the ' Meeting place of Three Lamas'. With inexplicable beauty and untouched nature, Yuksom stands among the most peaceful and serene places of the state.



TSOMGO LAKE- Located only 38 km away from the capital city of Sikkim, Tsomgo lake is the highest lake in the country with an altitude of 12,400 ft. While the lake remains frozen in winter, with summer comes back its magical charm. It is during this time of the year that the turquoise water of the lake reflects the majestic nearby peaks and the azure sky above.

LACHUNG- A popular snow destination in Sikkim, Lachung with its untouched and surreal beauty has all it takes to make one fall in love with it. Located in the northern part of Sikkim, this mountain village is ornamented by the resplendent elegance of the Lachung Chu River.



Besides, Sikkim has more than a score of other breathtaking places like Ravangla, Nathula pass, Namchi, Zuluk, Do-drul Chorten, etc. that makes it a perfect destination for event tourists.

Thus, initiating from beauty that is unparalleled to fascinating history and holy shrines, north-east India has been endowed with all of it that together make it a perfect honey pot of any visitor!



TRIPURA: The 3<sup>rd</sup> smallest state of the country, Tripura, is characterized by hills, valleys and planes that make it a tourist attraction. Its tropical savanna climate and the lush flora and fauna add all the more charm and uniqueness to the state. With the steep highlands and flowing freshwater, Tripura is special in its own way. Listed below are some tourist attractions of Tripura:-



AGARTALA - Agartala would naturally be the first choice destination for those who visit Tripura. Famous for its glorious past, Agartala has many places, mountains, temples & handicraft. Top attraction includes Chittagong Hills, Neermahal Palace, Kamalasagar, State Museum, Kalapania National Park etc.

DHARMANAGAR- Dharmanagar is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in the state and can be regarded among one of the most beautiful cities in India. History lovers will find utter joy amidst its many ancient architectures. Major attraction are :

Jampuri hills, Kalibari Temple, Roa Wildlife Sanctuary, Aflong etc.



UDAIPUR- Third largest city of the state, Udaipur is famously called the 'lake city'. Major tourist sites are:- Tripura Sundari Temple, Old palace, Kalyan Sagar, Tepania Eco-Park etc.

AMBASSA- It is famous for its temples as well as for exhibiting rich culture. Leading attraction of this gorgeous city includes:- Pilak, Jagannath Temple, Chambimura, etc.



These and a score of other mirthful places make Tripura a must-visit place for anyone who comes to the North-eastern region of the country!



## A Paradise for the Iron Hearted

Turangam Borah

2nd Semester

North-East India, the land of seven sisters, is a region which can be best described as virgin, wild and untouched from modernizations taking elsewhere in the world. It is a region guarded by mountains, the only passage to it, being a narrow stretch of land some 40 km wide, called the Siliguri Corridor. Beyond this corridor lie the seven sisters, each state being more beautiful than the other, with its own culture, beliefs and its own charm. Moreover, it has been lucky enough to maintain its natural diversity unlike some other states in India. With handful of population and several remote regions, the eight states of the North-East haven't really caught travelers' fancy. However, bestowed with towering peaks and mountains, fascinating rivers, challenging terrains and other natural marvels, this region has become an epitome of adventure sports, offering ample of options of the desired adrenaline kicks to the adventure junkies. Here is a list of some adventurous activities in North-East India guiding the explorers through their adventure quest.



Sualkuchi is a small town of Assam which is known for its rich cultural heritage. Known as the "Manchester of Assam", the town celebrates several festivals throughout the year, most of them with religious connotations. Out of all the festivals celebrated in Sualkuchi, the most exciting of the lot is - the boat race or nao-khel. This race is organized to commemorate the death anniversary of Srimanta Sankardev, a great social-religious reformer of Assam. In the year 1965 a rowing competition committee was formed not only to revive this old age tradition but also to strengthen the harmony, unity and integrity amongst the people belonging to different cast and communities of the area. Both Hindus and Muslims participate in it with equal enthusiasm. Organised by the Naokhel Pratijogita Samiti, Sualkuchi, the competition is held in three categories 'Holong' (for 11-member teams), Khel Nao (with 50-60 members on each boat) and one for women (8-11 members on one boat). The town takes on an electric atmosphere during the event, with crowds cheering their favorite team.



## Biking Tours



Arunachal Pradesh referred to as “The Hidden Land” has the most diverse landscape that India has to offer. From the mighty Himalayas to miles-wide flat river basins, thick jungles to barren sandy plains, nature forms an immaculate orgy in over 50,000 square miles of Arunachal. Due to the overwhelming forces of nature, Arunachal has a meagre road network and that's what makes this place best suited for bike enthusiasts.

A famous 13 day adventure tour is held every year in the Himalayas of mystical North-East India which covers the state of Arunachal Pradesh. This biking tour is known as ‘An expedition into the "Hidden Land" of India’. The tour starts from the Dibrugarh district of Assam to the Boleng region of Arunachal

via Jenging, Siang, Mariyang, Ranaghat, Mebo, Dambuk, Dibang, Roing, Mayodia pass, Balijan and Pasighat.

The tour offers one to test their riding skills to the maximum level. Slush, sand, rain, jungle dirt tracks, rocky river beds, boat rides and camping makes this ride a religious experience for the ultimate adventure seeker. And the high drama within all this is the “Rickety Wooden Bridge” that needs to be crossed. Thus, the locals in Arunachal do not refer to the roads as good or bad, but as “adventurous.”

## Mountain Biking



Another destination biker would love to explore is the state of Sikkim, which allows the visitor to get in touch with the colourful cultural heritage and monastic lifestyle of the Sikkimese people. One of best adventure products in Sikkim is mountain biking. The rugged and dramatic terrain of Sikkim Himalayas offers sure and exciting biking trails to the adventure lovers.

As most of the roads in Sikkim are negotiable by mountain bikes. The beauty of the countryside, flora and fauna and life-style of the Sikkimese people is best experienced on a bike's seat as one meander through lush green hills and dales. Mostly it is popular in North Sikkim & West Sikkim. Mountain Biking is an ultimate adventure and fun way to explore North Sikkim.

From ride comprising of 3/4 days to reach Lachung covering a distance of 115 km and ascending from an altitude of 5500 ft (Gangtok) to 9600 ft (Lachung) this tour is an ideal way to discover North Sikkim.

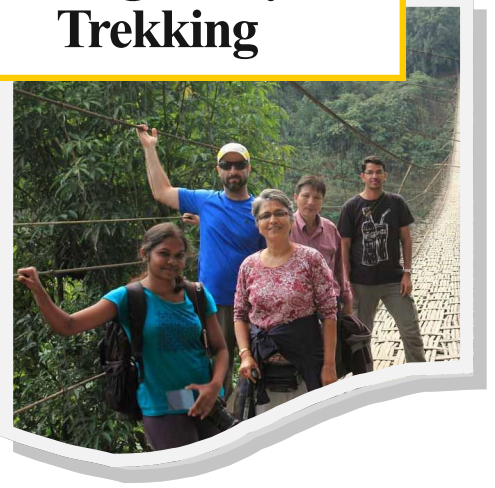
The excitement of riding the mountain bike through rough terrains is almost the same with a time spent in guided walking holidays. This is a new sport that Sikkim boasts of and many have lured by the exiting thrills of this out door fun. There is no specific season for mountain biking. Many bikers enjoy riding their bikes during monsoon in slushy dirt road. In every time a biker go out, there is different fun and feeling.

## Siang Valley Trekking

**S**iang Valley Trekking Expedition is a famous Arunachal Pradesh trekking circuit, which takes trekkers along the Tsangpo River in (Tibet) known as Siang in Pashighat district of Arunachal Pradesh. This River later joins the Brahmaputra River in the state of Assam. The Saing Valley trek covers some exciting locations which were never explored before such as Adi (Minyong, Pasi, Padam) tribe of Arunachal Pradesh. These are the major destinations covered during the Siang Valley Trek.

The duration of Siang Valley trekking expedition is of 12 days, starting on arrival at Guwahati and then move to Tezpur (180km, 5hrs) on the same day. Second day is a drive from Tezpur to Ziro which is about 310km, of thrilling 9 hours of journey. Third day starts with a trek to Pange from Ziro which is 15km where camping can be done. On the fourth day trekking from Pange to Talley Valley starts, which is a 18kms trek, camps are the best staying option during this trek. On day five trekkers will trek the whole day around Talley Valley. From the sixth day the trekking expedition to Talley Valley moves backward with the same route and ends on where it started.

An exhilarating trek of 12 days in this mystique valley of Arunachal Pradesh is all about exploring and discovering the opulent nature of the state. Considered as a moderate trek, it is an affair of lush greeneries, narrow and enthralling passes, awe-inspiring terrains, challenging trails and lot more.



**Angling in Subansiri**

**A**ngling in Arunachal Pradesh allows one to go into an untraveled territory in a very special part of the Himalayas, where tracts of unspoiled wilderness stretch for hundreds of kilometers and human presence is scarce and sustainable. Originating from the mighty Himalayas in Tibet, the Subansiri River flowing through Arunachal Pradesh is amongst the most sought after destination for Golden Masheer, Trout and Goonj fishing sports.

The sparse human habitation along the lower half of the Subansiri makes it ideal for adventure enthusiasts such as anglers and rafters. The lure of big fighting fishes such as Golden Masher, Trout and the Goonj, can bring out the excitement in any fisherman. The river has volume, flow, class 3 and higher white water rapids, and is set in a breathtaking and exotic forested landscape where warm hearted tribal hill people live with unique traditions and customs. Reaching the right spots for angling is a process which needs good planning due to the remoteness of the region. The Subansiri river offer abundant opportunities for both fast and still water angling. The angling spots are pristine and rarely offered as a travel destination due to their exotic nature. While one has to be careful as wild elephants and leopards regularly ply through the river banks. During nights, bonfires are compulsory and it is advisable to stay together in a group of at least 3 or more people.



The Subansari “Gold River” is the biggest tributary of the Upper Brahmaputra and descends through verdant rainforests in the tribal state of Arunachal Pradesh. The White Water Rafting in Subansari is a popular rafting expedition that passes through dense rainforests, ethnic surroundings and some great white water.

This beckoning river is challenging and demanding. This river has no road artery linking it on either side of the Great Himalayan Range spanning about 150 km. It has volume and flow; the rapids are set in a scenic breathtaking environment astride the Eastern Himalayas with its diverse warm-hearted hill people with their unique traditions and customs spread over a millennia with the inevitable change encroaching upon them rapidly.

On rafting trips, there is the usage of only Hyside self-bailing rafts, which are the most popular rafts with river outfitters. And during rafting, looking into the niche of the forest, wide variety of flora and fauna with its stretch could be observed at every step that fascinates travellers.



Goecha La is situated in the state of Sikkim which is a perfect destination for adventure lovers. Trekking in Sikkim is extravagant with flourishing valleys, fine-looking orchards and dark forests. Its unrivaled collection of flora and fauna, add charisma to the adventure of trekking expedition with verdant green peak trails of Sikkim.



**Goecha La Trek**

The tremendously tough terrains that are often the preference of the qualified trekkers are on the peak, with snowy crest of the famed Himalayas. The peaks are located on high altitude from where one can see the lovely sightsee of mountains.

The trek to GoechaLa route in the region of the Kanchenjunga National Park is open to guests. The trek starts from Yuksom and through Sachenpass, it joins the conventional Dzongri-Goecha La trail. The Goecha La pass is the decisive destination for the magnificent sight of MountainKabru and Kanchenjunga. On the next day, the trekkers have to trail the descend steep forest to the overpass on the Dzongri-Goechala track and after walking an hour they will reach to Tshoka.

The trek comprises the big grazing land and opaque forest which comes in way. From Toshka, one have to climb to the Dzongritop which is long and hefty. After moving further to Black Kabru Pandim, Kabru North, Kabru Dome and many peaks, the travellers set forward for another destination to other camp spot, Thensing. It is a very striking place with opaque mist packed forest, the bubbling RathongChuriver and a mat of grassland and plants on the ground. The next stop is Pandim where the preliminary part of the journey takes one down to the bank of the river. The way down is swift and the night halt is at Kokchurung, the finishing point of the trek where the trekkers can stay and enjoy luscious dinner.

# Diversity of Avian Fauna in North East India

Aklanta M. Kalita  
4th Semester

The North Eastern (NE) region of the India represents one of the highest avian biodiversity of the Indian subcontinent. The Northeast is among the 34 Hot Spots of the world, identified in India, the other being the Western Ghats. The region is ecologically represented by the Eastern Himalayan biome and is rich in a number of endemic flora and fauna. Several avian species inhabiting this unique ecosystem are not found or reported anywhere else in the world. This region represents a unique region with unparallel natural beauty, amazing ethnic diversity and a spectacular biodiversity of birds.

The NE India constitutes vast evergreen forests along with tropical semi-evergreen and moist deciduous forests which results in unique habitat for a wide diversity of local species along with numerous short and long



Northern Pintail & Common Coot

distance migrant species which come and visit the NE from other parts of the subcontinent such as Central and Western Himalayas and southern India; and there are also species visiting the regions from the distant Siberia

(Russia), Mongolia, central, southern and South East China, Myanmar Thailand, Indo-China, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Central Asian countries like the Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan and West Asia. The avian diversity of this region includes different species like *owls, owlets, eagles, ospreys, woodpeckers, pheasants, ducks, swans, geese, teals, grebes, pochards, pintails, ibis, shanks, terns, pelicans, storks, Asian open bills, bitterns, spoonbills, sandpipers, plovers, cranes,*

*egrets, herons, cormorants, kingfishers, lesser adjutants, greater adjutants, crakes, water hens, coots, moorhens, snipes, swamp hens, jacanas, rails, falconets, kestrels, hobbys, hawks, kites, vultures, harriers, goshawks, falcons, weaver birds, tailor birds, rollers, honey guides, hornbills, sunbirds, bee eaters, orioles, sand grouses, frogmouths, lapwings, muniyas, cormorants, kingfishers, lesser adjutants, greater adjutants, crakes, water hens, coots, moorhens, snipes, swamp hens, jacanas, rails, falconets, kestrels etc.*

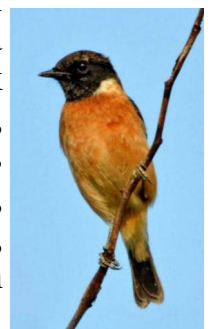


Baillons Crake

**Major foremost regions include :**

## **Kaziranga National Park**

Kaziranga is the most beautiful national park among the all the national park of north east India and its lush green flood plains with alluvial grassland, tropical wet semi-green and evergreen forest vegetation is home to a number of fascinating wildlife. About 500 species of birds have been recorded so far in Kaziranga including Great and Wreathed Hornbill, Jerdon's Baza, Swamp Francolin, Pale-capped Pigeon, Slender-billed Vulture, Pallas's Fishing Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Imperial Eagle, Bengal Florican, Pied Harrier, Pied Falconet, Oriental Hobby, Black-necked Stork, Greater Adjutant, Jerdon's Babbler, Hodgson's Bushchat, White-vented Myna, Black-breasted Parrotbill, Rufous-vented Prinia, Marsh Babbler and Finn's Weaver.



Siberian Stonechat



### **Mishmi Hills**

Mishmi Hills are on the Northeastern tip of India, in Central Arunachal Pradesh.

Over

681 species of birds recorded so far including the Sclater's Monal, Blyth's and Temink's Tragopan, Chestnut-breasted Partridge, Rufous-necked Hornbill, Pale-Capped Pigeon, Ward's Trogon, Dark-sided Thrush, Green and Purple Cochoa, Rusty-bellied and Gould's Shortwing, Beautiful Nuthatch, Rusty-throated a Wedge-billed Wren Babbler, Fire-tailed Myzornis, at least four Parrotbill species, Black-headed Green finch, Scarlet Finch, and Grey-headed Bullfinch.

### **Orang National Park :**

Orang National Park is home to more than 222 species of birds, the check list for Orang National park will be as follows - Spot-billed Pelican, Great White Pelican, Black-necked Stork, Greater Adjutant Stork, Lesser Adjutant Stork, Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall, Brahminy Duck, Pintail, Hornbills, Pallas's Fishing Eagle, King Fisher and Wood pecker, Florican and the migratory bird white pelicans.

### **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park :**

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is located on the floodplains of the Debang, Lohit, Dibru and the Brahmaputra Rivers and spreads over the Dirugarh and Tinsukia districts of Assam. It has an has an im-

pressive list of over 350 species of birds including Marsh and Jerdon's Babblers, and Rufous-vente

(Swamp) Prinia, Baer's Pochard, White-winged Wood Duck, Bengal Florican, Jerdon's Bushchat, Black-breasted Parrot bill, Pale-capped Pigeon, and Rufous-rumped Grassbird.

### **Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary :**

Eaglenest Nest Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area of India in the Himalayan Foot hills of West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh. Eaglenest is notable as a prime birding site due to the extraordinary variety, numbers and accessibility of species. More than

600 species of birds are recorded so far including

Ward's trogon, wedge-billed and

rufous-throated wren-babblers, rufous-

necked, great and wreathed hornbills, black-necked crane, beautiful nuthatch, emerald cuckoo etc.



Little Ringed Plover

Some other important birding areas like Namdhapa National Park (Bird List 650+), West Arunachal Pradesh (Pakke and Dirang-Sela: Bird List 450 +), Manas National Park (Bird list 380) and Nameri National Park (Bird List 350) contributes for the varied diversity of North-East as a significant hotspot in the Avian world.



Abbott's Babbler

SAVE BIRDS  
SAVE ENVIRONMENT



Long tailed Shrike

# Assam– the concoction of ethnic groups

Rajashree Muktiar

2nd semester /

The tribes of Assam portray the “waves of variety in tradition, culture, dresses, and ex-colour” which together comprises the spec-otic way of life. Analytically, the term ‘tribe’ refers to people who live on the periphery of dominant social formations; forests and hills are their traditional habitat. Most scheduled tribes of Assam today, however, have accel-erated in all spheres of their lifestyle contrib-uting to the rich heritage of Assam. In this piece of article, let us make a tour and discuss about some of the ethnic tribes that includes the cultures of the various tribes that make Assam their home. They are as fol-lows:

The tribes of Assam portray the “waves of colour” which together comprises the spec-trum of unity in the region. They are the epit-ome of combination of lifestyle, culture, mu-sic, heritage etc. put together in a cauldron of peace and harmony. The tribes form an im-portant part of the total population. It repre-sents an element of the society which is inte-grated with the culture mosaic of our civili-sation. Most tribes have their own languages; some of their traditions are so unique and lively that these causes wonder to others. Bo-ro, Karbi, Koch-Rajbangshi, Miri, Mishimi, Rabha etc. are among these tribes exhibiting



**The Bodo tribe** is considered as the earliest immigrants in Assam and are said to be the most culturally rich community of the largest ethnic and linguistic groups of Assam. The ‘bodo’ is derived from the term ‘bod’ which means Tibet, thus signifying that majority of the Bodos arrived from Bhutan passes. The Bodo language is a member of the Tibeto-Burmese family. Recently, Bodos adopted the Devanagari script. The Bodos traditionally dance the Bagurumba which is a very popular dance form.

**The Tiwa or Lalung’s;** Compeer tribe of the Bodos belongs to the Tibeto-Burmese origin. They prefer themselves to be called Tiwa instead of Lalung which means “people who were lifted from be-low”. They follow their own tiwa dialect. The community festival of Tiwa is called Barat Utsav. Another festival of the Tiwas called the “Jon Beel Mela” is renowned across the world where goods are brought and sold in the barter system. Tourists from nook and corner of the world visits to witness this traditional system of trade.







**The Sarania Kachari's** belonging to the endogamous group of Kachari tribe is one of the major ethnic community in Assam. "Bah Gossain Puja" is the most important festival of Sarania Kachari. Along with it, they also celebrate Bihu, Mah-Kheda Utsav etc. They follow the Assamese dialect. Alongwith them, the Sonowal Kachari tribe belonging to the same origin are believed to have very rich traditional knowledge of indigenous medicine. They have their own methods of treating different kinds of diseases, using locally available herbs and plants for treatment; following the knowledge inherited from their ancestors. They are found mainly in the districts of Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Tinsukia, Jorhat, and Golaghat

**The Mishings** are the second largest schedule tribe of Assam followed by the Bodos; belonging mainly from the riverine areas like Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar, Jorhat and Sonitpur. They have their own language, but they don't have their own script, hence they use the Assamese language in written form. The 'Ali-Ai-Ligang' is the most widely observed festival of the Mishings. The most important feature of the festival is their rich traditional dancing and singing with instruments like Dhol, Pempa, Siphung, and Gagana etc.



Another major ethnic tribe are **the Deoris**. The word 'Deori' itself signifies their rich heritage. It comes from the word 'Deu' meaning great and wise. They belong to the Sino-Tibetan family of Mongoloid stock. They observe two major festivals during a year. One of them is "Bohagiyo Bisu" in the month of April while the other is "Magiyo Bisu" in the month of January. The Deoris have their own language which is similar to the Bodo language.



**The Karbis** are another distinguished tribe belonging to the Mongoloid group and linguistically to the Tibeto-Burman group like the Mech tribe found in Goalpara Districts and a small portion existing in Khowang area of Dibrugarh district, Parakhowa area of Karbi Anglong District. 'Rongker' and the 'Hacha Kekan' are their two main festivals. The Karbis do not have their own script, and generally use the Assamese script.

Like the Karbi's, **the Rabha's** are another venerable tribe belonging to the Indo Mongoloid group of people. The language/dialect of the Rabha community is of the

same name and is now confined among the Rangdhani and Maitory groups. The Farkhanthi Festival and the Baikhu Festival are the major festivals celebrated by the Rabha tribe. The Hatching puja is now assumed to be a national festival of the Rabha's.

With a tiny population, **the khamti tribe** and the **Tai Phake** are another two distinct tribes of assam. The Khamtis are found in Bihpuria and Narayanpur areas of North Lakhimpur subdivision and Sadia region while the Tai phake tribe resides in Tinsukia and Dibrugarh region. Both the tribes are followers of Buddhist religion.

**The Garo** tribe is a socially unique tribe following the matriarchal family structure. They are believed to be the earliest human group that migrated into North East India from the Tibetan plateau during the pre-historic period. In the recent times, the Garo tribe is converted to Christianity. **The Khasi tribe** is also one following the matrilineal form of society like the Garos. They are numerically very small scheduled tribe found in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills bordering Meghalaya. It is believed that the origin of the Khasi and the Jaintia tribe is same. **The Jaintias** also follow matriarchy like the Khasi and the Garo tribe. They are found in Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya, N C Hills and Karbi Anglong districts of Assam.



The above discussion gives us a brief insight of only a few ethnic tribes of Assam. Along with them, there are still many tribes which need to be unveiled and preserve their culture, art and traditions. The rich culture and vibrancy of these tribes are immeasurable which cannot be expressed in these few pages. These tribes are indeed the treasures of our state, Assam; contributing to its cauldron of glory and heritage.





## THE LAND OF MAYA

Aparajita Borthakur  
2nd Semester



“I was a young girl then, but my grandfather’s stupendous feats are fresh in my mind’s eye. Now you see him, now you don’t – we would rub our eyes in disbelief as he suddenly became invisible”, says Nareswari Devi, a 75 year old lady, to a national daily. She belonged from a mystical and magical land of Mayong which is situated in the Morigaon district of Assam on the bank of the river Brahmaputra near Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary. The name ‘Mayong’ itself has many tales attached to it. One of the tales suggests that Manipuris from the Maibong clan used to inhabit this area and with time Maibong became Mayhong. The area was full of elephants, and in Manipuri language an elephant is known as Miyong, so few of them believe that Miyong became Mayong with time.

40 kilometers away from the city of Guwahati, Mayong is a place with many mysterious stories. It also has significance in The Great Battle of Mahabharata, as Chief Ghatotkacha of Kachari Kingdom took part in it. It is considered to be the capital of magic and witchcraft in India. Tricks like men disappearing into thin air, people being converted into animals, or beasts being magically tamed are all associated with this land. Folklore suggests stories of Chura Bez, a sorcerer, who could disappear into thin air just by muttering the ‘Luka Mantra’. There are other such mantras too like Mohini Mantra and Bokhikaran Mantra which is used to create attraction between two individuals. The famous magician P.C. Sarkar has also

acknowledged Mayong’s teachings for many of his performances.

Filmmaker Utpal Borpujari has tried to capture the beauty of this place in his 53 minutes documentary film Mayong: Myth/Reality. It delves into the ancient secrets of the practitioners in Mayong of the tantra school of Hinduism. The film also depicts the present situation of the community of 100-odd magicians who are now compelled to work as farm hands or masons to make a living. The younger generation seldom practice the lost art as the tricks were just passed from mouth to mouth as it has no documented record.

The place is a tourist and archaeological hotspot because of its rich wildlife, archaeology pilgrimage, eco-tourism, adventure tourism, cultural tourism and river tourism. It has the capability to become an additive to the North-Eastern economy by its contribution to the tourism sector. The area is full of archaeological relics and artifact, some are discovered and some are still to be discovered. One can get a glimpse of the interesting artifacts and the manuscripts in the Mayong Central Museum and Emporium which are being preserved.

The land of Maya- Mayong can be a place of mystical powers for some but the land has its own beauty which needs to be carved to utilize its full potentiality. It is a forgotten gem of the North-Eastern treasure.

# Matriliny in Meghalaya



A Different Take on Society



Pragya Haloi  
Upasa Borah  
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A young man, born and brought up in his mother's household is instilled with norms and customs only to be married off to another household, one with a completely different environment and a new set of norms and customs to follow. On the other hand his younger sister who is entitled to the family inheritance gets to continue her life in the same household. Can you imagine how scary and intimidating that process might be for him?

For many of us who are born into a patrilineal society the workings and traditions of a matrilineal society is a novelty. The very idea of marrying off our brothers and sons to another household to be borne by their wives seems comical.

Meghalaya, the abode of clouds is also the abode of the largest surviving matrilineal society in India. This form of family system exists among the cousin tribes Khasi, Garo and Jaintia though mostly distinct among the Khasis. Here the fundamental assumptions followed by all other societies are reversed. Contrary to the rest of South-east Asia, the girl gets to choose whom to marry, the groom after marriage moves into the bride's house and the children get their mother's last name. The youngest daughter in the family inherits the ancestral land and property and is also supposed to take care of the entire family. The Khasi Social Custom of Lineage Act 1997 protects the matrilineal structure of Khasis. In addition to these north-eastern tribes, this form of social system is also prevalent in the Nairs and Mapillas of Kerala.

The term "matriliny" became associated with the Khasi tribe when it was first used by Gurdon in 1914 in order to describe Khasi social norms. It is slightly different from a matriarchal society where the lady gets to rule the clan as well. Theoretically, there exists three components of such a

system, viz., continuation of mother's last name through generations, a matrilineal residential system where the husband lives with his wife's family after marriage and inheritance of property by females. The origin of this form of social system is still a topic of debate but the commonly believed reason was that it was adopted to prevent the division of property. Anthropologists and evolutionists believe that most societies in this universe have eventually evolved from matriarchy to their

present form of patriarchy. The male members of the family were sentenced to military and there was nobody to look after the household. As a result the tribes resorted to matriliney whereby the females began to take part in the matters of land, social rank and family name. Although the men retained the political power the rights to these powers passed down through the female members.

This was the original concept. Then, with the advent of Christianity and exposure to various culture of the plains chaos followed. People were confused as to what to adopt and what not to. Some adopted Christianity and some decided to stick to their indigenous customs. Although more than 80% of the population eventually converted to Christianity, the traditions of the family system prevailed. With the wars coming to an end and clans and societies settling down, the present day scenario in parts of Meghalaya is disturbing. The womenfolk does most of the work and runs the family. She has a complete say in decisions of the family. She is supposed to run family businesses and provide for the clan. The men, on the other hand is expected to do the agricultural work, viz. plough the field, care for the cattle and the like.



Oftentimes what happens is the men lie idle and drink his time off. They feel suppressed and dominated in their women's world. Some of the men have formed the equivalent of a "men's liberation group" called Syngkhong Rympei Thymai (SRT) back in 1990. SRT has only about 3,000 members, but most are silent members who are too nervous to publicly challenge matrilineal traditions of the Khasi-Jaintia society.

"We hope things will change and we will get a more meaningful role to play in our society. But we cannot force a change," says Anthony Kharkhongor, a SRT member.

Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya however sees a completely different life. It is a budding educational hub with institutes like IIM Shillong, NIT and NEIGRIHMS. With music in its free spirited soul, Shillong has influenced a lot of its neighbouring places. Several campaigns and seminars are held to discuss what is prevailing and what needs to be changed. A change definitely is on its way.

## Union Budget 2016-17: An Analysis

Prof. Subhrangshu Sekhar Sarkar

Dean School of Management Sciences

It has become a ritual for any Union Finance Minister to present a sweet and sour view of the Indian economy before presenting the budget. Keeping the same tradition, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley also followed the same path. Having a GDP growth rate of 7.6 percent makes any Finance Minister comfortable as well as when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) hailed India as a 'bright spot' amongst the slowing global economy. The country could boast of its highest ever foreign exchange reserve of about 350 billion US dollars. In spite of all these positives, the next fiscal is going to face big challenges in implementation of the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations as well as that of One Rank One Pension (OROP). What is liked in the Budget speech of the Finance Minister is that he made nine strategic priorities for the coming year viz. agriculture and farmer's welfare, rural sector, Social Sector including healthcare, Education, skills and Job Creation, Infrastructure and Investment, financial sector reforms, Governance and Ease of Doing Business, Fiscal Discipline, and Tax Reforms. It made the speech very much organized as he narrated the plans and outlay for the next fiscal in each of the nine identified priorities. For agriculture and farmers' welfare, a whopping amount of Rs. 35,984 crores is allocated, allocation for rural sector has been Rs. 87,765 crores while a sum of Rs. 38,500 crore is allocated for MGNREGS. Allocation for social sector including education is given prominence and accordingly, Rs. 1,51,581 crores is earmarked for the next fiscal. Even after spending a huge amount for development expenditure, the Finance Minister claims to restrict fiscal deficit at 3.9 percent in 2015-16 and aims 3.5 percent for 2016-17. One of the important announcements in this year budget, which is important for academic interest also, is that the Plan/Non Plan classification will no longer be there from the fiscal 2016-17. We will have to wait to see its implication as we were accustomed to have such classification for a long time. The budget speech of any Finance Minister has an interesting turn when he talks on tax proposals. In this front, this year's budget has completely failed. Mr. Jaitley, for some reasons could not show his guts to tinker with the tax systems rather he preferred to go with the status quo. As far as any tax relief is concerned, only small tax payers whose taxable income does not exceed Rs.5 lakh, will receive a benefit of Rs.3,000. Those who live in rented house but do not receive any House Rent Allowance will get an additional maximum benefit of Rs.36,000/- per annum. The Finance Minister has completely ignored the salaried class and other tax payers in providing any additional tax relief.

With the aim of Government of India's "Make in India", "Skill India", "Startup India" programmes, the Finance Minister, has widened the purview of Presumptive Taxation. Proposals are being made for changes in customs and excise duties on certain inputs for making in-house production cost-effective. In an endeavor for moving towards a Pension society, it is proposed that withdrawal upto 40 percent of the corpus at the time of retirement to be tax exempt in case of National Pension Scheme (NPS). However, annuity plan which goes to the legal heir will be exempt from tax. Reading between the lines, this proposal created a lot of furor among the salaried class, as till now, any withdrawal from recognized provident after five years happens to be tax-free. Thus, there is fear that this proposal will make such withdrawals taxable. However,

on the very next day of the presentation of the budget, officials from Ministry of Finance came out with some clarification. However, the cloud of confusion in this regard is yet to be cleared.

In a very cautious way, the Finance Minister has tried to gather additional revenue to finance the expenditure to be incurred on agriculture, rural economy and clean environment. An additional tax of 10 percent of gross amount of dividend is imposed on recipient of dividend over Rs. 10 lakhs per annum. Going with Ronbinhood policy, surcharge is increased from present 12 percent to 15 percent on persons having taxable income of more than Rs. 1 crore. In a unique way, there is a proposal for deduction (charge) of 1 percent income tax when a person purchases a car costing Rs. 10 lakhs. While this makes no issue for a person who files income return, but it will definitely be a cost for those who are outside the income-tax net for reasons whatsoever. This rule will also apply for any purchase of goods and services over Rs. 2 lakhs. Already loaded with

Sachh Bharat cess, there will be an additional 0.50 percent Krishi Kalyan Cess on taxable services from 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 2016. Because of changing in tax rates, prices of jewelry, readymade garments, tobacco products going to increase.

The budget failed to provide any remarkable boost to the business arena and hence, capital market has not welcomed the budget. During the day of budget presentation, Sensex had a roller coaster ride and ultimately ended at 152 point lower at 23002. The Finance Minister has not mentioned GST, probably as it is in the process. However, the business community expected something concrete regarding GST in this year's budget. Not considering enhancement of ceiling of Section 80C, has failed to revitalize the financial market.

Being the third budget of Sri Jaitley, he has given emphasis on agriculture and rural sector. If we analyse the income and expenditure, it can be seen that from every rupee spent, the majority goes to Defence and subsidies. Being a welfare country, it is not possible for any finance minister to garner the entire revenue. In the budget 2016-17, it is estimated that from every rupee earned 19 paise comes from Corporation tax, 14 paise is collected from Income tax, 12 paise from Union excise duty, 9 paise from Customs, 9 paise from service and other taxes, 13 from non-tax revenue and 3 paise from non-debt capital receipts. Thus, there is a deficit of 21 paise that is covered by way of borrowings and other liabilities. The Finance Minister has been lucky enough for the falling price of international crude price last year. A substantial amount of revenue could be earned by way of excise duty without giving any pinch to the citizens. The challenge of the Finance Minister will be smart managing the economy in the coming year so that he can control the fiscal deficit at 3.5 percent of the GDP.

(This article is published in Assam Tribune dated 05 March 2016)



# North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy

Rachita Bhattacharjee  
2nd Semester

The North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy is a policy to put up a crucial effort in order to promote industrialization and encourage the development and growth of the manufacturing sector, the service sector as well as the other sectors of the economy which will lead to the overall growth of the region. It came into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2007 for a period of 10 years and is a fiscal incentive and other concessions for the North East Region approved by the government. It covers the seven states namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura but, it also includes Sikkim unlike the North East Industrial Policy, 1997.

Since the north east part of India is relatively untouched, unexplored and isolated as compared to the rest of India, there is need for development in all the sectors of North East India. The North East Industrial and Investment Policy comes with the objectives of setting up units in the manufacturing sector and service sector, for example Pharmaceuticals, Steel and Rolling Mill, Cement, FMCG, Packaging, Poultry Feed, Ferro-alloy, Bakery, Hotels, Hospitals, Power Generation, etc. and also generation of employment.

The salient features of the Policy are as follows:-

Grant of (i) Central Capital Investment Subsidy @ 30% of investment in Plant and Machinery,  
(ii) Central Interest Subsidy @ 3% of working capital loan availed for a period of 10

years from the date of commencement of commercial production,  
(iii) Reimbursement of insurance premium paid towards insurance of fixed capital assets for a period of 10 years from date of commencement and commercial production,  
(iv) Excise Duty exemptions for a period of 10 years from date of commencement and commercial production and  
(v) Income Tax exemption for a period of 10 years from date of commencement and commercial production.

- In the North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, the highlights of the incentives for all industrial units, new as well as existing units on their substantial expansion, located anywhere in North East are:- Industrial Excise Duty Exemption.
- 100% Income Tax Exemption.
- Capital Investment subsidy in plant and machinery @ 30%. without any upper limit of investment.
- Transport Subsidy Scheme: 90% on raw materials coming from outside and 50% on finished goods inside the state.
- Interest subsidy @ 3% on working capital loan for a maximum period of 10 years from the date of commencement of production.
- Comprehensive insurance – reimbursement of 100% insurance premium.
- Incentives package also available for the service sector – hotels, nursing homes, vocational training institutes, etc.

- Incentives for bio-technological industry as applicable to other industries.
- Incentives for power generating industries – incentives under Sec. 81(A) of Income Tax Act to continue. Power generating plants (all types) up to 10 MW will be eligible for capital investment subsidy, interest subsidy and comprehensive insurance.

Present Status:

Fresh registration of industrial units claiming benefits of the schemes under The North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, 2007 has been suspended with ef-

fect from 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014 since committed liabilities are far greater than Annual budget allocation.

The Chief Ministers of the concerned states are appealing to withdraw the circular on suspension of registration of units under The North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy.

Serious concern over the issue of suspension of the registration of units was raised as the suspension would not only affect the industrial sector but also the economy of the entire north eastern region.

# A SKY FOR THE RAINBOW



# A patronage to the entrepreneurs

## -coloring their visions

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The sister states of northeastern India and their solitary brother state have always been somewhat of a mystery. And not just for the world but for the rest of India as well. Having long been in many ways isolated from the rest of the Indian democracy has resulted in the manifestation of quite a few perceptions about the region which are not true. The rest of the country still see the northeastern region as an insurgency infested locale which is entirely unsuited to successful entrepreneurial endeavors. These ideas and their consequences on regional growth have been quite adverse. The venture capitalist brigade have kept themselves at bay from investing in the region, and major corporations also have shown slight or no interest. The region despite of having tremendous potential in terms of natural resources and human capability has never delivered an economic output that would justify this.

All this can now really be a thing of the past very soon. Government of India under its 'Start Up India' campaign has recognized the northeast as the next start up destination and has announced quite a few schemes which will essentially help revamp the region and encourage fresh entrepreneurial ventures.

But whether the region is able to take adequate advantage of these schemes and propel itself forward would completely depend on the residents of the region, and to more so its youth. The muscle and the brain from the region have historically, albeit due to unavailability of resources, found sustainable engagement away from their homes. This has

resulted in the absence of skilled dependable resources in the region and that has been another factor why the region has not been considered investment friendly.

To ensure that the start-ups in northeast are adequately backed, the government has initiated a sleuth of reforms targeted to promote start-ups in the region. Favorable opportunities can now be at everybody's reach. Innovative entrepreneurial ideas that target the region's strengths and are backed by long a long term vision will now be able to find the right platform for scripting success stories.

This is being ensured by the govt. which is also intent on harnessing the area's untapped potential. While addressing the inaugural session of the "Youth Connect"

program organized by Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi on 29<sup>th</sup> of January this year, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), said that Northeast is an emerging destination for new start-ups across the country. And that with increasing awareness about the Northeast in the rest of the country, the day is not far when youth from all parts of India will be heading to the Northeastern states to explore new avenues of employment & vocation. Though this might sound a bit far-flung to a present resident of the region, but many initiatives such as improving connectivity by air, rail & road & setting up of a venture fund dedicatedly for start-ups in the region can definitely turn this current presumable conjecture into a golden reality.

But this would not happen on its own, and a lot will depend on the entrepreneurs from the region who will take the onus of taking the region forward onto themselves. To aid to their cause, as a part of the Start Up India plan, the government has come up with a provision of two years tax free facility and a 3 months exit period and the venture fund in collaboration with this would certainly help diffuse the financial liabilities of these new entrepreneurs of the region. Dr. Jitendra Singh also emphasized upon the fact that the youth of northeast, with their superlative talent and high literacy rate are going to make substantial contribution in the ascent of 21<sup>st</sup> century India and called upon the youth to make the best of the opportunity and assured that the DONER ministry will do everything possible to facilitate optimum utilization of youth potential from Northeast.

All this is fair incentive in itself for any individual with the entrepreneurial bug in his veins looking for a platform to quench their drive. But there is more. The northeast have more than 2lakh MSMEs, which accounts for less than 3% of the country's total but still contributes to 2.6% of the country's total GDP. The same reason is why the private sector too has already taken quite an interest in the region and it's potential. A number of startups from the region have already established and been successful in acquiring sub-

stantial investments from venture capitalists. The most significant name amongst them is most certainly that of Arohan Food, a Guwahati based start-up that works with small-holdings pig farmers and retails pork nationwide. Founded by Anabil Goswami, Arindom Hazarika & Ranapratap Bramha, they were able to acquire an Omnivore partners investment in 2013 which helped them scale up their production and cater to a national consumer base.

This certainly happens to be the moment. This is the opportunity that many from the region have been dreaming of. The early birds have already begun their feast, and though it's a feast of abundance it is not unlimited. The time is now and all we need to do now is rise to the occasion and seize what we have always desired. Implement our vision by the means of our hard work and we can now be assured that success will follow. It is time to take ourselves forward by the means of our dreams and the perseverance of our efforts. Let's take the colors of northeast and paint our future bright.

Source: **Northeast is emerging destination for new 'Startups': DrJitendra Singh,**  
LINK: <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=135924>

**Will government support ensure that the Northeast's startup star is on the rise?,**  
Link: <http://yourstory.com/2016/02/northeast-startup/>



# BAMBOO AND CANE CULTURE OF ASSAM

**Saswati Borah**  
**2nd Semester**

Assam is rich in most of the natural resources. Assam has a good number of forests which consists of varieties of bamboo and cane species. There has been a great practice of cultivation of both bamboo and cane in Assam since long. Although most of these traditions and practices have become extinct yet they play an integral part in the development of the economy. Altogether there are 38 naturally growing species of bamboo in Assam. “*Bambusa jaintiana*” and “*Melocanna baccifera*” are species reported only from Assam. It has been observed that bamboo forests are mostly stretched through the N.C Hills and Karbi Anglong districts. Bamboo is widely cultivated in Assam and interestingly every household grow bamboo in its Bari land. There are 14 species of cane which grow in the forest of Assam. *Calamus flagellums*, *Calamus floribunadus*, *Calamus latifolius*, are widely distributed throughout Assam.

Since long, bamboo has received a place in rituals and recreation, culture and ceremonies. Bamboo is an instrument or vehicle of widespread economic development thereby generating employment, increasing the livelihood and

income of the people of Assam. The use of bamboo is eco -friendly as it contributes to the environment by replacing the use of plastics, cement, composite materials etc. Everyday Bamboo can be used as raw materials for new and innovative ideas. It can be used with science and technology also. Cane gets extracted specially from three species, and they are – Jati (*Calamus tenuis*), Tita (*Calamus leptesadix*), and Lejai (*Calamus floribundus*). And also gets extracted from some other species like Sundi (*Calamus garuba*) and Raidang (*Calamus flagellum*). A kind of ‘muli bamboo’ locally known as ‘muli bazail’ is used for umbrella handles. Palm leaves locally known as “Tokow Pat” are used for manufacturing ‘japi’ (umbrella).

Different types of products manufactured by bamboo and cane for household purposes are-

1. Used in making dolls and toys.
2. Sieve (CHALONI) of different sizes.
3. Bamboo Tray (Dala)
4. Bamboo bags (Tukuri)
5. Duli (Big basket used to store paddy)
6. Winnowing (Kula)
7. Dhol (Big measure)



Apart from the above products, some distinct products are also manufactured by cane and bamboo which are used as fishing equipments. They are-

Jakoi

Khaloi

Chepa

Dori

Parans

Plain Basket , (specially used by the Bodo people)

Bamboo also possess some other specialties .Bamboo acts as a medicine in the rural areas of Assam-

**Toothache**-By heating young bamboo twigs and applying over it.

**Body pain**-Sleeping in the bed which is wholly made of bamboo.

**Headache and Sinusitis**-Dried bamboo is burnt and the smoke is inhaled which provides relief from headache and sinusitis.

Bamboo is also used to prepare most of the bihu instruments like –Gogona, Pepa etc. Moreover, pickle can be prepared from bamboo shoot which is a common element of every traditional food in most of the North-Eastern States.

Now-a-days, bamboo is getting exploited to a great extent which affects the livelihood of the local people, thereby creating hindrances to the industries which are specially based on bamboo (paper, pulp industries etc.). The higher authorities should be concerned about the exploitation of these resources and should pay attention to preserve the same.

**Source-** [assamforest.in/  
environment.php](http://assamforest.in/environment.php)  
[ignca.nic.in/craft152.htm](http://ignca.nic.in/craft152.htm)

# Nurturing the Indigenous Artisans

Bhaswati Barman

4th Semester



North east India is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse regions in India. A place renowned for its magical beauty and bewildering diversity, North east India is a home for more than 166 different tribes involving in various activities of arts and crafts, handloom and textile and so on. Its geographical location is such that it shares boundary with different countries like Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh and China which provides ample of opportunities to reach out to the global market but because of lack of inflow of investments, it somehow could not flourish into an economic strength of the country. The eight states of North East India viz. Assam, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram and Meghalaya, stands out individually in terms of geographical distance and cultural diversity. Their market structure differs from one another, so do their taste and preferences.

The lush green mountains surrounding the North East region conceals a rich culture of art and handicrafts passed from generation, presenting a huge opportunity for investment and growth of entrepreneurship in the region. There is an urgent need to devise a long term solution for the economic as well as the social development of the region. The artisans, who face a stiff competition from the cheap Chinese products that are flooded in the markets of these states, need a platform which will allow them access the market of the rest of the country as well as the global market in the years to come.

In such situation certain organizations have worked as a sky for the rainbow by providing opportunities to the artisans whose work would otherwise have become extinct in the near future. These organizations have not only provided these people with a platform to

showcase their expertise but also have provided them with facilities and aid to improve their skills and uplift their economic status.

One such organization is Impulse, a NGO based in Meghalaya which, with support from UNODC, reached out to rural artisans engaged in traditional weaving. The artisans were trained by designers, who through live demonstration showed them how to combine indigenous weaving with modern designs and to produce marketable products. They also introduced new tools, techniques and processes to help in creating economically viable products. Impulse continued to work for the local artisans and soon established Impulse Social enterprise. Impulse Social Enterprises has reached out to around 20,000 artisans and has created a brand for them called Empower. Today, Empower produces placemats, table runners, scarves and stoles manufactured by local artisans, marketed all over the globe.

*The Government of India too, has been involved in thrusting the facilities for marketing the indigenous goods of the region. The North East Zone Cultural Centre, Ministry of Culture-*

*Government of India, has established Shilpagram – the artisans' village, in Panjabari, Guwahati with the objective of providing a platform to the people producing these goods. The complex has 45 permanent stalls for exhibition-cum-sale of crafts items, 8 pavilions which function as mini museums by displaying the arts & crafts of the respective State, eight food stalls for sales and promotion of traditional food. It also organizes crafts melas by providing available space at nominal rent to showcase the beauty of the indigenous good of the region.*

Another such organization is the Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED). It is a national-level apex organization functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India. TRIFED has a network of its (Member Federations) and 13 offices all over India with its headquarters in New Delhi. TRIFED organized a meet of tribal artisans under the banner of Tribal Artisan Mela at the Institution for Culture And Rural Development (I-CARD), Life Plus, Jorhat.

Artisans from Karbi Anglong, Nagaland, Majuli, Guwahati and other places from the Northeast participated in this unique cultural event which helped the artisans of the region to come to the limelight with their products. The artisans did not only sell their products but also got them selected by Trifed for national exposure and to be sent to stores across the country. In addition, artisans are empanelled by Trifed so that they can be selected for national exhibitions, where they can sell their products directly. A wide varie-

ty of handloom and handicraft goods made of cotton, eri, muga, beads and wood were displayed.

North east India with its aesthetic beauty and serenity has aptly been named as 'The Paradise Unexplored'. It indeed is unexplored both in scenic beauty as well as economic opportunities. With the right knowledge, right platform and right effort, it can bloom into one of the economic strengths and social hubs of the country given its resources, geographical location and expertise of the indigenous artisans. Potential for it is as colourful as a rainbow; all that is needed is a sky for the colours to spread.

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# Prose & Verses



## THE RAINBOW

Upasana Madhukalya

Ronjini Konwar

4th Semester

**O**nce the northeastern sisters started to quarrel among themselves, claiming their superiority over the others.

**Assam:** “Undoubtedly I am the best. I am the land of the red rivers and blue hills. Wherever you look, you see beauty, bountiful natural resources and varied wildlife. I make the most special tea and I am famous for my indigenous ‘eri’, ‘muga’ silk and one-horned rhinoceros. And what about ‘Bihu’ which unites my family with happiness, peace and harmony?”

**Arunachal Pradesh:** “So what...my name itself declares that I am the land of the rising sun. I am lofty and rise to the peaks of the

great Himalayas. People love to visit me especially the Tawang Monastery which is the largest monastery in my motherland. And don’t you know about the Ziro Music festival which is the most happening event nowadays, where music lovers from all over the world come up over here and enjoy Indie music and other forms as well.”

**Meghalaya:** “Well that’s Ok, but I am the ‘Abode of Clouds’ in which there’s a small town called ‘Mawsynram’ having the record of heaviest rainfall in the world. The magical paradise ‘Mawlynnong – the cleanest village in Asia’ exists nowhere but here. A lot of great musicians have taken birth in me. It’s full of music enthusiasts and rightly the Rock capital of my motherland.”

**Manipur:** “Oh! Give me a break...! I am the Switzerland of the East. In me, greenery accompanies a moderate climate. I take pride in having the ‘Lohtak Lake’, the largest freshwater lake amongst us and ‘Keibul Lamjao’, the only floating National Park in the World. My culture features martial arts, dance, theatre and sculpture. ‘Polo’, which is a Royal game, originated in me. And most importantly, I lead the way in women empowerment. I hope you know the Olympic champion Mary Kom, who hails from nowhere but here.”

**Mizoram:** “Listen everyone! I am the land of the hills. I bring excellent opportunities of travelling over the small hillocks with winding trails where one can get the adventurous feel of mountain biking. Its spring and my people are busy getting dressed in colourful attires for the ‘Chapchar Kut Spring Festival’ which takes place right after preparing the field for ‘Jhum’ cultivation.”

**Tripura:** “Well, who do you think is famous for cane handicrafts and bamboo? Me ofcourse! Dance and music are an integral part of my culture. The wildlife lovers find their way here to ‘Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary’ and ‘Sepahijala Sanctuary’. ‘Ujjayanta Palace’ is a well-known tourist spot as well as ‘Kunjaban Palace’ which is a great destination for sightseeing.”

**Nagaland, with a smirk on her face:** “I am known to be one of the major tribal regions in my motherland with a total of 16 tribes – Ao, Angami, Chang, Konyak, Lotha, Sumi, Chakhesang, Khaimniungan, Dimasa Kachari, Phom, Rengma, Sangtam, Yimchunger, Kuki, Zeme-Liangmai and Pochury. Each tribe is unique in character with its own distinct customs, language and attire – all colourful and beautiful. People love to visit me for the Dzukou valley and of

course who can forget the Hornbill festival that unites my family with colourful performances, crafts, sports, food fairs, games and ceremonies.”

**Sikkim:** “Hey, I may be one of the smallest amongst you but I am no less. You should be proud to welcome me as your new neighbor. People consider me as one of the best holiday destinations. I am the paradise for all the bird-watchers with 552 species including the magnificent ‘Himalayan Griffon Vulture’. I have the second highest suspension bridge in Asia i.e ‘Singshore Bridge’ and ‘Kanchenjunga’ which is the third highest mountain range in the world. The true essence of my culture is depicted through the ‘Mask dance’ by the Lamas in the courtyards of the monastery.”

In this way, all the sisters went on boasting and trying to convince their own superiority. As their quarrel went on to become louder and louder, suddenly there was a bright flash of lightening. Thunder rumbled! Rain started to pour down relentlessly. In order to get rid of their fear, each of them now came closer with one another to search for some comfort.

In the midst of the clamor, the rain spoke, “How foolish of you, fighting among yourselves, each one of you trying to dominate the rest. Don’t you know that each one of you is made for a special purpose, unique and different? You are the same sisters, who in difficult times, join hands together and console one another. You are just like the colours of the rainbow. The united you stay, the magnificent is your strength and beauty. The rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow.”

Thus, just like we love to see the rainbow up in the sky, let us appreciate the uniqueness and beauty of each of the northeastern states and live peacefully.



# I am Nobody

Bohnimaan Boruah

4th Semester

Well my life started in a dirty little swamp along with hundreds of others. I was sheared off, washed, dried and bundled away to a far away land. There I was moulded and structured to my present form. I remember being shipped away to a market place where your mother bought me to fit in her necessities. She had thoroughly examined me before purchasing; and I had been a part of your family ever since. I remember accompanying you through your market endeavours. I remember your first market trip that raining afternoon where you tripped and fell but still managed to protect me and the contents within. One time I got a cut and ended up with a big hole in my belly. Do you remember how you spend the entire day mending and stitching back my knots?

But then things changed. You brought in another member into our small family—

Mr. Plastic. He would smirk at me every time you took him to the market and left me there to rot. There was a time when I knew each of the shopkeeper, things you would buy from them and the way you would bargain down the price. I really enjoyed spending time with you. Now that seems like a thing of the past. My eyes glisten with tears recollecting those memories from our past. It is Mr Plastic who now accompanies you in all your trips. They say time heals all wounds; but this one refuses to, rather it keeps on scratching deeper and deeper till I am left with nothing but a few strands as sinew.

I guess my role in this world is over. I am being replaced by Mr. Plastics everywhere. I feel like a nobody...just a piece of jute.

# Shadow

Supratim Dasgupta  
4th Semester

I am a formless dark black being,  
I live my life through earthly things,  
Neither I have an exact shape,  
Nor do I have a clear image,  
Your face is my own face,  
I live my existence through your grace,  
Sometimes I become the shade of a tree;  
And cool you with my black blanket,  
Sometimes I copy the shape of a pole,  
And stand still like a lifeless soul,  
I am the son of Mother Light,  
She loves me like a bird loves flight,  
The darkness is my fierce foe,  
He gulps me down in his black hole,  
But I reborn through my mother's shower,  
I live my existence through her grace;

And now, I flow my dark waves;  
The glass window swallows my face,  
I dance in the window like ballet queen,  
And take the shape of a coconut tree,

In this dark horrid night,  
The lightening is my best companion,  
He adorns his charm with his vivid light,  
I flow like a truthful unbiased soul,  
Neither I have an exact shape ,  
Nor do I have a clear image,  
Your face is my own face,  
I live my existence through your grace;

Neither I have hunger or thirst;  
I do the actions whatever you do,  
I am the sorcerer of mother nature,  
I am a formless dark reaper ,  
Neither I have an exact shape,  
Nor do I have a clear image,  
Your face is my own face;



# দেৱদাসী

এটা নিৰ্ভজ সত্যৰ আঁৰত...



অবিনাশ শৰ্মা  
৪ৰ্থ ষাণ্মাষিক

ৰাতি ভাত খাই এজন বন্ধুৰ সৈতে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ৰ চৌহদটো এপাক মৰাৰ উদ্দেশ্যে ওলাই আহিছোঁ। ফাগুনৰ পচোৱাজাক আজি খুউব ক্ষান্ত হৈ আছে। যাদৃচ্ছিকভাৱে আমাৰ কথাৰ গুৰিবোৰ সলনি হৈছে। নিশাৰ নিস্তন্ধতাত দুয়ো গৈ নিৰিবিলিত বহি ললো। সি ক'বলৈ আৰম্ভ কৰিলে এটি সপোনৰ কথা। সপোনত আজি সি তাইক আকৌ দেখিলে; তিতি থকা দীঘল চুলিটাৰি, কপালত বগা চন্দনৰ ফোঁট, হাত আৰু ডিঙিত ফুল আৰু ৰুদ্ৰাক্ষৰ মালা। পিঙ্কনত ৰঙা ব্লাউজ আৰু বগা চাদৰখনেৰে সৈতে তাই কোনো অপেশ্বৰীতকৈ কম নহয়। প্রতি পুৱা তাইক চাবৰ বাবে সি মন্দিৰৰ ওচৰত গৈ ৰয়। মন্দিৰৰ সন্মুখৰ ফুলনিখনত ফুলি থকা ফুলবোৰ যেন নিতৌ তাইৰ কোমল হাতৰ পৰশ পাবলৈ বাট চাই থাকে। কাইটিয়া ৰঙা গোলাপ ফুলজোপা তাইতকৈ কিছু ওখ; গোৰোহা দাঙি তাই চুবলৈ প্ৰয়াস কৰে, য'তৰ হৈ সি চাই ৰয় তাইৰ খালী ভৰি দুখন। অমায়িক মুখখনত জিলিকি থাকে এটি মিচিকিয়া হাঁহি। চকু দুটিয়ে প্ৰীতিৰ শান্ত লহৰ তুলি নাচি উঠে। নিজৰ মনটোক ৰখাব নোৱাৰি এদিন তাইক কৈ পেলাইছিল সি তাৰ মনৰ কথা, "মই তোমাক ভাল

পাওঁ।" প্ৰত্যুত্তৰত তাইৰ মুখত বিৰিঙি উঠিছিল মাঁথো এটি লাজুকীয়া হাঁহি। নিতৌ পুৱা তাইৰ সৈতে কথা পাতে সি। আজি যেতিয়া তাইৰ ওচৰ চাপি গৈছিল; সি অনুভৱ কৰিলে হাঁহিৰ আঁৰত থকা তাইৰ হিয়া ভগা কান্দোন। বহু সময়ৰ অন্তত তাই ক'লে যে তাইক লৈ সি ৰচা সকলো সপোন বৃথা। কথাষাৰ শুনাৰ লগে লগে বুকুত যেন কোনোবাই হাতুৰীৰে কোবাই দিলে তেনে লাগিল। তেতিয়াও তাই উচুপি আছিল। উচুপনি দেখি নিজৰ বেদনাক লুপ্ত কৰি সি তাইক সান্তনা দিয়াৰ প্ৰয়াস কৰিলে। তাই কান্দি কান্দি ক'লে, "মই দেৱদাসী।" নিমাত হৈ তাইৰ চকুত চাই ৰ'ল মাঁথো সি, হৃদয়ত গোপনে জ্বলি থকা ক্ষোভৰ জুইকুৰা। শুনিবলৈ পালে এটি বিকট চিঞৰ। দেখিলে এগৰাকী যুৱতী কেনেকৈ এজন পুৰুষৰ কামুকতাৰ বলি হৈছে। নিতৌ সন্ধিয়া আৰতিৰ পিছত অপবিত্ৰ হোৱা এটা শৰীৰ। মালাবোৰ খুলি এটা এটাকৈ সৰি পৰে ফুল আৰু ৰুদ্ৰাক্ষ। ৰৈ যায় মাঁথো কপালত বিয়পি পৰা বগা ফোঁটটো; ৰঙা ব্লাউজটো আঁচুৰি ম্লান কৰি পেলাই বক্ষৰ সৌন্দৰ্য। দেহৰ পবিত্ৰতা হুপি হুপি কামৰ তৃষ্ণা দূৰ কৰা মুখা পিন্ধা এটা পিশাচৰ জন্ম হয় প্রতি নিশা।



# কবিতা

বিতোপন দাস

২য় ষাণ্মাসিক

কবিতা তোমাক মই  
জীৱনৰ প্ৰেৰণা বুলি কওঁ  
তোমাক কেনেদৰে লওঁ জানা,  
বৃদ্ধক যেনেদৰে লয় লাথুটিয়ে  
তুমি সুখময় হৈ পৰা  
তুমি দুখময় হৈ পৰা  
কল্পনাৰ সেই জগতখনত ।

কবিতা, ক্ৰমান্বয়ে  
তুমি মোৰ একান্ত সংগী হৈ পৰিছা  
তোমাক পালেই মই পাহৰি পেলাওঁ আনৰ  
উপস্থিতি  
তোমাক পালেই মোৰ মাতাল হ'বৰ মন যায়  
তুমিতো নাজানাই  
তোমাৰ সুগন্ধিয়ে পাৰ কৰে মোৰ কতনা প্ৰহৰ ।



কবিতা, তুমি মাজে মাজে হৈ পৰা  
মই এৰি অহা দিনবোৰৰ পথৰ পথচাকি  
তোমাৰ উপস্থিতিয়ে সজীৱ কৰি তোলে  
সেই সকলো মুহূৰ্ত  
যিবোৰ মুহূৰ্ত আছিল মোৰ জীৱনৰ  
সবাতোকৈ মধুৰ  
যিবোৰ দিনলৈ বাট চাই আছিলো মই  
অধীৰ আগ্ৰহেৰে  
দিনৰ পিছত দিন ।

মই জানো কবিতা,  
সেই দিনবোৰ আৰু কাহানিও ঘূৰি নাহে  
তথাপি মই সেই দিনবোৰৰ মাজত  
ডুব যাব বিচাৰো  
আৰু মই বিচৰণ কৰিব পাৰো  
সেই দিনবোৰৰ মাজত  
কেৱল তোমাৰ মাজেৰে কবিতা  
কেৱল তোমাৰ মাজেৰে ।

কবিতা তোমাক মই লৈ ফুৰো  
জীৱনৰ প্ৰতিটো পলত  
মোৰ ক'বৰ মন যায় কবিতা  
হিৰুদাই মৃত্যুক দিয়া অভিধাৰে

# মোৰ কলমত তুমি

জাহ্নু বৰা  
৪ৰ্থ শাণ্মাষিক

মোৰ কলমত বন্দী কৰিম  
তোমাৰ ওঁঠৰ হাঁহি ।  
কপি কপি সৰা কলমৰ চকুলো  
তোমাৰ নামত গুণাপন কৰিম ।  
হেজাৰ শব্দৰ উশ্খল বাসনাক  
তোমাৰ প্ৰেমত মতলীয়া হ'ব দিম ।  
হেৰুৱা অথ'ৰ বেদনাক  
তোমাৰ অৱকাশৰ লগৰীয়া কৰিম ।



সেই,  
প্ৰতি টোপাল চিয়াহীক বদনাম হ'ব দিম  
তোমাৰ নামত ।  
সন্ধ্যা এসন্ধ্যাকে নিশাৰ আতনাদ হ'ব দিম  
এই বদনামী শব্দ বোৰক ।  
মনত আছেনে তোমাৰ,  
এই শব্দবোৰে  
এদিন শেৱালীৰ কিশ্বা শৰতৰ বতৰা দিছিল

মনত আছেনে তোমাৰ,  
এই শব্দবোৰেই ফাগুণী মলয়া হৈ তোমাক প্ৰেমৰ কাহিনী কৈছিল ।  
এতিয়া সেই শব্দ নতুবা কাহিনী দুয়োটাই অতীত...  
তথাপিও মোৰ কলমত এদিন বন্দী কৰিম  
তোমাক আৰু তোমাৰ ওঁঠৰ হাঁহিক....



## ফাগুন

অবিনাশ শৰ্মা  
৪র্থ ষাণ্মাষিক

ফাগুন,  
আহিলা তুমি  
তোমাৰ আগমনৰ লগে লগে ধূলিৰে ধূসৰিত  
মোৰ পদুলিমুখ  
তাইলচৰ ওপৰত ধূলিৰ এখন কাপেট  
য'ত অংকিত আছে  
তোমাৰ সুস্পষ্ট পদচিহ্ন  
চাৰিওদিশ ধূলিময় কৰি  
বৈ গৈছে এজাক পঁচোৱা বাঁ  
মনটো আজি বৰ উখাল উখাল লাগিছে  
হৃদয়ৰ ভগা পঁজাত তুমি দুদিনৰ আলহী  
মৰম স্নেহৰ বান্ধোনেৰে পাৰিবা জানো বান্ধি ৰাখিব  
তেজেৰে ৰাঙলি হৈ মন নাই খেলিব,  
হিংসাৰ সেই জঘন্য খেল  
দুহাত পাতি বৈ আছে  
ঢালি দি যোৱা ৰামধেনুৰ সাতোটা ৰং  
ফাকুগুড়িৰে খেলিম এইবাৰ খেলিম  
মিলন সম্প্ৰীতিৰ খেল  
আহা ফাগুন  
তোমাক আঁদৰিবলৈ বৈ আছো বয়াকুলতাৰে  
আহা আৰু ৰোপণ কৰি থৈ যোৱা  
হৃদয়ত মৰম স্নেহৰ এটি বীজ...



It is too easy to blend in, to disappear in a crowd and lose ourselves amidst the hustle and bustle of countless bodies rushing towards their destination. They're getting late for work. Stacks and stacks of hardbound files await on their desks; tiny little cubicles waiting to be filled in, waiting to squeeze out whatever little life that is left in them. Their minds, anxious and cautious, are filled with chatters of worry. The presentations, the reports, the board meetings, the cocktail parties are a constant companion of their late night musings. They rush by, taking steps as wide as they could manage, towards the daunting edifice they call their workplace. Their perfectly polished shoes click away on the pavement, a rhythm of its own, a music to the ears. But oh! only if they had the time to listen to it.

The air, permeated with the smell of spring and the cacophony of countless little birds feels much lighter now. The gloom of those bone-chilling days is finally being lifted from the minds. The spirits soar as colours blossom in street corners and in compact little gardens inside fenced yards. An undeclared festivity; to celebrate and rejoice the return of colours from the clasps of grey and the menacing dark. And I wait. Wait for them rushing bodies to stop and to look around for once. Wait for them to breathe in the sweet fragrance in the air and let the melodies soothe their spirits. But they never stop for once. Their eyes still focused on the thick file in their hands, foreheads strained in concentration and their lips

tightened in contemplation. Guess the figures and rates of whatnots are much more interesting than watching a butterfly sway with the wind. Her fragile yet vibrant wings beating furiously, taking her to unknown places and to colours unseen; colours that beckon her with the promises of sweetness. Such things are not of their concern. A drop of morning dew that lightens with the shades of rainbow by the slightest touch of sunlight is as important as a dust mote on their perfectly stacked cubicle. They are the busy bees. They work for their queen. Condemned to a life of relentless work, they work away in their cubicles, ticking off digits, clicking away on their keyboards and filling up blank sheets until the pen runs out of ink or until their eyes run out of light; whichever is earlier. Their fingers more accustomed to paper cuts than the prick of a rose thorn, ears more accustomed to the shrill ringing of the office telephone than the chirping of a sparrow, eyes more comfortable in the blinding intensity of an overhead light than the dying rays of the setting sun.

When will they stop? Take a break maybe? No they will not. I have been here for quite a while and they haven't stopped; even for a second. Time is unknown to them for they have lost track of it. I can see you wonder who these rushing bodies are that I speak of so fondly. Like I said, they are the busy bees. And me?... well I am the wind.



Aditya Jaiswal  
4th Semester

# आदित्य facts

Did you know that Arunachal Pradesh, the eastern most state of the country, gets to witness the first sunrise? The state also shares three international borders: Bhutan, China and Myanmar.

Majuli in Assam which is known for its Vaishnavite religious centres and solar power generation witnesses the most attractive sunset over the River Brahmaputra. How awesome!!!

Did you know that Tripura and Mizoram have the distinction of being among the most literate states of the country? In fact, in 2013, Tripura was declared the most literate state of the country with 94.65% literacy rate, though for official records as taken in 2011 census, Kerala is still considered the most literate state of the country. Hmm not as “backward” as they say huh?

We have Kashmir, the “Paradise on Earth” and Kerala the “God’s own country” . But did you know that Shillong (Meghalaya) is regarded as the “Scotland of the East”? Its sylvan surroundings and divine landscapes are quite a sight to behold.



Can't flaunt your Kanjeevaram silk and Benarasi silk enough? Well give a try to White Pat, Golden Muga and Warm Eri silk which are only to be found in Assam!

Digboi oil refinery in Assam is the oldest ever refinery in Asia. It was established way back in 1901. Even today, it has the reputation of being the world's oldest continuously producing oilfield, though the production is low. How amazing!!

They say cleanliness is next to godliness. And maybe God does reside in this tiny village in the midst of Meghalaya. Mawlynnong in Shillong is regarded as Asia's cleanest village. How cool is that!

Mawsynram in Meghalaya is reportedly the wettest place on Earth because it receives highest average rainfall (around 12,000 millimetres) on the planet. Don't forget your umbrella while you're here!

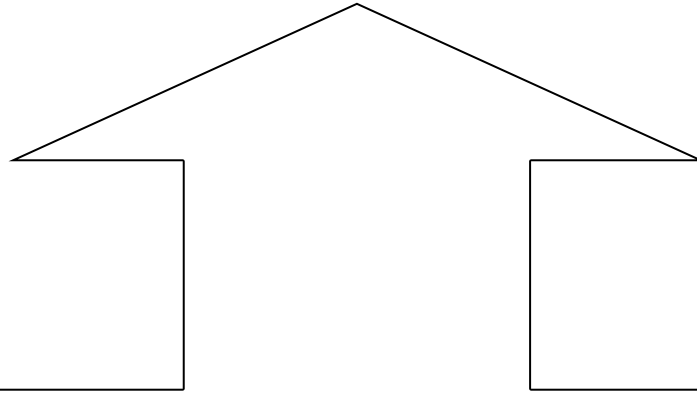
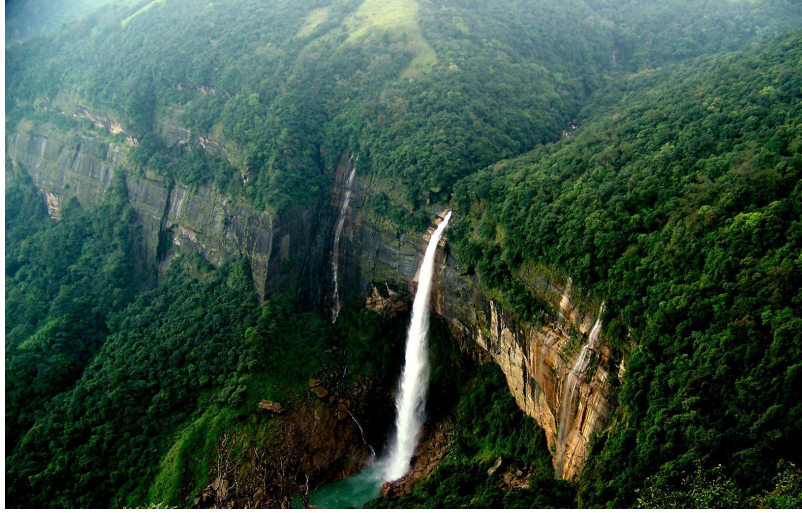
Assam. Strange, isn't it? A small state in India is the largest tea growing region for the entire world.



The largest freshwater lake in India's North-East, the Loktak Lake is a sight to behold. Because of its floating *phumdis*, it has been named the world's only floating lake. Apart from its scenic beauty, this lake plays a big role in Manipur's economy, serving as a source for hydropower generation, irrigation, drinking water supply and source of livelihood for local fishermen. The largest of all the phumdis, or floating islands on Loktak, is the Keibul Lamjao National Park, the last natural refuge of the endangered Manipur Brow-Antlered deer.

In Cherrapunji, Meghalaya, man has befriended nature and cajoled it into bending to his ways. People build bridges, but the Khasis of Meghalaya, **they grow bridges!** Ficus Elastica or the Rubber Tree produces strong secondary roots from their trunks. These have been trained to grow in a particular direction using betel-nut trunks, forming sturdy, living bridges over decades. Some of these bridges are more than a hundred feet long. The Umshiang **Double Decker Bridge** is truly one of a kind in the entire world. Some ancient root bridges are over **500 years old**.





At a height of 1115 feet, the Nohkalikai Falls near Cherrapunji is India's highest plunge waterfall. Fed naturally by rainwater, this waterfall is named after the tragic tale of a woman called Ka Likai. After the death of her husband, Ka Likai remarried. But her new husband was extremely jealous of her love for her daughter. He murdered the daughter, and to hide the evidence, cooked up her remains into a meal. Kali Kai searched high and low for her daughter but cannot find her. Her husband offers her the meal, as she is exhausted. After eating, she discovers to her horror, the daughter's fingers lying in basket filled with betel-nuts. Grieved and anguished, she throws herself off the cliff, giving the waterfall its name, '*Nohkalikai*' meaning 'Fall of Ka Likai.'





The idyllic village of Jatinga is snugly nestled amongst the Borail Hills of Assam. Every monsoon, this scenic village witnesses an uncanny phenomenon. Between September and October, especially during dark and foggy nights, hundreds of migratory birds fly full speed towards trees and buildings, crashing to death. This 'mass bird suicide' was first brought to global attention by famous naturalist E.P. Gee in the 1960s. Ever since, it has remained one of the world's unsolved mysteries.

Around 65 km from the capital of Mizoram, Aizawl along the highway of Seling you can spot these tiny vegetable stalls- Nghah lou dawr meaning shops without shopkeepers. You will find the price list right there along with a deposit box where you can leave the money and take what you paid for. And yes, people usually do leave the prices of what they take. This is indeed an act of trust and empathy rarely seen in this world.



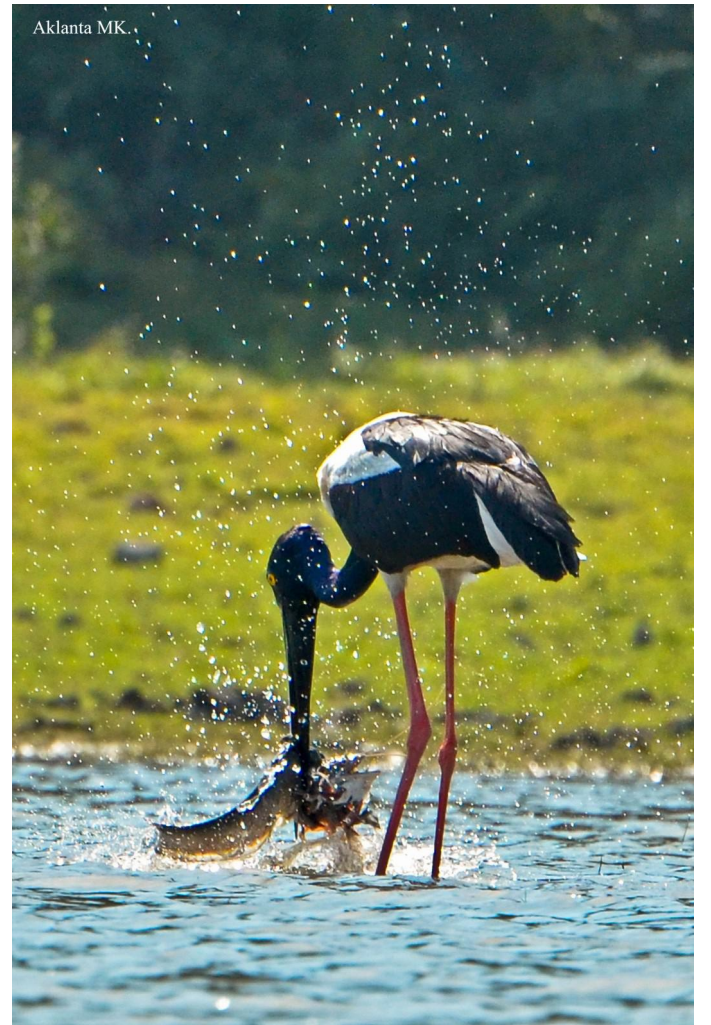


# চিত্রমালা

অক্লান্ত মাধব কলিতা













'Kea parrot' - Symbol of Confident



Jahnu Borah





Your feedback/suggestions will encourage us.

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