



From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Students,

My long and intimate association with the student community has given me a valuable insight into their lives. This compels me to point out that success in studies is not merely a matter of ability or intelligence. It also depends upon the attitude of the student and the amount of hard work he/she puts in. Attitude determines altitude. Irrespective of the level of intelligence, one has to put in at least some efforts to excel in academics. Hard work does not always mean one has to put more efforts, it also means putting the right kind of effort.

Previous failures can sometimes lead to a feeling of helplessness. Helplessness can be overcome by starting with a positive attitude which can lead to success and reinforce his/her confidence level. Mankind has progressed down the ages only through the methods of trial and error. Only those who try can fail. The advantage of this trial and error method is that with each failure and every error, one learns how to avoid error and escape failure. And as you learn to avoid error and escape failure, your self confidence is enhanced manifold.



Dear students, I hope you will not commit the errors, as you go through life, of merely doing your chores day after day. Feel the inner joy of mind questing for knowledge. Reserve a few minutes for great literature. With love and affection.

(Dr. Mrigen Das)
Principal

College Activities:

■ The college teachers' unit felicitated the principal Dr. Mrigen Das on his being conferred the Ph.D degree by Gauhati University. His area of research was Ethnobotany, where he worked on how the Garo people make use of indigenous plants.

■ A day long meeting of principals of different colleges of the western part (both north and south bank of the River Brahmaputra) of Assam was held on 15th May, 2009 in Birjhora Mahavidyalaya premises, under the aegis of Assam College Principal's Council. Dr. Mrigen Das, Principal of Birjhora Mahavidyalaya (Host Institution), while welcoming the distinguished principals, also offered thanks and gratitude for their stepping into this college. Dr. A. Talukdar, Vice President, Dr. B.K. Das, General Secretary, Dr. Hitesh Deka, organizing secretary of the ACPC attended the meeting to learn the problems facing by the college Principals in managing their institutions particularly in the matters related to permission, affiliation, examination, Govt. concurrence, non allotment of sanctioned posts of both teaching and non teaching, Arrear dues, service rule etc. Most of the Principals of the colleges of erstwhile Goalpara district attended the meet.

■ In a meeting held on 18th June 2009, the college teachers' unit felicitated Dr Neelanjana Barua of the Department of botany on her being conferred the Ph.d degree by Gauhati University. Dr Neelanjana Barua gave a talk explaining the nature and importance of her work on reversal of reproductive characters in *Cucumis sativas L* and *Sechium Edule L* by the application of plant growth regulators.

■ Dr. A. Rahmani, Director B.N.H.S visited the college on 23rd June, 2009 and gave a talk on the importance of ecotourism with special reference to bird tourism and the

environmental, social and economic consequences of it. He asserted that the rich biodiversity of the North –East makes it a natural spot for promoting ecotourism in this region. At the end of the talk there was a lively interactive session where Dr Rahmani answered all the queries addressed to him by the students. During the talk, the principal Dr Mrigen Das released a special issue of MISNET, the official newsletter of Bombay Natural history Society. Dr Rahmani also presented a copy of his latest book “**Ducks, Geese and Swans of India—Their status and distribution**” to the college library.



■ In keeping with the “**International year of Astronomy**” a seminar on total solar eclipse was arranged by the Dept of Physics in collaboration with Pragjyotish Amateur Astronomers association, Gauhati on 27th June, 2009. This was the first day of college for the newly admitted B.Sc 1st year students. Before the start of the talk, the principal Dr. Mrigen Das addressed the new students and welcomed them into the college family. Dr K. K. Sarma, H.O.D Physics explained the importance of the year 2009 declared as the International year of Astronomy and spoke about the evolution of telescopes. Sri Chakradhar Das, lecturer Bongaigaon Polytechnic gave a talk elucidating the reasons why solar eclipses occur and the appropriate conditions required. Sri M. Das, H.O.D Deptt. of Mathematics then gave a power point presentation titled “**Predicting eclipses**”. He described the mathematical principles involved when eclipses occur.

In continuation of the above programme a team of members of the teaching staff, students from different institutions, NGOs and a press team gathered to view the phases of the total solar eclipse on 22nd July, 2009. Though bad weather prevented the gathering from a clear viewing of the phases, total darkness was experienced. Behavior of the animals and plants of the locality during this period was studied.

■ On the occasion of “**Breast Feeding Week**” two well known pediatricians of Bongaigaon Dr. P. Deka and Dr I Bordoloi addressed a gathering of students to make them aware of the necessity and importance of breastfeeding.

■ The freshmen social was celebrated on 25th of August, 2009. Our Principal Dr. M. Das welcomed the newly admitted students giving a brief insight into the history of the college. Members of the teaching staff and senior students also welcomed the freshers with inspirational speeches and useful suggestions. The freshers then personally introduced themselves to the gathering. This was followed by refreshments and a cultural program.



■ On 28th August, 2009 a team of medical experts from Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa-Vidyalyaya, Mount Abu paid a visit to the college as a part of their campaign **My India, Healthy India**. Organised by the medical wing of the Brahma Kumaris, they held a talk at the college for creating awareness for total health and eradication of

all negative habits that are creating diseases in the society.



■ The college foundation day was observed on 1st September, 2009. After the ceremonial unfurling of the college flag by the principal, he delivered a short speech explaining the importance of the day. This was followed by a visit to the sacred grove in Mahadev Hill behind the college. Lamps were lit, prayers offered and prasad distributed among the staff and students present.

■ Teacher’s day on the 5th September, 2009 was celebrated in the college in a grand manner. The students of Birjhora Mahavidyalaya organized a colourful programme on this occasion.



The program included a cake cutting ceremony, short speeches on the importance of the day, and cultural items. Taking a break from their regular classroom lectures the teachers took to the stage to sing a chorus and also perform individually. An enjoyable time was had by all present.

■ Prof. K. Pathak, of Mining Engineering Department, IIT Kharagpur paid a visit to Birjhora Mahavidyalaya on 18th November. He gave a seminar talk on —"Global Warming, CO₂ and Research Needs". The well articulated and intellectual lecture clarified why global warming is taking place, explained about sequestration of CO₂ and how geologically carbon dioxide can be stored for thousands of years.



He urged the students to develop an interest in reading, related literature/ journal/research publications. His talk inspired the assembled students greatly.

News from the College office:

■ **Proposal for Construction of Women's Hostel:**

College has submitted proposal for construction of Women's Hostel to the UGC N.E. regional office in the later part of July, 2009 along with plan and estimate of Rs. 40 lakhs for 100% financial assistance.

■ **UGC Grant during XIth plan:**

As an output of interface meeting with UGC expert committee on 27th March'2009 of UGC(NERO) office, Guwahati, the UGC has approved (communicated in the month of Nov'09) Financial assistance as follows-

1) Development Assistance for Undergraduate Education(Under Nine heads)- Rs.14.00 Lakhs
 2) Addl. Grant/Schemes Merged with Development Grants(Under Eight Schemes)-Rs.38.60 Lakhs
 Total Rs.52.60 Lakhs

■ **Computer Training of Office personal:**

Mr. B.N.Das, UDA and S.K.Roy, LDA both the office personnel have attended Computer training program w.e.f 23.11.2009 to 27.11.2009 at softtech computer Alliance, Abrar Apartment, Nehru Road, Bongaigaon conducted by New Horizon India Ltd. The programme was coordinated by the Treasury officer, Bongaigaon Treasury, Bongaigaon.

■ College authority has taken steps of Fire Safety measures by installing more fire safety equipments.

■ **Faculty Improvement Programme:**

Mr Paresh Chakravarty ,Deptt.of Chemistry and Mr Bolen Choudhury , Deptt. of Physics have been granted leave to pursue their Ph.D studies under the Faculty Improvement Programme of the XIth plan.

Miss Anjumani Talukdar who has completed her post graduation from Gauhati University has joined the chemistry department and Mr Sanjeev Kalita who has passed out from Tezpur University has joined the Department of Physics against the above two leave vacancies respectively.

Seminars/Workshops/Popular Talks:

■ Sri Biplab Kr Saha, Dr. Ranu Roy and Dr. Hillol Jyoti Singha from Birjhora Mahavidyalaya participated in the 96th session of the Indian Science Congress held at North Eastern Hill University from the 3rd to 7th January '09.

■ Sri Nirmal Kumar Das, H.O.D. Department of Statistics visited B.N College, Dhubri, on 30th June 2009 as resource person in connection with a workshop on "Open and Distance Learning". The theme of the workshop was "Open-Distance Learning- a need of the present day society.

■ Sri Manabendra Das, H.O.D, Mathematics Dept. delivered a few lectures

under extension activity of the Department during the month of July, 2009 at Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon for creating awareness among the public about total solar eclipse of 22nd July, 2009.

■ Sri B. K. Saha, senior lecturer in Zoology presented a paper "Development and metamorphosis of an endangered frog, *Rana Leptoglossa*" (Cope, 1868), Assam at the National Seminar Biodiversity Spectrum of the North- East" which was held in Arya Vidyapith College, Gauhati on 18th and 19th of September '09.

■ Dr. Ranu Ray presented her paper "Impact of Environmental stress on Germination of Rice (*Oryza Sativa*.L) seed and seedlings growth with particular reference to BRPL Effluent" at the "National Conference in Plant Physiology towards Sustainable Agriculture" organized by Indian Society of Plant Physiology and held at A.A.U, Jorhat.

■ Dr. Neelanjana Baruah presented a paper "Sustainable Crop Improvement by the Application of Plant Growth Substances" at the "National Conference in Plant Physiology towards Sustainable Agriculture" organized by Indian Society of Plant Physiology and held at A.A.U, Jorhat.

■ Pallabi Dey and Arpita Dey of 2nd Year T.D.C(Sc) Zoology were selected to represent the college in an intercollegiate seminar organized by Bongaigaon College on 15th oct. 2009. They presented their topics at the above intercollegiate seminar on Human Development Theme which was a part of the project "Strengthening State Plans for Human Development." Sponsored by UNDP, Govt. of India.

Felicitation of Assam Sahitya Sabha President:

■ Birjhora Mahavidyalaya felicitated

noted litterateur and President of Assam Sahitya Sabha Sri Rong Bong Terang on his visit to Purani Bongaigaon on November 19th, 2009. Sri Terang had come to inaugurate a "Festival of Drama". At a public meeting on that day the Principal Dr. Mrigen Das on behalf of the college presented honourable President of Assam Sahitya Sabha with a "Phulam Gamosa" as a token of respect and affection.

Publications:

■ Dr O. P. Sah Department of Physics has published two papers namely "*Nonlinear electron-acoustic waves in quantum plasma*", and "*Quantum electron-acoustic double layers in two electron species quantum plasma*", in the journal "Physics of Plasmas" a journal of American Institute of Physics, USA.

■ Dr. K. K. Sarma, H.O.D, Department of Physics has published two articles, "*Four hundred years of the telescope*" and a critical review of the book "*Code Name God*" in the magazine SATSORI brought out by SADIN PUBLISHERS.

Educational Tours

■ A one day educational tour cum picnic was held by the Department of Botany on 2nd January 2009. Khakarpur, a site which has an abundance of flora of the region was visited by the students accompanied by teachers Dr Ranu Roy and Dr Dinesh Deka.

■ Students of the Zoology Deptt. attended a national seminar on "Biodiversity Spectrum of the North east" at Arya Vidyapith College, Gauhati on 18th and 19th of September '09. They were accompanied by their teachers Mr Biplab Kumar Saha and Dr Hillol Jyoti Singha. The Seminar was held in connection with the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Arya Vidyapith College. During this period the students also visited

the Live Gene Bank of Gauhati University.

■ The students of the Botany Department went on an Educational tour to Jorhat, Assam. They attended the “National Conference on Frontiers in Plant Physiology towards Sustainable Agriculture” held at Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat from 5th to 7th November 2009. During that period they also went to the Regional Research Laboratory and visited the different department’s centers of the laboratory thus gaining a valuable insight into their subject.



The trip also included a visit to the Kaziranga National Park where they stayed overnight and went on a Safari of the famous National Park.

■ The staff and students of Zoology department attended the National Zoology Congress on the focal theme “Biodiversity and Human Welfare” held at Department of Zoology, Gauhati University. Anukul Debnath gave a seminar talk on “Nesting Ecology of Asian Openbill in a Sal forest which was greatly appreciated by the wide cross section of audience present there. The trip included a visit to the Aranyak Biotech Laboratory and the IIT campus.

News from teachers unit:

■ The President Dr. Ranu Ray, Secretary Mrs H.B. Barman of Birjhora Mahavidyalaya Teachers Unit and Zonal member Dr. A.K Deka attended the ACTA Zonal Annual Conference on 10th May ,2009 at Bilasipara College.

■ The Diamond Jubilee celebration of ACTA held from 13th to 15th June at Darrang College, Tezpur was attended by the President and Secretary of Birjhora Mahavidyalaya Teachers Unit along with Mr. M. Karki, HOD, Chemistry.

■ The President N.Sangmai and Secretary Ranjit Bordoloi of ACTA along with other important dignitaries visited the college on 25th Oct, 2009. About 100 college teachers of this zone attended this Annual Zonal meeting held at the College premises.

■ In keeping with the Statewide protest called by ACTA in support of their various demands the teachers of Birjhora Mahavidyalaya took part in the protest. This involved boycott of classes, demonstration, rallies, mass casual leave and classes with black badges on. The ACTA has been demanding primarily the revision of pay scales, provision of earned leave and other benefits.

News from the Library:

■ The college had received a library grant from Government of Assam towards purchase of books and computer infrastructure. The grant has been fully utilized.

■ The SOUL (Library Software) has been installed in the library and the process of data entry is on.

■ A “Library Users Education” program was held in the Seminar Hall on 18th August, 2009 for the benefit of the newly admitted B.Sc students. The librarian Sri B. Sharma and Mrs. Beauty Das, Department of English addressed the students on this occasion.

■ The annual meet of the Assam College Librarians’ Association was held at the

college on 24th Dec.2009 with the day long program. A large number of librarians from different parts of the state attended the conference.



The program started with the flag hosting ceremony followed by an academic session. The principal of the College Dr. Mrigen Das presided over this session. The librarian of this college Mr. B.K. Sharma welcomes all the delegates and spoke on the crucial role played by the library in imparting higher education.



The visiting dignitaries President of ACLA and H.O.D Library and Information Science, GU and the former president of ACLA Prof. A. Buragohain were felicitated by the college fraternity. In this connection a popular talk session was arranged. Prof. A. Buragohain spoke on "The importance of Hybrid Library in the present day knowledge based society." This was followed by "Library in the context of IT Environment" by Prof. N. Lahkar. The hugely successful talks were followed by an interactive session. The program concluded with the technical session of the ACLA.

Open University Study Centers:

The study centers of three open Universities IGNOU, IDOL and KKHSOU are functioning within the college campus. They offer a variety of courses catering to the diverse needs of the faculty and students of the college and the people of the surrounding area.

IGNOU: - Coordinators meeting under Guwahati Regional Center was held on 7th November, 2009 in the Regional Center Office. In the meeting discussions on various topics viz. Recent Developments of IGNOU, Implementations on Medical Programs, Student Support Services, Financial Matters, Silver Jubilee celebration etc. were held. Sri Nirmal Kr. Das Coordinator, IGNOU Study Center, Birjhora Mahavidyalaya & H.O.D, Dept. of Statistics attended the meeting.

KKHSOU: - KKHSOU study center has been operational in the college premises from the year 2007. Dr. Amal Kr. Deka, Sr. Lecturer, Department of Statistics is appointed as the coordinator of the study center. Currently this study center is offering BPP, BA, BBA, BCA, B.Com & BMC. Recently another diploma course viz. Diploma in Computer Hardware and Networking (DCHN) has been added.

Results of Degree 1st year, BCA 1st and 2nd semester and BPP are quite satisfactory. The counseling sessions for different programmes are being held regularly on Sundays.

IDOL :- In the first semester examination of PGDCA of IDOL, Gauhati University held in August/September 2009. Six numbers of students secured above 60 percent out of 12 candidates appeared from this center. In this year two new programs has been included – M. Sc (I.T.) and C.C.A. (Certificate in Computer Application). An E-learning portal www.bodhidroom.idol.org of

IDOL (Institute of Open and Distance Learning) has been launched for the benefit of the students of the study centre by G. U. Through this portal students will get access to the self learning materials and other learning materials.

Farewell:

Dr Hillol Jyoti Singha of Dept of Zoology, Birjhora Mahavidyalaya was given an emotional farewell on the occasion of his taking up a new post as Assistant Professor, Center for Biodiversity and Natural Resource Conservation under School of Ecology and Environment, Assam University, Silchar. He left this college with effect from 25th Oct to join his new assignment. At a meeting held on 18th November the staff and students of the college felicitated him on his recent appointment and wished him all success for a bright future. A dynamic and beloved teacher he will surely be missed in Birjhora Mahavidyalaya.

THUMBS UP:

The staff and students of the college extend their congratulations to the following members of the college for their achievements in various fields.

■ Dr. K. K. Sarma H. o. D, Department of Physics on the publication of his book "FIFTY YEARS OF SPACE AGE" published by the Assam Publication Board.

■ Dr. Ananta Bora on being awarded the Ph.d degree by Gauhati University for his thesis entitled "Flora of Bongaigaon District, Assam". He had conducted his research under the guidance of Dr G. C. Sarma of Gauhati University. His thesis described 672 species of flowering plants of the district

with citation, illustration vernacular names and traditional utilization.

■ Hemanta Kr. Saud, Lecturer, Deptt. of Economics has been awarded the degree of M.Phil from Periyar University, Tamilnadu for his research work on "A study on the role of PMRY Scheme in small scale Industrial Development in Bongaigaon District of Assam".

■ Arpita Dey Of 2nd year Zoology Major for coming 1st in the inter college seminar sponsored by UNDP as part of the project "Strengthening State Plans for Human Development." held in Bongaigaon college. Her topic was "Woman empowerment and the Idea of a just society".

■ Dhiraj Singh for winning the second prize in essay writing competition organized by LIC, Bongaigaon, during Insurance week celebration. The topic was "How LIC has transformed our lives".

REMEMBRANCE:

The college family is bereaved at the sudden demise of two of its members namely Shri Piren Roy, bearer Chemistry Department and Haren who was responsible for the maintenance of the Herbal garden and college grounds. We pray to the Almighty to let their soul rest in peace.

Formation of new college union body:

■ The union body for the year 2009-2010 was formed on 24/09/09. The formal oath taking ceremony was held on 14th of October '09 and took place among a gathering of teachers and students of the college.

The new office bearers are as follows-

- Ranashree Ganguly 2nd year (General secretary)
- Ranjyoti Brahma 1st year (Asstt. General secretary)
- Nilratan Debnath 2nd year (Cultural secretary)
- Isha Surekha 1st year (Asstt. Cultural secretary)
- Brojen Roy 2nd year (Major Games secretary)
- Amrit Lal Basumatary 1st year (Assistant Major Games & Multi gym secretary)
- Judhisthir Barman 1st year (Minor Games secretary)
- Dhiraj Kr Singh 1st year (Literary secretary)
- Himakshi Barman 2nd year (Girls' Common room secretary)
- Udit Sanyal 1st year (Asstt. Girls' Common room secretary)
- Biplob Choudhury 3rd yr (Executive members)
- Ranjit Kr Sahani 2nd year (")
- Mridul Sarma 1st year (")



The Editor's Pen

At the outset I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our principal sir Dr. Mrigen Das for entrusting the responsibility of publishing this issue of DAWN to me. I need not emphasize that bringing out this newsletter is a team effort. I extend my thanks to the editorial board, colleagues, staff and students of this college for their help.

As we are poised to complete the first decade of the twenty first century the realization of time passing by swifly comes to me. It is up to us to spend it wisely.

The student years are the most exciting and enjoyable period of one's life. It is imperative however not to lose sight of the goal decided by you. For this proper time management is a must. It has been said that the value of a millisecond is known to the silver medalist at the Olympic Games. So we should learn that we must begin keeping the end in mind and then prioritize our activities to get there. On behalf of the editorial board I wish the entire Birjhora Mahavidyalaya fraternity a happy, healthy and successful new year.

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