

ATMAN

(A Biannual News Bulletin of the Gauhati High Court)
Published from Guwahati for private circulation

(The High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh)

Guwahati :: Tenth Year :: 18th Issue :: April, 2018

Events organized during October, 2017 to March, 2018

- ⇒ 4th Zonal Administrative Conference of the District Judiciary and District & Police Administration of the North Assam Division at Tezpur
- ⇒ Inauguration of new Court Building at Cachar, Silchar
- ⇒ Foundation laying of new Court Building at Dhubri
- ⇒ Legal Services Camp at Mokalbari Tea Estate, Dibrugarh
- ⇒ Legal Services Camp at Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh
- ⇒ Inauguration of new Judicial Court Building at Baksa, Mushalpur
- ⇒ Inauguration of new Court Building at Hailakandi
- ⇒ Inauguration of Pre-post training of 16(sixteen) newly appointed Officers in the Civil Judge Cadre (Grade-III) of the Mizoram Judicial Service at Conference Hall of Judicial Academy, Assam
- ⇒ 69th Republic Day Celebration in the Gauhati High Court
- ⇒ Inauguration of Judicial Network for the State of Assam
- ⇒ Sensitization programme on Prevention of Money Laundering Cases at Conference Hall of Judicial Academy, Assam
- ⇒ Inauguration of the Academic Building of the Judicial Academy, Assam, at Amingaon
- ⇒ Awareness Camp on e-Courts Services at Kamrup, Amingaon
- ⇒ Zonal Level Conference on Effective implementation of Child Protection Laws in Assam at Guwahati, Sonitpur & Bongaigaon
- ⇒ 16th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities at Guwahati
- ⇒ Inauguration of Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at the Central Jail, Guwahati

From the Chief Justice

ATMAN has completed ten years. The fact of completing a decade is itself an achievement for a souvenir. This would go to say the conviction with which it has made itself stand straight with determination. Unarguably, the credit goes to my esteemed brother Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, who untiringly and with utmost dedication and zeal, made constant endeavour to ensure its timely publication. Probably, this is the last time I am writing a message for ATMAN since my tenure as Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court is on the verge of completion. I must say that the Gauhati High Court has an exemplary history and tradition in rendering justice to all the needy in every front spreading across all the four States, on which, it exercises jurisdiction. The bulletin is a medium via which one can easily assess the vibrancy of this High Court.

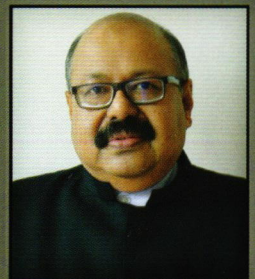
I am confident that the High Court would grow more and is yet to deliver its best and ATMAN would continue to carry its grandeur to the rest of the country.

I wish ATMAN a grand success.

— Justice Ajit Singh

Editor speaks

It is hard to believe that ATMAN has entered the tenth year of its publication. To mark the occasion, the front photograph on the Newsletter is substituted with a composite image of the old and the new High Court building with the Brahmaputra river, as the backdrop. This biannual bulletin has faithfully chronicled the events in the Gauhati High Court and in this decade long journey, your humble editor has been the only constant in the publication. At this point, my feeling is that it is time to pass on the baton to a new editor. May ATMAN continue to be of service for those wanting to know about the Gauhati High Court.



— Justice Hrishikesh Roy

4th Zonal Administrative Conference of the District Judiciary and District & Police Administration of the North Assam Division at Tezpur on 25th November, 2017



Chief Justice Ajit Singh accompanied by Judges of the Gauhati High Court in the conference



Deliberations in the Zonal conference at Tezpur

4th Zonal Administrative Conference of the District Judiciary and District & Police Administration of the North Assam Division was organised by Gauhati High Court at Tezpur on 25th November, 2017. Threadbare discussion took place on the following aspects:

1. Meeting of the Monitoring Committees;
2. Appointment of Public Prosecutors, Assistant Public Prosecutors, Government Pleaders and Assistant Government Pleaders;
3. Withdrawal of cases: Section 321 Cr.P.C.;
4. Custody and Disposal of valuables as well as Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance;
5. Completion of investigation and submission of charge-sheet within stipulated time;
6. Infrastructure: General problems faced by the Judicial Administration, General Administration and Police Administration towards each other and suggestion thereof.

Inauguration of new Court Building at Cachar, Silchar on 25th November, 2017



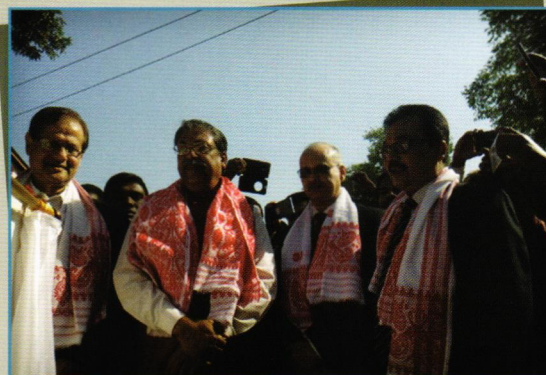
Shri Kamalendu Choudhury, District & Sessions Judge, Cachar, Silchar (now retired), inaugurating the Building



A front view of the Silchar Court Building inaugurated on 25.11.2017

The new Court building at Cachar, Silchar, was inaugurated on 25th November, 2017, by the District & Sessions Judge, Cachar, Silchar, Shri Kamalendu Choudhury (now retired), in presence of Judicial Officers and Members of the Bar, Cachar, Silchar.

Foundation laying of new Court Building at Dhubri on 2nd December, 2017



Chief Justice Ajit Singh laying foundation stone of new Court Building at Dhubri

Chief Justice Ajit Singh laid the foundation of new Court Building at Dhubri, in presence of Justice Achintya Malla Bujor Barua, Officers of the Registry, Judicial Officers of Dhubri district, Advocates of Dhubri Bar Association and staff of Dhubri District Judiciary.

Legal Services Camp at Mokalbari Tea Estate, Dibrugarh on 16th December, 2017



Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Executive Chairman, NALSA, arriving at the Legal Services Camp at Mokalbari Tea Estate, Dibrugarh

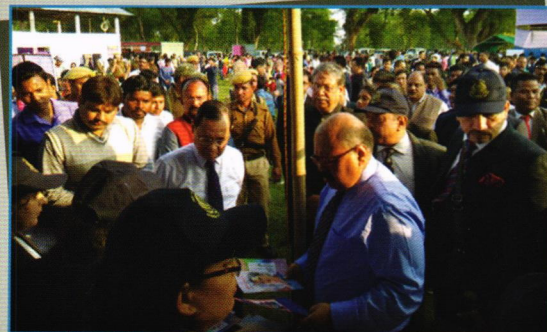


Justice Hrishikesh Roy explaining the concept of the Legal Services Camp, in the new module of NALSA

Assam State Legal Services Authority organised Legal Services Camp in association with National Legal Services Authority on 16th & 17th December, 2017, at Mokalbari Tea Estate, Dibrugarh. During this event organised under the NALSA's new module, effort was made to reach out to the beneficiaries. The main feature of the new module is that all the stakeholders were gathered at one venue to help the deprived and the deserving group and the usual requirement of visiting the Government offices by the beneficiaries was avoided.



The participants and beneficiaries in the first Camp under NALSA's new module



Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Chief Justice Ajit Singh and Justice Hrishikesh Roy in the NALSA's new event at Dibrugarh



Justice Ranjan Gogoi inaugurating Legal Services Club on 16th December, 2017



Inauguration of Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at Central Jail, Dibrugarh on 16th December, 2017

Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, inaugurated a Legal Services Club at Mokalbari & Kamakhyabari Tea Estate, Dibrugarh, a Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at Central Jail, Dibrugarh.

The Camp at Dibrugarh exemplifies the targeted and result oriented strategy to achieve legal awareness and empowerment of people. It marks a departure from the traditional approach of spreading general legal awareness and orchestrates a model of true empowerment with the foundation of need based analysis and focused action. The camp can be considered as a paradigm shift to reach out to the targeted group at their own area. The Dibrugarh Camp in the new NALSA module was organized with broad objectives of bridging the gaps on information and access to citizens' rightful entitlements.

Legal Services Camp at Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh on 17th December, 2017



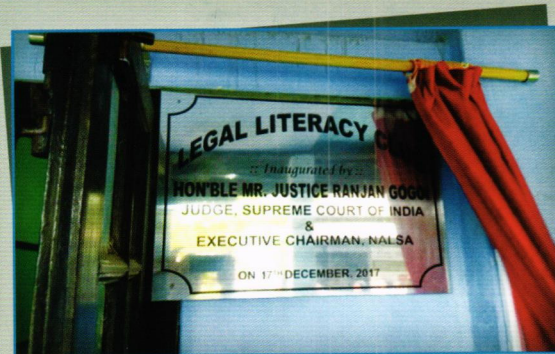
Play on Legal Aid theme by the students of the Department of Performing Arts, Dibrugarh University



Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Chief Justice Ajit Singh and Justice Hrishikesh Roy at the Dibrugarh University Legal Services Camp

During the event, various street plays on Legal Aid theme were enacted by the students of the Department of Performing Arts of the Dibrugarh University.

The Camps at the Dibrugarh University Campus and at Mokalbari Tea Estate tried to achieve the threefold objective of spreading awareness about various welfare legislations and schemes, identify target beneficiaries and also to reach out to people individually and address their legal problems. Panchayat member along with masses were encouraged to attend the Camp and they turned out in large numbers. They were advised to bring necessary documents with them, for on-the-spot redressal. Meetings with the Officers of the concerned departments were held to chalk out strategies for conducting Legal Services Camp on the core theme. It was also ensured that all communication throughout the camps, both in the forms of presentations and IEC material, were in local language to ensure clarity of communication. The past practice of giving speeches in such events, were discarded and instead interactive sessions were organised where the stakeholders could interact informally to ensure maximum benefit for the people. Many of those who attended the camp got themselves registered so that follow up action can be taken for them.



Justice Ranjan Gogoi inaugurated Legal Literacy Club at Govt. Girls Higher Secondary & Multi Purpose School, Dibrugarh, on 17th December, 2017



Justice Ranjan Gogoi speaking at the Govt. Girls Higher Secondary & Multi Purpose School, Dibrugarh

The Legal Literacy Club inaugurated at the Govt. Girls Higher Secondary & Multi Purpose School is the first one in Assam. Such Clubs which are also being set up in other schools in the State are expected to educate the young students about legal issues. The students in turn can be a torch bearer for others in their family and in the neighbourhood.

Inauguration of new Judicial Court Building at Baksa, Mushalpur
on 6th January, 2018



Chief Justice Ajit Singh inaugurating the new Judicial Court Building at Baksa, Mushalpur



Chief Justice Ajit Singh addressing the gathering during the inaugural programme



Justice Hrishikesh Roy delivering his speech during the inaugural programme



Justice Manojit Bhuyan delivering his speech during the inaugural programme

Justice Ajit Singh, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court, inaugurated the new Judicial Court Building at Baksa, Mushalpur, in the august presence of Justice Hrishikesh Roy, JAD, Gauhati High Court, Justice Manojit Bhuyan, Judge, Gauhati High Court, and Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma, Portfolio Judge, Baksa District, on 6th January, 2018.



Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma delivering his speech during the inaugural programme



New Judicial Court Building at Baksa, Mushalpur

The new Court Building at Baksa has 8 (eight) Court Halls, a Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centre, a Library, a Video-conferencing room and space for members of the Bar.



A section of participants of the inaugural programme



Chief Justice Ajit Singh and Justice Hrishikesh Roy unveiling the plaque

The inauguration of new Judicial Court Building at Baksa is an important milestone in the justice delivery system in the district of Baksa.

Inauguration of new Court Building at Hailakandi on 24th December, 2017



Shri Debasish Bhattacharjee, District & Sessions Judge, Hailakandi, inaugurating the Building



Lighting of ceremonial lamp during the inaugural programme



An outward view of the Court Building at Hailakandi

The new Judicial Court Building at Hailakandi was inaugurated by Shri Debasish Bhattacharjee, District & Sessions Judge, Hailakandi, in presence of Judicial Officers and Members of the Bar, Hailakandi on 24th December, 2017.

Inauguration of Pre-post training of 16 (sixteen) newly appointed Officers in the Civil Judge Cadre (Grade-III) of the Mizoram Judicial Service at Conference Hall of Judicial Academy, Assam, on 8th January, 2018



Justice Hrishikesh Roy addressing the new Officers from Mizoram



Justice Ujjal Bhuyan delivering his speech



Justice Nelson Sailo speaking on the occasion



Justice (Retd.) A.C. Upadhyay, Director, Judicial Academy, with the new batch



Interactive session in the inaugural function



Judges of the Gauhati High Court with the trainee Judicial Officers

The training of 16 (sixteen) newly appointed Officers in the Civil Judge Cadre (Grade-III) of the Mizoram Judicial Service was inaugurated on 8th January, 2018, by Justice Hrishikesh Roy, JAD, Gauhati High Court, in the august presence of Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Justice Achintya Malla Bujor Barua, Justice Kalyan Rai Surana, Justice Prasanta Kumar Deka, Justice Nelson Sailo.

69th Republic Day Celebration in the Gauhati High Court



Chief Justice Ajit Singh receiving Guard of Honour from the Security personnel of the Gauhati High Court



Security personnel in the Republic Day Parade



NCC Cadets participating in the Republic Day Parade at the Gauhati High Court



Drama on the freedom movement, staged by New Art Players, Guwahati



Captivating bamboo dance by Hmar Cultural Troupe on the Republic Day



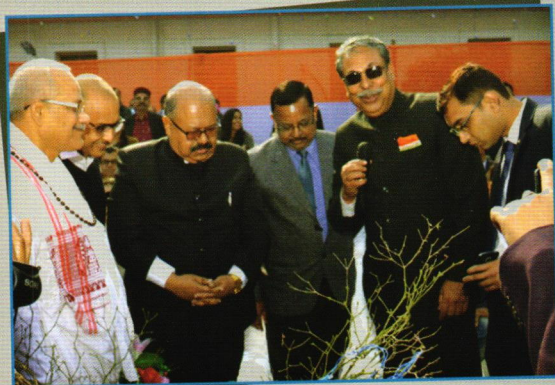
The audience on the Republic Day cultural programme, Gauhati High Court

69th Republic Day was celebrated in the Gauhati High Court on 26th January, 2018, with an impressive parade and an enchanting cultural programme.

Justice has nothing to do with what goes on in a courtroom; Justice is what comes out of a courtroom.

— Clarence Darrow

Inauguration of Judicial Network for the State of Assam on 26th January, 2018



Chief Justice Ajit Singh inaugurating the judicial network of Assam

The Gauhati High Court has taken a unique step for commissioning a Judicial Network for the State of Assam comprising all Courts and Jails.

The connectivity of this unique network will be established via wireless RF (Radio Frequency) devices and OFC (Optical Fiber Cable) media. For Courts, 38 locations will be in RF and 27 in OFC. For Jails, 25 locations will be in RF and 6 in OFC. In total, this network will link 65 District & Sub-divisional Court locations with 31 Jails/Sub-Jails in the state of Assam.

Justice Ajit Singh, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court, inaugurated the network alongside Republic Day celebration on 26th January, 2018, in presence of the Judges of the Gauhati High Court.

Sensitization programme on Prevention of Money Laundering Cases at Conference Hall of Judicial Academy, Assam, on 10th February, 2018



Justice Arup Kumar Goswami delivering his speech



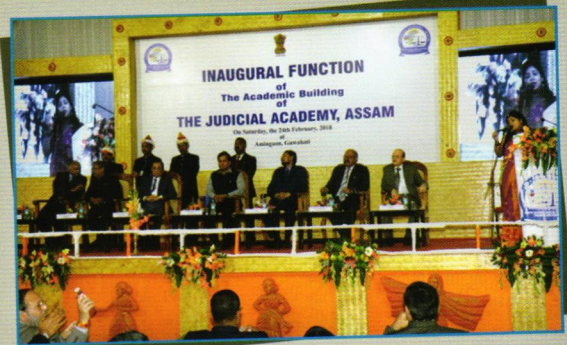
Justice (Retd.) A.C. Upadhyay speaking on the occasion

A Sensitization programme on Prevention of Money Laundering Cases for Grade-I Judicial Officers of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh was organised by Gauhati High Court in association with Judicial Academy, Assam, and North-Eastern Judicial Officers' Training Institute (NEJOTI) on Saturday, the 10th February, 2018, at the Conference Hall of Judicial Academy, Assam at Ulubari.

Inauguration of the Academic Building of the Judicial Academy, Assam, at Amingaon on 24th February, 2018



Justice Ranjan Gogoi accompanied by Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal marching towards the venue



From Left to Right: Chief Secretary V.K. Pipersenia, Chief Justice Ajit Singh, Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde, Justice Hrishikesh Roy and Justice (Retd.) A.C. Upadhyay



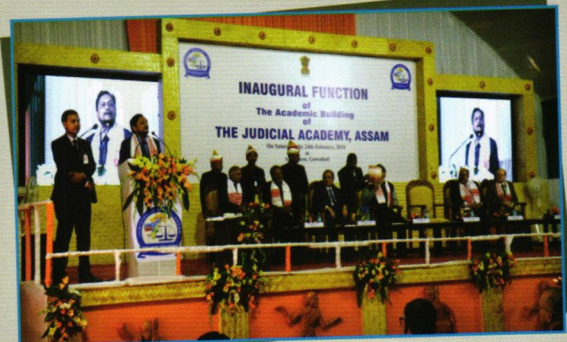
Lighting of ceremonial lamp by Justice Ranjan Gogoi with the Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal next to him



Justice Ranjan Gogoi addressing the inauguration programme



Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal addressing the participants



Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde, Judge, Supreme Court of India, addressing the participants

The Academic building of the Judicial Academy, Assam, was inaugurated by Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Judge, Supreme Court of India, on 24th February, 2018, in presence of Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Chief Minister, Assam, Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Justice Ajit Singh, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court, Judges of the Gauhati High Court, Judicial Officers of Kamrup (M), Kamrup (Amingaon), Nagaon, Morigaon, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Members of the Bar and a host of other dignitaries.



Chief Justice Ajit Singh delivering his speech



Justice Hrishikesh Roy addressing the gathering



Dignitaries in front of the new Academic Building



Judicial fraternity present in the programme

An inaugural programme was organised to mark the event which was video-cast to the Judicial Officers of the State of Assam.

The inauguration of the building coincided with release of the “Handbook for DDOs” (Drawing and Disbursing Officers) by Justice Ranjan Gogoi. The inauguration of the building is an important milestone in the Judicial Training sector of North-east.

Awareness Camp on e-Courts Services at Kamrup, Amingaon on 8th March, 2018



Justice Ujjal Bhuyan inaugurating the e-Courts Services Awareness Camp



Justice Ujjal Bhuyan speaking in the inaugural function

An awareness camp on e-Courts services was organized at the court complex of District & Sessions Judge, Kamrup, Amingaon, on 8th March, 2018, which was inaugurated by Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Judge and Chairperson, ICT Committee, Gauhati High Court.

Zonal Level Conference on Effective implementation of Child Protection Laws in Assam at Guwahati on 10th February, 2018, at Sonitpur on 17th February, 2018 & at Bongaigaon on 24th March, 2018



Justice M. R. Pathak speaking in the programme at Guwahati on 10th February, 2018



Justice Rumi Kumari Phukan addressing the participants at Guwahati on 10th February, 2018



Dignitaries on the dais in the programme at Sonitpur on 17th February, 2018



Justice Manojit Bhuyan speaking in the programme at Sonitpur on 17th February, 2018



Justice Rumi Kumari Phukan addressing the participants in the programme at Bongaigaon on 24th March, 2018



Representative of UNICEF delivering his speech in the programme at Bongaigaon 24th March, 2018

The Gauhati High Court Committee on Juvenile Justice organised Zonal Level Conference on Effective implementation of Child Protection Laws in Assam at Guwahati on 10th February, 2018, at Sonitpur on 17th February, 2018 and at Bongaigaon on 24th March, 2018, in partnership with State Child Protection Society, Department of Social Welfare, Government of Assam, and UNICEF, Office for Assam.

16th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities at Guwahati on 17th & 18th March, 2018



Lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp during the inaugural programme



Justice Ranjan Gogoi delivering his speech

The 16th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities was held at Guwahati, on 17th and 18th March, 2018. The Meet was the first of its kind in the North-Eastern part of India, which was attended by a host of Judges associated with Legal Services work, hailing from all the High Courts of the country.

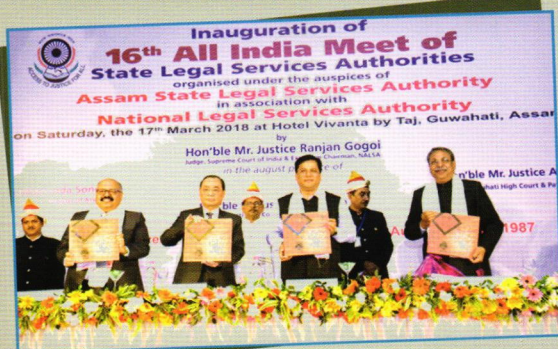
The Meet was inaugurated by Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA and was attended by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the Chief Minister of Assam, who hosted a dinner for the legal luminaries attending the Guwahati Conclave of the Executive Chairpersons of the State Legal Services Authorities, the High Court Legal Services Committees and the Member Secretaries of the State Legal Services Authorities.



Chief Justice Ajit Singh addressing the gathering



A section of dignitaries in the inaugural function



Justice Ranjan Gogoi releasing NALSA's Coffee Table Book at Guwahati



Justice Hrishikesh Roy at the All India Meet of the Legal Services

An inaugural programme was organised to mark the event. The NALSA's Coffee Table Book was released at the Guwahati event.



Justice Ranjan Gogoi flanked by Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Sanjay Karol



Sunita Khaund Bhuyan, an accomplished violinist performing in the cultural programme



Sumon Kalyan Dutta & Ankita Deka with their performance on 17th March, 2018



The Chief Minister, Justice Ranjan Gogoi and other dignitaries in the cultural programme

The All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities can be considered as a milestone where all the stakeholders brainstormed during the technical sessions and focused on organizational issues and how best the Legal Service can be reached out to the needy segment in the Country. They introspected and discussed on the accomplishments and the options available to achieve greater success in the Legal Service Work. The meet ended with a cultural programme.

Inauguration of Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at the Central Jail, Guwahati, on 30th March, 2018



The Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at Central Jail, Guwahati

Justice Hrishikesh Roy, JAD, Gauhati High Court and Executive Chairman, Assam State Legal Services Authority, inaugurated a Digitized Legal Aid Clinic at Central Jail, Guwahati, in a programme organised by District Legal Services Authority, Kamrup, in presence of District &

Sessions Judge and Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Kamrup, and Member Secretary, Assam State Legal Services Authority, on 30th March, 2018.

The Digitized Legal Aid Clinic will ensure proper record-keeping and maintenance of data in respect of prisoners.

IN THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT

[THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH]

THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUDGES OF THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT

Permanent Judges

Sl.No	Name of Chief Justice /Judges	Date of Elevation	Date of Retirement
1.	Chief Justice Ajit Singh	05.03.2016	05.09.2018
2.	Justice Hrishikesh Roy	12.10.2006	31.01.2022
3.	Justice Arup Kumar Goswami	24.01.2011	10.03.2023
4.	Justice Ujjal Bhuyan	17.10.2011	01.08.2026
5.	Justice Manojit Bhuyan	07.01.2015	04.02.2021
6.	Justice Michael Zothankhuma	07.01.2015	22.10.2027
7.	Justice Suman Shyam	07.01.2015	11.06.2031
8.	Justice Songkhupchung Serto	03.10.2016	28.02.2023

Additional Judges

Sl.No	Name of Additional Judges	Date of Birth	Date of Elevation	Current Tenure Till
1.	Justice Lanusungkum Jamir	01.03.1964	22.05.2013	21.11.2018
2.	Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak	28.08.1965	22.05.2013	21.11.2018
3.	Justice Rumi Kumari Phukan	01.07.1960	07.01.2015	06.01.2019
4.	Justice Achintya Malla Bujor Barua	15.12.1961	15.11.2016	14.11.2018
5.	Justice Kalyan Rai Surana	13.12.1965	15.11.2016	14.11.2018
6.	Justice Prasanta Kumar Deka	05.11.1959	15.11.2016	14.11.2018
7.	Justice Nelson Sailo	09.10.1968	15.11.2016	14.11.2018
8.	Justice Ajit Borthakur	01.12.1961	15.11.2016	14.11.2018
9.	Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma	01.07.1960	19.05.2017	18.05.2019
10.	Justice Mir Alfaz Ali	21.04.1959	19.05.2017	18.05.2019

IN THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT

PENDENCY, INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL STATEMENT OF GAUHATI HIGH COURT

FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018

Name of Benches	Pendency as on 01.10.2017	Institution for the period from 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018	Disposal for the period from 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018	Total pendency as on 31.03.2018
Principal Seat	28286	6117	6290	28113
Kohima Bench	357	255	234	378
Aizawl Bench	366	177	164	379
Itanagar Bench	1179	474	622	1031
Total	30188	7023	7310	29901

Excluding Misc. Cases