

ATMAN

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

Events organized during April, 2021 to September, 2021

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- ⇒ Valedictory Programme for 12 newly appointed Judicial Officers in Grade-III of Assam Judicial Service
- ⇒ Vaccination Drive Started in the Gauhati High Court
- ⇒ Farewell of Justice Mir Alfaz Ali
- ⇒ Swearing-in Ceremony of Justice Robin Phukan as Additional Judge of Gauhati High Court
- ⇒ Contribution to Chief Minister's Relief Fund
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- ⇒ Allotment of Quarters among the Senior Private Secretaries Grade-I
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 - Inauguration of Legal Aid Clinics
 - Interaction Programme at Goalpara

From the Chief Justice

The entire global community is going through a very difficult period due to the present of COVID pandemic. We hope and pray that all this will end soon. But I must say that in spite of all the difficulties, our Courts remained open. Although in some places the working was affected, but nevertheless, due to the cooperation of lawyers and all the stakeholders, we have managed to do the best we could under the circumstances.

This crisis has also given us an opportunity to be more innovative, and we have to explore new methods so that access to justice is not hampered.

I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Bar and the Bench will continue to cooperate in this regard in future as well.

– Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia



Editor speaks

The second wave of Covid-19 pandemic is on the wane but there is prediction that there will be a third wave in the near future. During the second wave, many in the High Court had contacted the virus but the activities did not come to a halt. Thanks to the drive initiated and continued in the High Court during the second wave under the direction of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court and the stewardship of our brother Judges who undertook the drive with the zeal to safeguard all, to arrange vaccination for all the people associated with the High Court including the members of the families of the Judges, officials, employees, etc. of the High Court and the members of the Bar in the court premises it has been possible to contain the damages to the minimal. The regular activities were carried out during the period to the best extent possible. We can only hope and trust that there will not be much perturbation and any disruption in the activities of the High Court in the predicted third wave.

ATMAN wishes all a very Happy New Year.

– Justice Manish Choudhury



Celebration of 73rd Foundation Day of Gauhati High Court on 4th April, 2021

On 4th April, 2021, the celebration of the 73rd Foundation Day of Gauhati High Court was organised by the Gauhati High Court (Principal Seat) Employees' Association under the aegis of the Registry in the premises of the Gauhati High Court (Old Block). As a part of the said programme, various sports and amusement games were organized amongst the officers and staff of Gauhati High Court. This was followed by plantation and distribution of



Sri Raktim Duarah, Registrar General, Gauhati High Court planting a sapling on the occasion of Foundation Day.



Justice Suman Shyam facing Justice N. Kotiswar Singh



saplings by Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court and other Judges. The Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court and other Judges of Gauhati High Court were felicitated on the occasion. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court, inaugurated the new website of Gauhati High Court and delivered his speech. This was followed by prize distribution amongst the winners who had participated in various games and sports events. A cultural programme was also organized where a medley of songs were performed



Justice Michael Zothankhuma and Justice A. M. Bujor Barua, way to the middle to open the innings



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia inaugurating the new website of Gauhati High Court

by the members of the Registry as well as invited artists. The evening concluded with light refreshment.

As a part of celebration of the 73rd Foundation Day of Gauhati High Court, a friendly cricket tournament was held on 21st March, 2021 in the Judges' Field. Six teams, viz, Vigilance XI, Establishment XI, Judicial XI,



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia inaugurating the cultural programme by lighting the ceremonial lamp



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia planting a sapling on the occasion

Administration XI, Court Master XI and Secretary XI took part in the cricket tournament. After the league matches, the two teams with highest run rates i.e. the Judicial XI and the Secretary XI reached the final. The final match was won by the Judicial XI. Sri Dipjyoti Saikia was declared the 'Man of the Match'.

Valedictory Programme for 12 newly appointed Judicial Officers in Grade-III of Assam Judicial Service on 7th April, 2021

On 7th April, 2021, a Valedictory programme was held for 12 newly appointed Judicial Officers in Grade-III of the Assam Judicial Service. The said programme was held at the Judges' Conference Hall, Gauhati High Court, Guwahati. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Manash



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia administering oath to the newly appointed Judicial Officers in Grade-III of the Assam Judicial Service



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak with the newly appointed Judicial Officers

Ranjan Pathak, Judges, Gauhati High Court were present on the occasion. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court administered the oath to the newly appointed Grade III Judicial Officers. The said programme was also attended by the members of the Registry.

Vaccination Drive Started in the GHC on 17th April, 2021

Being one of the most virulent and highly contagious diseases that the 21st century world has ever witnessed, the cataclysmic Covid-19 has brought an unprecedented threat to public health and posed an existential threat to mankind. Apart from Health Care, Food, Economy and Education, the COVID-19 had its adverse effect on the Judiciary too.

With a view to containing the spread of the virus, a steadfast course of actions was required and extensive restrictions were imposed on every sector and every activity of the nation. In view of the scale of disruption caused by the pandemic, it was found necessary to vaccinate all the people of the country immediately so that the nation can decide the future course of action to contain



Vaccination drive going on in the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court

the virus and combat with the Covid-ravaged economy. The Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court also took cognizance of the situation and issued a clear directive to all employees over the age of 45 to get vaccinated. Following that, the inoculation of Covid-19 vaccine kicked off at the Gauhati High Court on 17th April, 2021. Initially, around 100 employees of the Gauhati High Court were enlisted in the vaccination list. Later on, more and more people were included and were vaccinated on daily basis. Until now, the Covishield vaccine (developed by Serum Institute of India) has been administered. As a precautionary measure, a medical team, along with a well-equipped ambulance and packaged drinking water, has been arranged and 45 minutes of observation has been made mandatory for emergency situations that may arise post-vaccination.

In the second phase, the employees of the Gauhati High Court in the age group 18 to 45 have been vaccinated. The Gauhati High Court, in an effort to beef up immunization, also included the dependents of the employees in the vaccination campaign.

The benefit of vaccination was also extended to the members of the Bar. The drive is likely to continue beyond October, 2021.

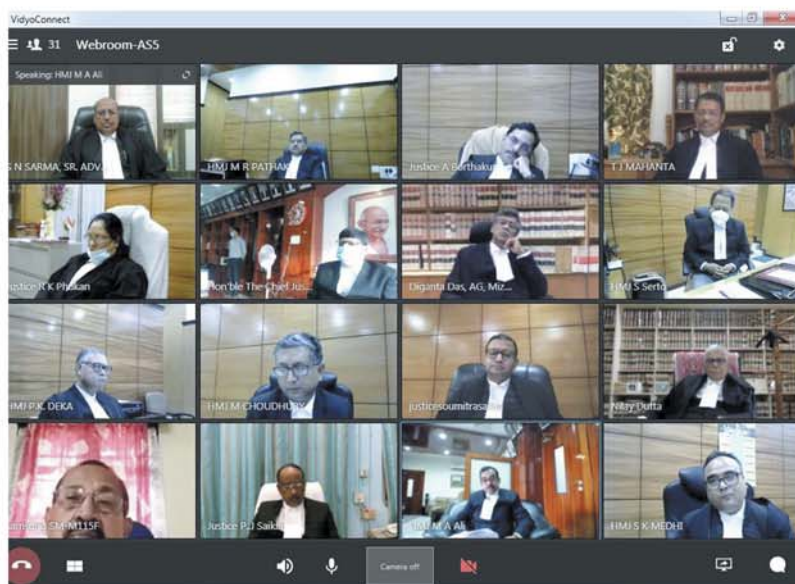


Vaccination to employee of the Registry



Vaccination to members of the Bar

Farewell of Justice Mir Alfaz Ali on 20th April, 2021



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia addressing the farewell of Justice Mir Alfaz Ali virtually

On 20th April, 2021, the Gauhati High Court fraternity bid farewell to Justice Mir Alfaz Ali, Judge, Gauhati High Court on his superannuation. The farewell was organized through virtual mode owing to the current pandemic scenario. The Judges of Gauhati High Court, members of the bar and members of the Registry took part in the farewell through virtual mode.

Swearing-in Ceremony of Justice Robin Phukan as Additional Judge of Gauhati High Court



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia administering oath of office to Justice Robin Phukan

On June 21, 2021, Sri Robin Phukan, Grade-I officer of Assam Judicial Service of 1993 batch was administered oath as Additional Judge of Gauhati High Court by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court. On June 17, 2021, the President of India, vide an order, appointed Shri Robin Phukan as Additional Judge of Gauhati High Court. He served Assam judiciary in various capacities including District & Sessions' Judge of various districts, Registrar (Administration), Registrar (Vigilance) and Registrar General of the Gauhati High Court before his elevation.

Contribution to Chief Minister's Relief Fund

Responding to the Chief Minister's appeal to the people of Assam to donate generously to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund so that the State can combat with the pandemic and the Covid-ravaged economy of the State efficiently, the Judges, Judicial Officers, other officers and staff of Gauhati High Court, officers and staff of Judicial Academy and District Judiciary made a contribution of rupees 45 lakhs to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund as Covid-



Sri Raktim Duarah, Registrar General, Gauhati High Court, handing over the cheque to the Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma



Sri Raktim Duarah, Registrar General, Gauhati High Court, presenting a bouquet to Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma

19 relief. On 23rd July, 2021, Sri Raktim Duarah, Registrar General, Sri Gautam Baruah, Registrar (Vigilance) and Sri Kuntal Sharma Pathak, Registrar-cum-Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, handed over a cheque of the said amount to Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma, the Chief Minister of Assam. Dr. Himanta Biswa Sharma offered his gratitude for this generous contribution.

The amounts of contribution made were:

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| a) The Judges of Gauhati High Court | Rs 1,49,865/- |
| b) Judicial Officers of Gauhati High Court | Rs 44,342/- |
| c) Officers and staff of Gauhati High Court: | Rs 2,01,970/- |
| d) District Courts: | |

Baksa	Rs 33,562/-	Kamrup(R)	Rs 1,43,396/-
Barpeta	Rs 2,00,023/-	Karimganj	Rs 1,19,195/-
Bongaigaon	Rs 1,31,780/-	Karbi Anglong	Rs 1,12,366/-
Cachar	Rs 2,65,444/-	Kokrajhar	Rs 1,30,900/-
Chirang	Rs 98,742/-	Lakhimpur	Rs 1,37,006/-
Charaideo	Rs 30,843/-	Morigaon	Rs 1,06,596/-
Darrang	Rs 1,10,642/-	Nagaon	Rs 1,60,153/-
Dhemaji	Rs 1,11,674/-	Nalbari	Rs 1,37,086/-
Dhubri	Rs 1,85,840/-	Sivasagar	Rs 84,491/-
Dibrugarh	Rs 1,66,492/-	Sonitpur	Rs 2,30,662/-
Dima Hasao	Rs 87,680/-	Tinsukia	Rs 1,78,222/-
Goalpara	Rs 1,57,902/-	Udalguri	Rs 99,251/-
Golaghat	Rs 1,54,848/-	Officers of	
Hailakandi	Rs 74,530/-	Judicial	
Hojai	Rs 53,862/-	Academy:	Rs 16,778/-
Jorhat	Rs 1,75,244/-	Total:	Rs 45,00000/-
Kamrup(M)	Rs 4,08,613/-		

Chief Justice's Residence declared as 'Living Heritage Building' on 20th July, 2021

On the 20th of July, 2021, the Governor of Assam, vide an order, declared the residence of Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, Guwahati as a living heritage building to protect and preserve it as per the Assam Ancient Monuments and Records Act, 1959, the Assam Ancient Monuments and Records Rules, 1964 and the Assam Heritage (Tangible) Protection Preservation, Conservation and Maintenance Act, 2020.



The entrance of the Chief Justice's residence which is declared as a living heritage building.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice's residence is situated in a plot of land measuring 8 bighas 15 lechas at Guwahati under Guwahati Revenue Circle, Kamrup. It is amongst the oldest and few standing examples of the unique Assam type architectural houses which were in vogue during the 19th and 20th century in Assam. This bungalow is almost a hundred and twenty years old. On the 14th of July, 2021, a Cabinet Memorandum was passed to protect and preserve the residence of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court as a living heritage building. This double storied bungalow was built by the colonial administrators as their then residence, which was later turned into the residence of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court. Presently, it stands as one



Glimpse of the Chief Justice's bungalow with green meadow

of the few such houses in the city with its iconic architectural elements and design. The historic bungalow was constructed as per traditional building construction techniques and basic building materials which were mostly locally sourced. The bungalow has a beautiful wooden façade at the front, built originally using ekora (reed) and mud-lime



A complete view of the Living Heritage Building

plastered walls. It has mud-lime plastered flooring in the ground floor and wooden flooring on the first floor. The main framework of the bungalow was erected with reinforced steel columns and beams, which became a distinct addition after the earthquake of 1897. This made the buildings resilient against future earthquakes. It also features a chimney which runs through the center of the house and four fireplaces accommodated in the living room and bedrooms on both the ground and first floor. On the interior, a wooden staircase is beautifully carved with intricate patterns. Through the years, necessary repairs and renovations have been carried out, yet its grandeur is kept intact and preserved. Past residents have used and enjoyed this building in a very different way while in later period, residents mostly intend to use it with all available modern facilities. In some cases, the surface finishes are also altered as per the choice of the present years without paying much attention to the compatibility of such alterations to an old building on the internationally accepted principles of construction of historic buildings. As a result, conservation of this building has become more difficult and challenging. Conservation of historic buildings requires specialized skill. Understanding the building and its original construction etc. is important before taking up any repair as maintenance work to these buildings. Now as it is a 'Living Heritage Building', stability and strength of the structure would be checked regularly. For conservation of this historic building, even skilled conservator from outside the state who is well-experienced in such type of conservation works in India and abroad, can be outsourced, if necessary. The Directorate of Archaeology will be in the best position to aid in these works. Now a MOU is to be signed between the Directorate of Archaeology, Assam and the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court Authority. After signing the MOU, the notification will come into force on the date of its publication in the official Gazette.

Allotment of Quarters among the Senior Private Secretaries Grade-I on 29th July, 2021

On 29th July, 2021, the Hon'ble Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia distributed the keys of Gauhati High Court quarters among the Senior Private Secretaries Grade I. Initially, five Senior Private Secretaries were handed over the keys of their quarters. At the first stage, 17 officers of the aforesaid rank have been allotted the quarters along with two officers from the Protocol Section.

These quarters have been allotted to the Private Secretaries under Rule 6 of the Gauhati High Court Allotment of Quarters to the Private Secretaries Rules, 2021.

The Senior Private Secretaries would take possession of the quarters soon at the Private Secretaries Complex, Malibagan, Kharghuli.



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia distributing keys of official quarters to the Private Secretaries

Independence Day Celebration at the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court

On 15th August, 2021, the Gauhati High Court celebrated the 75th Independence Day in the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court in a very restricted manner following the Standard Operating Procedure of Covid-19 issued by the Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Assam and the Assam State Disaster Management Authority. As the deadly virus is still spreading its ugly tentacles over the human civilization, only a limited number of people participated in the celebration.

Shri Sudhanshu Dhulia, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court hoisted the National Flag in presence of Lordship's spouse, Hon'ble sitting Judges of Gauhati High Court, Lordships' spouses and a few officers and staff of the Registry. Everyone paid respect to the



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia hoisting the National Flag at Chief Justice's Bungalow

National Flag while the band of Gauhati High Court Security personnel played the National Anthem. After hoisting of the flag, Hon'ble Chief Justice received Guard of Honour from the security personnel.

As a good will gesture and as initiated by Hon'ble Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court started a drive to distribute some refurbished computers among the children of Grade III and Grade IV staff of the Registry who study in classes from VI to Class XI so that they can avail of virtual mode of education without any hassle.



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia hoisting the National Flag and receiving Guard of Honour



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia distributing refurbished computers



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia flagging off the bicycle rally



Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia interacting with the media persons

On the occasion, Hon'ble Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia also flagged off a bicycle rally organized by the Gauhati High Court Bar Association, where a number of members took part. The Hon'ble Chief Justice also briefly interacted with the media personnel on the occasion. Light refreshment was also served at the end of the programme.

PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED BY JUDICIAL ACADEMY

In-service Training Programme for Grade II Judicial Officers from 21st to 30th June, 2021

A ten-day in-service training programme for all Grade I, Grade II and Grade III Judicial Officers of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh was held from 21st June, 2021 to 30th June, 2021. The programme was held via Microsoft Teams VC which is a two-way audio-visual interaction platform, where participants were able to view each other and interact directly with the resource person at the end of the deliberation, in addition to posting queries in the chat



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Suman Shyam, Judges, Gauhati High Court speaking virtually during the in-service training programme.

box. Justice Suman Shyam, Justice K. R. Surana and Justice P. K. Deka, Judges, Gauhati High Court; Mr. Subramanian Sankaran, Wellness Mentor, Heartfulness; Mr. Akshay Nagpal, Heartfulness Trainer; Sri S.R. Somasekhara, Former Principal District Judge, Bengaluru and Prof. (Dr.) Ved Kumari, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Odisha attended the programme as resource persons. Justice P.K. Deka spoke on 'Power of appellate court on Civil side including application for stay, appeal against temporary injunction, power of remand, additional evidence, Money Appeals, Cross Objection and Cross Appeal' while Justice K. R. Surana spoke on 'Civil Law: Impleadment of parties principles, service of processes - challenges, filing of documents, discovery and inspection, use of interrogatories, managing adjournments and burden of proof'. Mr. Sankaran and Mr. Nagpal spoke on building resilience with heartfulness. Justice Suman Shyam spoke on Sections 8, 9, 17, 28 and 34 of Arbitration and Conciliation Act (Applicability and approach). Sri Somasekhara spoke on 'Statements, admissions, confession and omission' while Prof. Ved Kumari spoke on Sensitization on Gender Justice law. The programme was organized by the Judicial Academy, Assam.



Justice K. R. Surana and Justice P. K. Deka, Judges, Gauhati High Court speaking on several aspects of Power of Appellate Court on Civil side and Civil Law respectively.

In-service Training Programme for Judicial Officers of All Grades of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh on 25th August, 2021

A day long in-service training programme for Judicial Officers of all Grades of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh was held on 25th August, 2021. The Programme was held via Microsoft Teams VC, a two-



Justice Mir Alfaz Ali, Director, Judicial Academy attending the in-service training programme virtually.

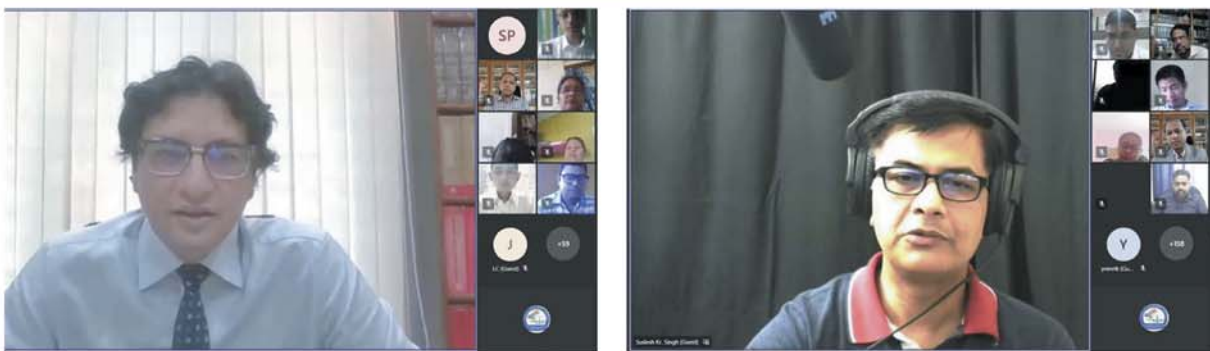
way audio-visual interaction platform, where the participants were be able to view each other and also to interact directly with the resource person at the end of the deliberation, in addition to posting queries in the chat box. Justice (Retd.) Mir Alfaz Ali, Director, Judicial Academy, Assam attended the programme as the



Justice Mir Alfaz Ali, Director, Judicial Academy and other participants taking part in the in-service training programme virtually.

resource person and spoke on the topic - 'Recording of Evidence and Statement u/s 313 CrPC, Mode and Manner thereof', which included the following aspects: Language of Courts, Recording evidence in Sessions Triable and Magistrate triable cases - Reference: Section 274, 275, 276, 277, 278 CrPC - Practical aspects, Assistance of interpreter or special educator in certain cases, Recording demeanor of witness, Marking of exhibits and manner of proving contradictions, Judge's power to put questions or order production, Role of Judge in recording evidence: Section 146 - Section 152 Evidence Act, Section 313 CrPC, Recording, Purpose, Evidentiary Value, Confession in Section 313 CrPC statement – its value, Section 313 (5) CrPC, Right to silence and effect of false answers by accused.

Orientation Programme (Online) for Young Advocates from 1st July to 9th July, 2021



Resource persons Sri Angshuman Borah and Sri Sudesh Singh speaking on the occasion.

An eight-day orientation programme (online) was held from 1st of July, 2021 to 9th July 2021 for the young advocates. The programme was organized by the Judicial Academy, Assam. Sri Sudesh Singh, Sri Debashish Baruah, Smt. S. Chakravarty, Advocates of Gauhati High Court, Sri Ziaul Kamar, Sri Kamal Agarwal and Sri Angshuman Borah, Senior Advocates of Gauhati High Court took part in the programme as resource persons. They spoke on various aspects of Orientation of Civil Law and Orientation of Criminal Law. Mr. Akshay Nagpal, Advocate & Heartfulness Trainer who also took part in the programme as a resource person, spoke on Stress Management with Heartfulness.

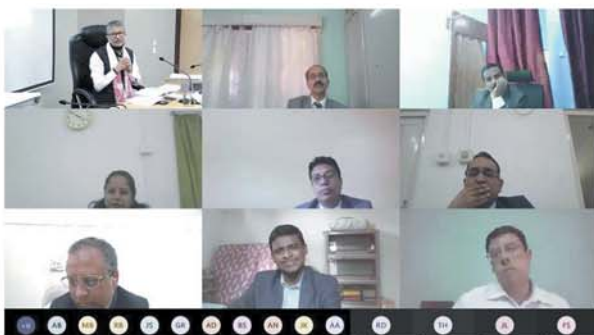
Online In-service Training for Judicial Officers promoted from Grade-II to Grade-I of Assam Judicial Service and Mizoram Judicial Service, in the year 2020

An online in-service training for Judicial Officers promoted from Grade-II to Grade-I of Assam Judicial Service and Mizoram Judicial Service, in the year 2020 was held from 16th July, 2021 to 23rd July, 2021. The programme was held daily in two sessions.

Conducting the first session on 16th July, 2021, Justice Mir Alfaz Ali,



Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice M. R. Pathak speaking during the programme as Guest Speakers.



Justice B. P. Katakey interacting with the participants.

Judge (Retd.), Gauhati High Court spoke on 'Trial of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 cases'. Sri S.P. Moitra, Secretary, Gauhati High Court, Legal Services Authority conducted the second session and spoke on 'Adjudication of application/petition for (a) issuance of Succession Certificate (b) Probate of Will'.

On 17th July, 2021, conducting both the sessions of the day Sri Srinivas Raghavan, Sr. Advocate, Madurai spoke on 'Adjudication of Motor Accident Cases with focus on Computation in (i) injury cases – simple, grievous, physical disability etc.,(ii) death cases, Apportionment: Release of entire amount vis-à-vis directing investment in fixed deposit and Ascertainment of Liability of parties'.



Sri Srinivas Raghavan, Sr. Advocate, Madurai speaking on Motor Accident Cases.

Conducting the first session on 19th July, 2021, Sri K.D. Patil, Former District & Sessions Judge, Maharashtra Judicial Academy spoke elaborately on 'Conduct of Sessions trial cases' while Justice B. D. Agarwal, Judge (Retd), Gauhati High Court, spoke on 'Criminal Appeal – Including Right of victim to file appeal (Section 372 proviso r/w Section 378(4), etc.' in the second session.



Justice B. D. Agarwal, Judge (Retd), Gauhati High Court speaking during the programme.

On 20th July, 2021, the sessions were conducted by Sri K.D. Patil, Former District & Sessions Judge, Maharashtra Judicial Academy and by Justice B. P. Katakey, Judge (Retd), Gauhati High Court. They spoke respectively on 'Conduct of Sessions trial' and 'Criminal Revision, including bar in revision against interlocutory orders, Distinction between Appeal & Revision, Interlocutory orders and Revision,

Conversion of Revision petition to Criminal Appeal and vice versa permissibility and Scope & ambit'.

On 22nd July, 2021, Sri Govind Vayal, Judge, Family Court, Satara and Smti Palak Jamadar, Additional Director, Maharashtra Judicial Academy conducted the session and spoke on Matrimonial Laws. The second session of the day was conducted by Sri Saurabh Sarma, LIFE and he spoke on 'Trial of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 cases'.

On 23rd July, 2021, Dr. (Mrs) Shalini S. Phansalkar Joshi, Former Judge, Bombay High Court spoke on 'Trial of cases under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012'.



Sri S.P. Moitra, Secretary, Gauhati High Court Legal Services Authority, speaking during the training programme

Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chief Justice, Gauhati High Court and Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak, Judge, Gauhati High Court also attended the programme as Guest Speakers.

Webinar on Reflection on securing Complete Justice by Courts on 1st April, 2021

On 1st April, 2021, a Webinar on the topic: Reflection on securing 'complete justice' by Courts was organized by the NEJOTI, in collaboration with the Judicial Academy, Assam. Prof. G. Mohan Gopal, Former Director, National Judicial Academy attended the programme as the resource person. The webinar was organized for all Grade - I Judicial Officers of Assam.



Prof. G. Mohan Gopal, Former Director, National Judicial Academy, attending the programme as the resource person.

4th Phase Training Programme for Advocates and Advocate Clerks of States of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Assam from 26th June, 2021



A glimpse of the virtual training programme

A series of virtual training programmes was held for the Advocates and Advocate Clerks of the States of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Assam which started on 26th June, 2021.

On 26th June, ECT 004-2021 - (4th Phase), the first such training programme was held for the States of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh on Electronic

Case Management Tools (ECMT). The Director, Judicial Academy made the opening remarks while the resource persons spoke on different topics, viz Overview of e-Courts Project, Electronic Case Management Tools for Advocates, e-Court related Websites, How to get e-Court Services 24 x 7, e-Courts services mobile app for Advocates, Service Delivery in Court Complexes: e-Sewa Kendras, Kiosks, Digital Display Boards, Other Services, Online certified copies, e-Gate Pass, e-Filing – the digital online filing process, Registration of Advocate in e-Filing websites, steps to e-File a case, Advantages of e-Filing, Case portfolio management, know the case status any time, Virtual Courts, e-Payment portal of court fee, fine, civil deposits, NSTEP, How to appear in video conferencing, How to scan the document and make PDF, Making Accessible PDFs, Uploading documents, Help desk for Advocates etc.



The said training programme for the states of Mizoram and Assam was held on 28th June and on 11th July respectively with the same agenda, covering the same topics.

Webinars on Integrated Approaches & Methods in Child Protection, Mental Health & Psychosocial Care held from 8th April to 22nd June, 2021

Webinars on Integrated Approaches & Methods in Child Protection, Mental Health & Psychosocial Care were held on 8th April, 20th April, 22nd April, 27th April, 4th May, 6th May, 11th May, 26th May, 27th May, 31st May to 3rd June, 7th to 10th June, 14th to 17th June and 21st to 22nd June i.e. for 23 days, for the Counsellors of District Child Protection Unit, Children Home/Observation Home of Assam.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, JAD, Gauhati High Court, speaking on the occasion.



Resource person attending the webinar

This programme was held in collaboration with NIMHANS, SWD, Government of Assam with support from UNICEF, Assam. Dr. Shekhar Seshadri, Ms. Sheila Ramaswamy, Ms. Aakanksha Kulkarni, Ms. Donita Quadros, Ms. Mehdiya Rizvi and Mr. Saurabh Shashi Ashok attended the programme as resource persons. The number of participants was 41. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, JAD, Gauhati High Court also spoke on the occasion.

ACTIVITIES OF ASLSA FROM APRIL, 2021 TO SEPTEMBER, 2021

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON VICTIM COMPENSATION

On 9th April, 2021, an Awareness on Victim Compensation Scheme & Victims of Traffic and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Scheme was organised at the Court Complex of District and Sessions Judge, Kamrup (M). The programme was organized by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Kamrup (M) in collaboration with the District Judiciary, Kamrup (M). Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA and JAD, Gauhati High Court, Justice M. R. Pathak and Justice Suman Shyam, Judges, Gauhati High Court attended the programme and distributed cheques to the beneficiaries.



Glimpses of the programme along with the beneficiaries

AWARENESS PROGRAMME AT UDALGURI AND DARRANG

On 17th of July, 2021, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman (EC), ASLSA and JAD, Gauhati High Court, accompanied by Member Secretary and Under Secretary, ASLSA, visited Udalguri and Darrang districts and had a meeting with the Chairman and Secretary, DLSA including the officers of District Judiciary. He also had meetings with the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of both the districts and delineated about the functioning of Legal Services Authority and the roles and responsibility of the District Administration in it. They were advised to take help of PLVs, if necessary, to make people aware of the Government Schemes and other legal rights. Similarly, the DLSAs were advised to carry out all possible steps to reach out to the people at the grass root level. The EC also took stock of functioning of the office of the DLSA and interacted with the PLVs.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA and JAD, Gauhati High Court interacting with the authorities of District Administration, Darrang at the office of DLSA.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME AT KAMRUP (R)

On 19th July, 2021, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman of ASLSA, accompanied by Member Secretary, ASLSA visited Kamrup (R) to have an idea about the problems, if any, faced by the District Judiciary and the DLSA and other stakeholders in holding the 2nd National Lok Adalat. This exercise was made with an intent that the ASLSA can take necessary steps to remove these difficulties of the district to get optimum result in the 3rd National Lok Adalat to be held in the month of September. During the visit, he had meetings with DLSA members, Secretary/President of the local Bar Association and with Judicial Officers in three different sessions.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA, interacting with Judicial Officers, DC and SP at the Conference Hall, District Judiciary

VIRTUAL INTERACTION IN CONNECTION WITH 3RD NATIONAL LOK ADALAT



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, during the virtual interaction with the stakeholders.

On 29th July, 7th August and on 4th September, 2021, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA interacted through video conferencing with the Chairpersons and Secretaries of the DLSAs, Members of the MACTs, and other stakeholders in connection with the strategies to be adopted for the forthcoming 3rd National Lok Adalat and took stock of the preparations going on for the same.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME AT MORIGAON & SONITPUR

On 5th September, 2021 Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA, JAD, Gauhati High Court and Justice Suman Shyam, Chairman, GHLSC, visited DLSA, Morigaon and flagged off the Multi-Utility Vehicle for creating awareness about the upcoming Lok Adalat in the remote places under "Xonjug ...connect" programme. On the same day, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Suman Shyam visited the DLSA, Morigaon, and thereafter, headed to Sonitpur where at Tezpur, they inaugurated the Front Office of the DLSA, Sonitpur.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh inaugurating the front office of DLSA, Sonitpur

INAUGURATION OF LEGAL AID CLINICS

On 18th & 19th September, 2021 Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA and JAD, Gauhati High Court visited Bongaingaon being accompanied by Member Secretary, ASLSA. On 18th September, he inaugurated a Legal Aid Clinic at the Sub-divisional Court, North Salmara,



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh inaugurating Legal Aid Clinic at Sub-divisional Court, North Salmara, Abhayapuri

Abhayapuri. On the same day, he also inaugurated a Legal Aid Clinic at Bongaingaon Law College.

The following day, the Executive Chairman, ASLSA addressed the Zonal Meet of DLSAs (Zone-IV Districts) held at Bongaingaon, organised by the DLSA, Bongaingaon under the aegis of the ASLSA.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh inaugurating Legal Aid Clinic at Bongaingaon Law College

INTERACTION PROGRAMME AT GOALPARA

On 25th September, 2021, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA visited Goalpara and had an interaction with the students of Goalpara Law College on the topic "Legal Services and the Role of Law students", which was organised by the DLSA, Goalpara under the aegis of the Assam State Legal Services Authority



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA addressing the Law Students at Goalpara Law College



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Executive Chairman, ASLSA addressing the Judicial Officers, Panel Lawyers and PLVs at Conference Hall, Judicial Court Complex, Goalpara

in association with Goalpara Law College with the purpose of involving law students in legal services.

The Executive Chairman also addressed the Refresher Training session of the Panel Lawyers and PLVs of DLSA, Goalpara and had a deliberation with Judicial Officers, Panel Lawyers and PLVs on the role of trial court judges in victim compensation.

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 Sudhanshu Dhulia	01.11.2008	09.08.2022
2.	Justice N. Kotiswar Singh	17.10.2011	28.02.2025
3.	Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak	22.05.2013	27.08.2027
4.	Justice Michael Zothankhuma	07.01.2015	22.10.2027
5.	Justice Suman Shyam	07.01.2015	11.06.2031
6.	Justice Rumi Kumari Phukan	07.01.2015	30.06.2022
7.	Justice Songkhupchung Serto	03.10.2016	28.02.2023
8.	Justice Achintya Malla Bujor Barua	15.11.2016	14.12.2023
9.	Justice Kalyan Rai Surana	15.11.2016	12.12.2027
10.	Justice Prasanta Kumar Deka	15.11.2016	04.11.2021
11.	Justice Nelson Sailo	15.11.2016	08.10.2030
12.	Justice Ajit Borthakur	15.11.2016	30.11.2023
13.	Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma	19.05.2017	30.06.2022
14.	Justice Sanjay Kumar Medhi	19.11.2018	06.03.2033
15.	Justice Nani Tagia	19.11.2018	15.05.2031
16.	Justice Manish Choudhury	18.01.2019	29.02.2034

Additional Judges				
Sl.No.	Name of Additional Judges	Date of Birth	Date of Elevation	Current Tenure Till
1.	Justice Soumitra Saikia	25.07.1969	26.11.2019	25.11.2021
2.	Justice Parthivjyoti Saikia	18.04.1965	26.11.2019	25.11.2021
3.	Justice S. Hukato Swu	01.01.1960	26.11.2019	25.11.2021
4.	Justice Robin Phukan	01.03.1966	21.06.2021	20.06.2023

IN THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT

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

STATEMENT SHOWING INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY OF CASES IN RESPECT OF GAUHATI HIGH COURT
FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01.04.2021 to 30.09.2021

Name of Benches	Pendency as on 01.04.2021	Institution for the period from 01.04.2021 to 30.09.2021	Disposal for the period from 01.04.2021 to 30.09.2021	Total pendency as on 30.09.2021
Principal Seat	39261	4060	2206	41115
Kohima Bench	645	260	172	733
Aizawl Bench	498	102	113	487
Itanagar Bench	1215	357	222	1350
Total	41619	4779	2713	43685

N.B.- Excluding Misc. Cases

All Judicial Establishments under jurisdiction of Gauhati High Court are hereby requested to send all the event details along with photographs relating to Judiciary for publication in the future issues of ATMAN to the following email-ID- newsletteratman@gmail.com

– Editor, ATMAN