

# SONAPUR COLLEGE NEWS BULLETIN

Sonapur College : Sonapur-782402  
Kamrup (Metro), Assam  
www.sonapurcollege.org

Second Edition, Volume-II, November 2013

## FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL



Sonapur College, Sonapur is a premier higher education institute in the greater Dimoria in Kamrup (M) district of Assam. With the untiring effort of the stakeholders the college has helped in maintaining a good learning environment and quality to equip its students to be a human resource. The teachers have

constantly encouraged and looked forward not only for the academic growth but also for an all-round development of the students. The students too have proved their excellence in both academic as well as extra-curricular domains.

The dedicated efforts made by the authority as well as the sincere teachers have created a good academic and research ambience in the college. It is noteworthy here that their published research works are recognized at National and International level. Apart from research, teachers are appreciated for their academic and exchange programmes as well as for the co-curricular and community activities. The community participation of the stakeholders of the college is worth mentioning. The opening of NCC Air wings and NSS units in the college have brought a momentum in this regards.

A remarkable progress is also being made by the college in terms of infrastructural facilities. The endeavour of all concerned will help to achieve the desired goals of the institution. The college has already set its target and intensified the zeal to assess the institution for accreditation by the NAAC within a couple of months. Further, the college is gearing up to celebrate its Silver Jubilee in the year 2015-16.

Therefore, the News Bulletin of the college will help to effectively reflect a true image of this higher education institution to the outer world. I offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who are associated with the release of the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the Sonapur College News Bulletin.

Thanking you,

**Dr. Devabrot Khanikar**  
Principal

## ACTIVITIES OF IQAC

### Awareness Programme on Law

An awareness programme of "Law and its Importance" was held in the college campus under the auspices of the IQAC on December, 27, 2012 where in eminent scholar of law education Dr. Bhuban Chandra Baruah, Principal, Tezpur Law College, former Principal of Gauhati University Law College and a renowned leader of Human Right movement graced as the Resource Person. Dr. Baruah deliberated on the various aspects of the legal rights that can be highly instrumental for the smooth conduct of our day to day life and the society as a whole. The Director of the College Development Council, Gauhati University, Dr. J.C. Kalita also attended the meeting and spoke to the gathering.



### UGC Sponsored National Seminar:

A two day long UGC sponsored National Seminar on "Social Equity on and Sustainable Development: A Quest for Opportunities and Expectations", was successfully held in Sonapur College on June 26 and 27, under the auspices of its Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). The seminar was formally inaugurated on June 26 by Mr. Subhas Joinwal, Regional Manager, SBI, Guwahati, in the Inaugural Session chaired by Dr. Dinesh Baishya, noted educationist and former Principal, B. Barooah College, Guwahati. The Key Note speech of the seminar was delivered by Dr. B.G. Unni, Chief Scientist and Area Coordinator, (Biotechnology/Biological Sciences), CSIR-NEIST, Govt. of India, Jorhat. Altogether 48 research papers were presented in the different technical sessions held in the seminar.



### Interactive Session by Rachel Sunden

Ms. Rachel Sunden, the Deputy Director of the American Center and Public Affairs Officer in the American Consulate, Kolkata visited the college on February 1, 2013. The students and the faculties of





## EDITORIAL

In pursuance of the basic principles of the higher education and the wish to fulfill the mission cherished by its founders more than two decades back, Sonapur College, besides teachings and providing a research friendly ambience, has been shouldering its responsibilities for the betterment of the society. Phenomenal changes have occurred over the years, in the global socio-economic scenario and its consequences seem to have trickled down even to the very local level. As such it has become inevitable for the higher education institutes to enfold the necessary changes pertaining to teaching, research and extension from a global perspective. Such changes are considered to be more important for a college like ours, keeping in view of its location in a purely rural and an area inhabited by the tribal people. While introducing new job oriented courses of Commerce or Computer like PGDCA, it has paid equal interest for the betterment of the local people by extension activities; further it has worked for the preservations and practices of all the tangible and intangible heritages of the area. It has never looked back in bringing forth the hidden talents of students in sports, culture and in other domains. In turn, it has received the dividends in the form of laurels and glory brought by its pupil in different co-curricular and extra-curricular activities from around the country. It is a fact that all these initiatives and achievements of the college would have remained barren of proper appreciation, had it been kept in isolation. Therefore, the "Sonapur College News Bulletin" is a humble attempt to showcase some of the significant activities of the college. The editorial board has tried its best to make the Sonapur College News Bulletin exhaustive with the help and cooperation of its stakeholders for which thanks and gratitude is due to our honourable Principal, esteemed colleague, management and all others who have had their indirect and direct support for this venture.

the college participated in an interactive session with Ms. Sunden wherein she enlightened all about the various academic opportunities available in USA, besides replying to the queries of the participants. Later she held a Quiz Competition among the students and distributed prizes to the winners on behalf of the American Center and the American Consulate, Kolkata.

### Translation Workshop

The IQAC, Sonapur College organised a day long workshop on translation on January 31 and February 1, 2013 in collaboration with the Department of English. Mr Sarat Kumar Jena, a Fellow in the Department of English, Gujarat Central University had acted as the Resource Person in the technical sessions. An alumnus of Sonapur College, Mr. Jena deliberated on the translations theories on the first day and on the second day he engaged the participants into the praxis part of translation.



### Talk on Transforming Indians to Transform India

In its effort to imbibe the spirit of value education among the students, the IQAC of the college organized a talk on "Transforming Indians to Transform India" on March 8, 2013. Dr. Sunita Agarwalla, a renowned educationist and Associate Professor of Education, Dispur College, Guwahati had deliberated on the theme and urged upon the students and the faculties to devote their time and energy for transforming themselves in order to transform India into a healthier, corruption free and efficient nation.



## SOME MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- Dhanjit Medhi Memorial Lecture:** The Dhanjit Medhi Memorial Lecture was held in the College premises on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2012. The Lecture was delivered by Eminent Educationist and former Principal of Cotton College, Guwahati Prof. Dilip Kumar Baruah. The theme of the lecture was "Values and the Present Day Educational and Social System". The Lecture was organised by the Dept. of Economics of Sonapur College. In his lecture Dr. Baruah stressed on the importance of value based education, the need of the introduction of educational reforms to meet the demands of social change, the exposure of the young generation to the moral and spiritual values and finally to inculcate in the youth a practice of self-introspection.
- RELO, US Embassy Sponsored International Workshop:** The Dept. of English, in collaboration with the IQAC, Sonapur College organised a three day workshop at IBM, Guwahati on November 1-3, 2013. The Regional English Language Office of the US Embassy, New Delhi sponsored the workshop where the senior English Language Fellow from the US Joe P. Dwaillebehad conducted the workshop on "Integrating Skills in the ESL Classroom". The participants from various parts of India had participated in the workshop and they were highly benefitted by the workshop.
- Drama Workshop by Kalabhum:** A Drama workshop was organised by Kalabhum, the Cultural Body for promoting Performing Arts of Sonapur College. This kind of workshops are intended to develop the hidden talents of the young budding youths of the area. This year Kalabhum organised the drama workshop from July 5- August 1, 2013 where eminent dramatist Ronal Hussain graced as resource person and as many as 20 participants from all across the state had participated. The final drama, named "Kanyadaan", written by Abdul Aziz was staged in the College premises on August 2, 2013 which brought laurels to the participants.





## OUR STUDENTS OUR PRIDE

- Sonapur College takes pride on its students who exhibit their excellence in curricular as well as extracurricular activities. This year Eight students the Dept. of Geography, one from Dept. of Economics and one from B. Com got First class in the Degree Final Examination 2012-2013. Ms. Usha Rani Das and Ms. Birina Lahkar actively participated in a workshop organised by The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi. They won the Second prize in the Poster Making Competition organised by TERI, in Cotton College, Guwahati.
- The students participate in the different sports meets in the Regional, National as well as International level. This year in the 8<sup>th</sup> All Assam wrestling Championship, 2012 Mantu Kalita

got First in 74 kgs category, Ananta Bahadur Gurung got Second place in 60 Kgs weight category, Bitupan Kathar came Second in 57-60 Kgs weight category and Utpal Teron got second place in 66 Kgs weight category. Many students had participated in the National Meet as a member of Assam Team. Mr. Mensoy Bey won a Gold Medal in the National Kick Boxing Championship held at New Delhi.

- In the Cultural Arena also our students have shown their brilliance. Mr. Rupjyoti Konwar has participated in the various Regional Competition as well as National meets being organised all over the country. Our students participated in the Inter College Youth Festival at Gauhati University.

## SOME OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

**Wall Magazines:** Like previous years, this year also the different departments have inaugurated the quarterly issues of the Wall magazines. The Literary Section of the Students Union inaugurated the XUPAN which exhibited the literary talent of the students. Likewise the Department of English and Economics inaugurated their wall Magazine "AISHANU" where the students showed their potentialities in different fields. The Department of Geography inaugurated the Wall magazine "BASUNDHARA" where the departmental students presented their environmental awareness and other aspects for a better world.

**Departmental Seminars:** In accordance with the Academic Programme, the various departments organised the various Departmental Seminars where the students took active participation. These seminars are meant to develop the research oriented activities of the students where the teachers act as

facilitator.

**Department of Geography** organised a Model & Chart Competition for its students on December 29, 2013, where the students presented their awareness about the various issues pertaining to environment and its conservation through their models and charts.

**The Geography department** conducted a programme on "Climate Change" in the College Premises on 22/03/2013. The Resource person Jayanta Sarma deliberated on Climate Change, its implication for sustainable development, how climate change can have its impact in our day to day life.

Some of the department have also organised inter class paper presentation where the students wrote and presented research papers on their course syllabus.

## OUR EXTENSION ACTIVITIES



**Activities at Dikchak:** Dikchak is the adopted village of Sonapur College. The College has always organised different community development programmes in the village. This year the extension Cell of Sonapur College organised a Plantation Drive where they planted saplings in each household of the village. There was another Plantation Drive in the Dikchak Primary School which was inaugurated by the Principal of Sonapur College, Dr. Devabrot Khanikor. Two teachers of the college, namely, Sinam Iboto Singh and Prof. Khirada Mali distributed study material and stationeries to the students of the Dikchak Primary School. Mr. Bipul Borah, Vice Principal of Sonapur College delivered a lecture on "Floriculture" for the benefit of the villagers and the Self Help Groups.

**Activities of the Women's Cell:** Sonapur College Women's Cell celebrated the International Women's Day on March 8, 2013. The programme was jointly organised by the IQAC of the College. Noted Educationist Dr. Sunita Agarwalla, Associate prof. of Education of Dispur College deliberated on the topic "Status of women: Change in the Mindset". In her speech Dr. Agarwalla opined that it is high time for us to change our mindset. Women are no longer the weaker section of the society and she urged everybody to be conscious of one's rights and responsibilities and not to be used by others.

**Red Ribbon Club:** An Aids Awareness Programme was organised by the Red Ribbon Camp of the College at Kamalajuri High School on November 26, 2012. Dr. Madhumalika Pathak graced the occasion as the Resource Person. The theme of the Lecture was "Talk AIDS, Stop AIDS". The programme was inaugurated by the Principal of the College Dr. Devabrot





Khanikor. A large number of school children and teachers from Kamalajari School and Sonapur College participated in the programme.

**World Environment Day:** Department of Geography organised the World Environment day on June 5, 2013 at Durung High School which was attended by a large number of students and other people from that locality. Around 200 students were present on that day. A Lecture on the importance of the Environment Day was delivered by Dr. Ratneswar Barman, Retired Head of the Geography department, Gauhati University. In his speech he made people aware of the implication of our conducts on environment and how we can make our world a better place through our concerted effort.



## PRESERVING CULTURE

**Manuram Karkun Teaching and Research Centre for Tribal Language and Culture:** Manuram Karkun Teaching and Research Centre for Tribal language and Culture was established in 2003 to promote the teaching of indigenous languages of the different tribes belonging to Tiwa, Karbi, Bodo and other communities of the neighbouring areas. The centre is running a three months course on 'Karbi language'.

**Sonapur College Museum:** The College has its mission to preserve the cultural heritage of the locality and a Committee has been formed for the functioning of the museum. The College has collected various artefacts from the neighbouring areas related to tradition and culture.

**Dekachang:** Dekachang or Chamati is a traditional concept belonging to the Tiwa Community. Dekachang provides a platform for the tribal youths to get training for their livelihood. Dekachang is almost on the verge of extinction and thus the College took it as its Mission to preserve this cultural artefact. The Dekachang is used as Boys common room.



## TEACHERS ACHIEVEMENT

- Dr. Nizara Hazarika, Associate Professor of English was awarded a scholarship by the US Govt. to participate in a two week long Faculty Development Programme from March 10-24, 2013 in the USA. As a part of it, she attended a one week long workshop at Georgetown University, Washington DC and the TESOL Convention at Dallas, USA.
- Dr. Nizara Hazarika's Research paper "Constructing the 'Women': Decoding the Politics of Gender in the Assamese Folktales" was accepted by the IAFOR and she presented the same in an International Conference at Osaka, Japan from April 4-8, 2013.
- Dr. Asraf Ali, Asstt. Prof. of Geography of Sonapur College was awarded PhD by the Gauhati University for his thesis "Geo-environmental Impact on socio-Economic Development in Goalpara District of Assam, India".
- Mr. Pradeep Kr. Dey, Associate Prof. of Economics has published his book *Mathematical Economics* (ISBN- 978-93-82384-46-5) which has been published by Assam Book Depot.
- All the Faculty Members of the College are engaged in various Research works and present their papers in various National and International Seminars/ Conferences and also participate in the workshops both National and International.
- A large number of Research papers written by the Faculties have been published in Journals/ Books having ISSN/ISBN, apart from other publications in Newspapers, magazines and so on.

## OUR COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

### GANDHI JAYANTI CELEBRATION:

The College celebrated Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, 2012 in its college premises. Noted Gandhian Sjt. Rakhil Ch. Kalita was felicitated in the programme. Apart from the Teaching and non-teaching staff and students, the programme was attended by many well-wishers who deliberated on that occasion. Dr. Gitima Kalita, Asstt. Prof., Dept. of Philosophy, spoke on Gandhian philosophy. The whole programme was conducted by Dr. Devabrot Khanikor, Principal of the College.



### INAUGURATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC BLOCK :

The College has its new Academic and Administrative Block which was inaugurated on October 16, 2012 by two founder members of the College Governing Body Sjt. Upen Bora and Sjt. Sambar Rangpe. The construction was done with the help of the Catch-Up Grant received from the UGC.





**PUBLIC MEETING FOR SILVER JUBILEE:** The College is gearing up for its Silver Jubilee celebration which is going to start in 2015. As the initial endeavour in this direction, the College organised a public meeting on December 2, 2012 in the Tricem Hall where people from the locality who are involved with the college since its inception, the teachers, non-teaching staff, students-present and past gathered to discuss about the celebration and also to plan for the same.



**COLLEGE WEEK CELEBRATION:** The College celebrated the 22nd College Week from December 24-December 29, 2012. As the inauguration of the week, a Cultural Procession was carried out by the students, teachers and non-teaching staff of the College. A huge number of students participated in the various competitions organised on the occasion. Prof. Udayaditya Bharali, Retd. Principal of Cotton College graced the occasion as the Speaker on the Closing Day. The famous band of North East "North East Breeze" had performed on the Closing Day.



**SATIRTHA BOOK FAIR:** Like previous years, the college organised a Book Fair in the College premises for the benefit of its stakeholders. This year the SATIRTHA Book Fair was organised from December 27-29, 2012, which exhibited a huge number of books for the benefit of students, teachers and others.

**INAUGURATION OF STUDENTS UNION SECRETARIAT:** The Principal, Sonapur College inaugurated the newly constructed Students Union Secretariat on December, 29, 2012. Thus new building has fulfilled a long demand of the students to have a bigger office for the union.



**CELEBRATING SARASWATI PUJA:** The College celebrated Saraswati Puja with pomp and grandeur on February 15, 2013. A Still Photography exhibition was organised on the occasion which showcased the growth of Sonapur College along with some archival memorable moments.

**E-LIBRARY:** The College has started its E Library in collaboration with the American Consulate. The College can access innumerable study material to be used by teachers and students.

**WORKSHOP ON EXAMINATION, EVALUATION AND GRADING SYSTEM IN GAUHATI UNIVERSITY:** Sonapur College Teachers Association organised a day long workshop in collaboration with ACTA (Metro Zone) on June 24, 2013. The Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University Dr.



O K Medhi had graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Dr. Dhruvajyoti Choudhury was the invited speaker on the occasion. Two participants from each College under Metro zone participated in the workshop.

**FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION:** The College celebrated its 23rd foundation Day on August 2, 2013 with a day long programme. After the flag Hoisting, Sjt. Saruram Tumung, the founder President of Sonapur College GB lighted the lamp on the occasion. Then there was a plantation drive by some of the founder members in the College premises. To commemorate this event, the college felicitated some of the founders of the College including employees, alumni, guardian, and a host of people from the society who contributed to the development of the college.

**CELEBRATING FRESHERS' SOCIAL:** The College celebrated the 23rd Freshers Social on August 13, 2013. On the occasion, the college felicitated Sjt. Pradip Das, founder member of the College who has been ailing for quite some time. The programme was graced by Mr. Biswajit Basumatary, Dean of Laxmi Bai National Institute of Physical Education, Tepesia. The renowned singer Bidyasagar enthralled the audience.

## OUR ONGOING PROJECTS

- Sonapur College has received financial grants from UGC for the construction of an Indoor Stadium in the College premises. The construction of the same has been going on.
- The College is going to have its second Girls Hostel very shortly. It has already received financial grant from the UGC. The necessary process for the construction is going on.
- Dr. Biman Patowary, Associate Prof. of Geography and Dr. Nizara Hazarika, Associate Prof. of English has been granted Minor Research Project by the UGC and their Research projects are going on.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE NCC UNIT OF SONAPUR COLLEGE

➤ The Sonapur College NCC Unit was officially inaugurated with a NCC Awareness cum Pre Enrolment Camp on March 15, 2013. The programme was conducted by 50 Assam Air Squadron (Flying) NCC Unit, Guwahati.



- The NCC cadets have brought laurels to the College and have won many prizes in the competitions organised in the NCC camps. Mahananda Rai and Kanak Pathak begged first prize in the Duet Song Category in the ALC held at Itanagar.
- Our cadets Birina Lahkar begged the first prize and Beauty Kalita won the second prize in the painting competition held among the Cadets in the 50 Assam SQN (PLG) NCC Unit, Guwahati in June 2013.
- Meanwhile the NCC Cadets of our college participated in the CATC camp held at Shilong in July 2013 and brought laurels by winning prizes in different events. Ms. Beauty Kalita won



first prize in the folk dance and painting competition, while Mahananda Rai got the second rank in the Marathon Race. Moreover in the Group Dance event the contingent from our college comprising of Beauty Kalita, Phuleswari Teron, Kabita Rahang, Seuji Lalung and Pradip Kr. Pandit proved their mettle by winning the first prize. The NCC Cadets, as many as ten of them, also added yet another feather in the crown by representing the Football team of the Guwahati Unit which emerged as the Champion in the meet.

- In the CATC held at Imphal in August 10-20, 2013, our cadets showed their excellence in various categories. Birina Lahkar and her group won the First prize in the Quiz Competition; while she won Second prize in Debating Competition and Extempore Speech competition as well. Beauty Kalita and her group won Second Prize in Quiz Competition. Two of our cadets, namely, Phuleswar Teron and Birina Lahkar were a part of the volleyball team (Girls) and the Football team (Girls) who begged in both the events. Moreover, in Drill Competition, many of our cadets were parts who were adjudged champions.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE NSS UNIT OF SONAPUR COLLEGE

- An Awareness cum Orientation Programme of NSS was organised in the College premises on May10, 2013. The Programme was initiated by Dr. Ananda Das, Asstt. Prof. of Geography and Programme Officer of the Sonapur College NSS Unit. Mr. Dipal Sarmah, Youth Officer of NE Regional NSS Centre was invited as the Resource Person. Mr. Sarmah gave the students the idea about NSS and its activities.
- A Community Development Programme cum Tree Plantation drive was organised by the Sonapur College NSS Unit at Dikchak School on May17, 2013. The principal of Sonapur College Dr. Devabrot Khanikor, Mr. Prabin Konwar, Headmaster of the school along with the elderly villagers of the Dikchak village planted tree saplings.
- The Sonapur College NSS Unit took part in a Road Repairing, Construction and Drain Cleaning programme on May 23, 2013. The road connecting Sonapur College with the NH 37 passes through Milanpur village, which was repaired and the adjacent drains were cleaned by the NSS unit. About 50 student members participated in the programme.
- A week long "Special Camp" was organised by the Sonapur College NSS Unit at the Dikchak village from June 17-23, 2013 at the Dikchak Primary School premises. The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Devabrot Khanikor, Principal Sonapur College. Textbooks were distributed by Mrs. Khirada Mali, Associate Prof of Education of the College. Various Resource Persons were invited to deliberate on different issues beneficial for the villagers. Some of them were Mr. Prafulla Sahariya, Mr. Bipul Borah, Mr. Tulsi Mazumder, Dr. Prasanta Saikia. Various Sports activities were also held among the students of the Primary school. Mr. Sunil Basumatary, NSS Youth Officer, NE Region was invited for the concluding session of the camp.
- A College Campus and Classroom Cleaning Drive was organised by the NSS Unit of the College on July30, 2013. The student members of the NSS Unit took part in the cleaning drive. The teacher members were also present on that day.

## OUR LOSS

With a deep sense of loss, we condole the sad and premature demise of our beloved Rajen Terang, LDA, who left for his heavenly abode on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Late Terang was a sincere, honest and dedicated employee of the college and his demise has created a void in the college.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES



First inspection by AHSEC official in 1991



First inspection by Gauhati University Official in 1991



NAAC Peer Team visiting our adopted village in 2004



Dr. Surjya Das of AIR addressing the students

## GOLDEN MOMENTS OF THE COLLEGE



Our NCC Cadets



Our NSS Unit members at work in the College road



The VC of Gauhati University Dr. O.K. Medhi visiting the college on the occasion of the workshop on Examination, Evaluation and Grading System in Gauhati University



Prof. Udayaditya Bharali addressing the gathering on the occasion of the closing ceremony of the 23rd Annual College Week



Subhas Jaiwal, Regional Manager of SBI addressing the gathering in the Inaugural Session of the UGC Sponsored National Seminar on "Social Equity and Sustainable Development : A Quest for Opportunities and Expectations"



Construction of the UGC Funded Indoor Stadium is on.

## EDITORIAL BOARD

- President : Dr. Devabrot Khanikor  
 Editors : Dr. Mani Ram Kalita and Dr. Nizara Hazanika  
 Members : Mr. Bipul Borah, Dr. Biman Patowary, Sinam Iboto Singh, Dr. Asraf Ali