Republic Day Celebrated by AAD

Patriotic Cultural Meet held on Republic Day

Shilpi Divas Observed

Shilpi Divas, the death anniversary of Rupkonwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwala was observed by Assam Association Delhi on 17th January 2022 through lighting lamp and prayers.
REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATED BY AAD

Patriotic Cultural Meet

Assam Association Delhi celebrated the Republic Day on 26th January 2022 at Srimanta Sankardev Bhawan. Sri Dibyojit Dutta, General Secretary at 10:00, hoisted the tri-color National Flag. In his speech, he described the various contribution by predecessors for the Country and welcome everyone to continue contribution in Nation building. The other speakers were Sri Prasanta Kumar Das, Sri Tridib Saikia and Dr Banajit Majumdar.

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The event was inaugurated by reputed Artist Shri Robin Kalita who spoke about the significance of the Republic day and described how music -song - culture have been part of Indian civilization since the dawn of Independence struggle. He then performed a few Assamese and Hindi songs. After that the Audio visuals of the Sattriya Dance performed in the Republic Day Celebration held at Delhi was displayed with participation of several local artist viz. Jhilmill Pathak, RimZhim Pathak, Tina Kalita, Pooja Devi Seal, Pari Devi Seal, Deshna Mahanta and Nijara Nath.

Then the event followed with various performance viz., Pranami Saikia, Gita Dutta, Reem Pathak, Sushuban Talukdar, Tridib Hazarika, Dhrrity Deepa, Dr Banajit Mazumdar, Ryka Borkotoky, Devraj Saikia and Akshara Saha. A few participants shared their views on the event viz. Sankar krishna Das, Dr Tankeswar Boruah, Dr Ankita Medhi, Sri Pranjal Baruah, Jitu Borah etc. The video of the event is available at YouTube viz. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LsuD4Lk2qf0
SHILPI DIVAS OBSERVED

Death Anniversary of Rup Konwar on 17th January

Jyoti Divas, the death anniversary of Rup konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwala was observed by Assam Association Delhi on 17th January 2022 through lighting lamp and prayers.
RTI FILED ON ASSAMESE UNICODE

One RTI has been filed on 9th January 2022 to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Department of Consumer affairs, Government of India New Delhi by General Secretary Assam Association Delhi on their views submitted to Unicode Consortium on Assamese script in Unicode. This was in response to the email of the Executive Director and COO, Unicode Consortium who conveyed on 29th August 2021 that the issue of updating the Unicode chart Bengali to ‘Bengali and Assamese’ was recommended in the meeting held in London on 19th June 2018 along with a set of recommendations on Assamese script, but progress on those recommendations are pending due to non receipt of any input from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), India. It is to be mentioned that there has been long resentment on recognizing of Assamese script in Unicode as it is felt that Assamese scripts are not properly recognized. These issue were conveyed to Unicode Consortium by General Secretary, Assam Association Delhi with a request to take appropriate corrective measure. In response, Toral Cowieson, Executive Director & COO, Unicode Consortium, informed through e-mail that some of issues on Assamese scripts were discussed in Unicode 2018 and a set of recommendations were made. He further informed that in Unicode, it is normal for a script to be shared by two or more, even hundreds of languages viz. the Arabic script is shared by many languages including Arabic, Persian, and Urdu. Hundreds of different languages share the Latin script: they overlap in characters but do not share exactly the same repertoire. In addition, note that many of these languages have different alphabetical ordering (collation).

It is to be mentioned in the meeting with Title: “Results of the ad-hoc meeting on Assamese” held in London on 19th June 2018 there was discussion on Assamese in Unicode with several recommendation viz.

- It is recognized that the Assamese language and the Bengali language pronounce many of the shared letters differently. It is also noted that the script is used for other languages: Bishnupriya Manipuri, Manipuri, Sylheti, Hajong, Rabha, and Deuri.
- It is recognized that UCS character names are immutable identifiers, and cannot be changed.
- It may be possible to change the block header name, though the block property values cannot. The most neutral and least disruptive name would be “Bengali-Assamese”.

The response of the RTI was received from BIS on Jan 27, 2022 who informed that BIS still not able to submit their views to Unicode consortium as the response from Govt. of Assam is awaited. They said that earlier Assam government conveyed they couldn’t accept the resolution passed by Unicode at London and again submitted a revised proposal for including “a new code
table for Assamese script”. The same was discussed in the BIS committee- LITD 20 meeting held on 10th May 2019 and the committee was of the view that the revised proposal submitted by Assam Govt. was not in line with the suggestion made by ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2. Therefore, LITD 20 constituted a new panel, namely, LITD 20/P 9 to review the revised proposal submitted by the Assam Govt. and to recommend improvements required in the revised proposal. The panel met in November 2019 and recommended some changes to be made in the revised proposal for which inputs were sought from Assam Govt. The input from the Assam Government is awaited; we will be submitting the revised proposal to JTC 1/SC 2 once we get the required input from the Assam government and approval from the concerned technical committee, i.e. LITD 20 Indian Language technologies and Products Sectional committee.

TWO STRANDED PERSONS SENT TO NATIVE PLACE

Two persons viz. Sri Uttam Kumar and Pradeep from Tinsukia district who were brought to Haryana by a contractor promising jobs were left high and dry when their contactor fled without paying their last 4 months salary. The two penniless youths somehow managed to reach Delhi on 13th November, wandering in front of Assam House in search of food & shelter and waiting anxiously to return home. They were located by a few media persons who offered them food in the canteen. Sri Pranjal Das, reporter informed the matter to General Secretary, Assam
Association Delhi who later visited them and took the stock. Their painful story was heard and train tickets were arranged for them who reached home safely on 16th November. As such kind of incidents have become regular where youths are brought to Big cities showing bright prospects, who go there without thinking their safety, security. AAD is in the opinioned that before traveling to big cities, at least a few contacts should be collect who may be useful during emergency. Contacts of large nos. of persons/ association/ institutions have been made available at the Delhi NCR Assamese Diaspora Database http://aad.assam.org .

**Government of Delhi NCT has offered shelter to helpless Assamese pregnant lady**

On the basis of request made to Govt. of NCT of Delhi to provide shelter to a helpless and abandoned Assamese Pregnant lady, Delhi Government has informed availability of a few Shelter house to avail the services. The girl became helpless after being ditched by her husband. This young working girl made friendship to a local friend, secretly got married and became pregnant. Soon she lost her job, had to vacate her hostel, abandoned by her parents for bringing dishonor and finally thrown away by husband’s family. This matter was brought to the Assam Association Delhi, who reported it to concerned authorities of Govt. of Delhi. Later Delhi Govt offered two Shelter Homes run by Dept of Women and Child Development viz. Matritava Chhaya at Jahangirpuri and Sarai Rohila. However, as she had already been given shelter by an NGO, thanks to Smt Mrinalini Khatri, an Advocate cum Social Activist, this offer was not required. According to Smt Mrinalini, there are a few NGOs are providing shelter to distress women viz. New Generation Trust. All India Women Conference. Sisters of the Destitute. Jivodaya Ashralayam., Young Women Christian Association (YWCA). Shakti Shalini., Rehab Centre for Hope which are provided license under Women’s and Children’s Institutions (Licensing) Act. 1956 to run Short Stay Home for women. While enquiring, it is learnt that there are more similar cases in Delhi NCR Region as while our youths are susceptible to mistakes, similarly, their parents have a tendency to avoid taking responsibility to rescue their children.
NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Dr. Pranab J Patar

Dr. Pranab J Patar with AAD Life Membership ID No: L0824. His present address: Lotus Panache Sec 110 Noida. His Place of Birth is Roha, Nagaon and studied in Tezpur University, Gauhati University and Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune. He has been working as an Environmentalist at Global Foundation for Advancement of Environment & Human Wellness as Chief Executive. His area of expertise are: water resources, biodiversity, climate action, alternative livelihood & sustainable tourism issues. His details profile is available at http://aad.assam.org/content/pranab-6

Mantu Kumar Das

Sri Mantu Kumar Das is originally from Rowta, Udalguri. He is currently working in IIT Delhi as a Senior Project Assistant, DST Centre for Policy Research. His AAD Life Membership ID No: L0824. Details available at http://aad.assam.org/content/mantu-0

Bhaswati Das

Smti Bhaswati Das, from Noida has become Life member of Assam Association Delhi with Membership ID L0826. She is originally from Shantipur, Bharalumukh, Guwahati. Smti Das is presently working as Development Specialist and Management Strategist. She had two decades of professional experience working with UNDP GEF, The Hunger Project, Room to Read, Save the Children India etc. She holds a brown belt in shito-ryo karate, communicates in 5 languages including Indian Sign Language and enjoys travelling and meditating. Her detail biodata is available at https://aad.assam.org/content/bhaswati
Dr. Ankita Medhi

Dr. Ankita Medhi, is the new Life Member AAD with ID L0827. She is originally from Jorhat, currently staying at Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. She is presently working as Assistant Professor, Miranda House College, University of Delhi. Her interest is Art & Music. Her detailed profile is available at http://aad.assam.org/content/ankita-0