ATMAN
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(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, Morigaon
- 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 untriringly 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 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

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.
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

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 members 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.

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

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.

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.
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

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.

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 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
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 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

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.

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

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
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 Disburshing Officers) by Justice Ranjan Gogoi. The inauguration of the building is an important milestone in the Judicial Training sector of North-east.

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.
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.

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of Chief Justice /Judges</th>
<th>Date of Elevation</th>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Chief Justice Ajit Singh</td>
<td>05.03.2016</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Justice Hrishikesh Roy</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Justice Arup Kumar Goswami</td>
<td>24.01.2011</td>
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<td>Justice Manojit Bhuyan</td>
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<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma</td>
<td>01.07.1960</td>
<td>19.05.2017</td>
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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

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<tr>
<th>Name of Benches</th>
<th>Pendency as on 01.10.2017</th>
<th>Institution for the period from 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018</th>
<th>Disposal for the period from 01.10.2017 to 31.03.2018</th>
<th>Total pendency as on 31.03.2018</th>
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Excluding Misc. Cases