From the Chief Justice (Acting)

Keeping in view the changing trends of technology the Gauhati High Court is not lagging behind. The activities of the Legal Services Authority and the Judicial Academy, and events of the High Court that take place, require to be informed to all institutions and persons related with law as an information-sharing effort. The ATMAN in this direction is doing a wonderful job of showcasing the events conducted by the Legal Services Authority and the Judicial Academy, and also the events that take place in the High Court. I wish that ATMAN gets deserved readership under affectionate patronage.

— Justice K. Sreedhar Rao

Editor speaks

“Minds are like parachutes – they function when open.” We in the judiciary know that multi layered barriers exist in accessing justice and challenge today is to remove them. Many amongst us are like the closed parachute – abilities are in abundance but we do not pull the string of realization. Team ATMAN believes in the untapped potential of the individual and strives to encourage maximization of our abilities to ensure effective justice for the people of North East India. Let us open our Parachutes.

— Justice Hrishikesh Roy
FOUNDATIONS STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF CJM COURT AT KOKRAJHAR

Chief Justice A.M. Sapre (now in Supreme Court) laid down the foundation stone of the new CJM Court Building at Kokrajhar on 5th April, 2014 in a simple function organized by the district judiciary. The Registrar General, the District and Sessions Judge, Kokrajhar, Judicial Officers and members of the Bar were present during the occasion.

TRAINING OF COURT MANAGERS HELD ON 30TH APRIL, 2014

The Judicial Academy, Assam and North Eastern Judicial Officers Training Institute (NEJOTI), organized a training programme for the Court Managers of the Subordinate Judiciary, High Court and member of Registry on 30th April, 2014 in the Conference Hall of the Judicial Academy. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge In-charge, Training, inaugurated the programme and addressed the trainees and stressed upon the role of court management to augment the justice delivery mechanism. The programme was conducted by Professor (Dr) Faizan Mustafa, Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR, Hyderabad, Mr. P.N. Patnaik, Associate Professor and Mr. S.C. Pandey, Assistant Professor. The resource persons from NALSAR University of Law also addressed the Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars on the Role, Function and

The Courts need management, which busy and overworked judges, with drastically increased caseloads, cannot give. We need crops of trained administrators or managers to manage and direct the machinery so that judges can concentrate on their primary duty of judging.

— Justice Warren E. Burger, former Chief Justice of the USA.
Duties of Court Managers and how they can complement the available resources in the courts. Justice A. C. Upadhyay and Prof. (Dr) Faizan Mustafa distributed certificates to the participants.

WEEKLONG TRAINING BY JUSTICE U.L.BHAT, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF GAUHATI HIGH COURT TO NEW RECRUITS AND SENIOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS

Justice U.L. Bhat, former Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, conducted training on all important facets of functioning of Judicial Officers. He made great efforts to prepare the newly recruited Grade-III Judicial Officers from Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh from 3rd May to 9th May, 2014. He also addressed the Grade-I Judicial Officers from Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh, on 10th May, 2014. The programme on 10th May was webcast to all Judicial Districts through Video Conferencing where Judicial Officers from the districts also interacted. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge In-charge, Training, introduced Justice U.L. Bhat to the Judicial Officers and said that life of a judge is a continuous learning process.

A judge has all the foibles which affect mankind, namely, pride, prejudices, predilections, likes and dislikes. Good judges are also affected by this human weakness; but a great judge is one who is keenly aware of this eternal truth and consciously tries his best to keep the negative factors away from the decision-making process.

—— Excerpts from Story of a Chief Justice, by Justice U L Bhat
The Judicial Academy, Assam and NEJOTI organized a valedictory function for the Grade-III Judicial Officers of Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh on 24th May, 2014, on their completion of the induction training, in the conference hall of the Judicial Academy. Justice R.V. Raveendran, a former Judge of Supreme Court of India, addressed the Judicial Officers on ‘How to be a good Judge’. The erudite speaker shared his knowledge with the new recruits to develop their Judicial and Administrative skills and urged upon the judicial officers to maintain ethical standards in adjudication. Justice A. M. Sapre, the then Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, delivered the welcome address and Justice Hrishikesh Roy as the Judge In-charge, Training, by his motivating speech asked the judicial officers to strive to achieve the best of their potential. In this function certificates and two invaluable books were distributed to all the judicial officers.

When a Judge puts on his judicial robes, he should put off not only friendships, relationships, caste, community, religion, political sympathies, but also put off his prejudices and personal philosophies. Impartiality is a virtue, which is not easy to achieve, acquire or maintain. It requires constant effort and sacrifice.

— Justice R.V. Raveendran, former Judge of Supreme Court of India
THE AWARENESS REFERRAL COACHING AND MENTORING (ARCM) PROGRAMME ON 24-05-2014 AT GUWAHATI

The Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee of the Supreme Court of India, in association with Assam State Legal Services Authority, organized a one day Awareness Referral Coaching and Mentoring (ARCM) programme on 24th May, 2014, in the NEDFI House. The programme was attended by Member Secretary, ASLSA, referral Judges of Kamrup (Metro) and Kamrup districts. MCPC trainers Ms. Nisha Saxena, Member Secretary, MCPC, Mr. Arun Kumar Arya and Ms. Nirja Bhatia acted as the resource persons.

TRAINING OF PARA LEGAL VOLUNTEERS AT ARUNACHAL PRADHESH

Justice (Dr.) Indira Shah, Judge, Gauhati High Court, inaugurated a three days residential training programme on 22nd May, 2014 at the State Cooperative Union Conference Hall for para legal volunteers of various districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The intensive training programme was organized by Committee for Free Legal Aid (clap), Odisha, in association with the Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority and Action Aid Society, Arunachal Pradesh and supported by the Department of Justice, Govt of India, under its project Access To Justice.

Justice (Dr.) Indira Shah, in her speech dwelt in detail the aspects of free legal aid and the schemes with examples of people getting reliefs through the interventions of the para legal volunteers of the legal services institutions. She called upon all stakeholders to ensure that the benefits of the free legal services reach to all deserving persons in Arunachal Pradesh.
The Judicial Academy, Assam and NEJOTI, organized a Judicial Discourse, for the judicial officers of the Kamrup(Metro), Kamrup, Darrang, Mangaldai, Udalguri, Nalbari and Morigaon districts, on 14th and 15th June, 2014, in the conference hall of the Judicial Academy. Earlier, the Academy formulated questions on legal issues affecting the administration of justice. The shortlisted questions were furnished in advance to the judicial officers to prepare answers with relevant case laws and the answers were presented in the house. The resource persons and the judicial officers supplemented during interactive sessions. The two day long Judicial Discourse was inaugurated by the then Chief Justice A. M. Sapre. Justice A. C. Upadhyay, Director, Judicial Academy and NEJOTI delivered the welcome address. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge In-charge, Training, emphasized on the onerous responsibilities of Judging and how training can enhance the judicial and administrative skills of the judicial officers. Justice B. K. Sharma, Justice P. K. Saikia, Justice N. Chaudhury, Judges of the Gauhati High Court, Mr. S. M. Deka, Academic Advisor, NEJOTI, Mr. S. K. Dhar, Faculty, NEJOTI were present during the different working sessions and guided the judicial officers drawing from their reservoir of experience.

The mission of judicial education is most commonly to improve the quality of judicial performance by helping judges to acquire and maintain the tools for professional competence. Judicial competence is variously defined, but, for practical purposes, involves three distinct components (i) mastery of legal knowledge, (ii) development of professional skills, and (iii) acquisition of judicial disposition. — Livingston Armytage
FULL COURT FAREWELL REFERENCE OF JUSTICE B.D. AGARWAL

A Full Court Farewell Reference was held on 16.06.2014, in the Court No.1 of the Gauhati High Court, to bid Farewell to Justice B.D. Agarwal, on his retirement as Judge of Gauhati High Court. The Judges of the Gauhati High Court, members of the Bar, members of the Registry were present during the occasion. The members of the Bar recollected the contributions of Justice B. D. Agarwal in the development of criminal law.

The Judges of the Gauhati High Court also hosted a dinner on 15.06.2014, in honour of Mrs. Urmila Agarwal and Justice B. D. Agarwal.

FULL COURT FAREWELL REFERENCE OF JUSTICE B.P. KATAKEY

A Full Court Farewell Reference was held on 27.06.2014, in the Court No.1 of the Gauhati High Court, to bid Farewell to Justice B.P. Katakey, on his retirement as Judge of Gauhati High Court. The Judges of the Gauhati High Court, members of the Bar, members of the Registry were present during the occasion. The members of the Bar recollected the contributions of Justice B. P Katakey in the development of civil law. During the period of his Judgeship, Justice Katakey delivered many landmark judgements and he will be remembered for his outstanding contributions in the infrastructure development of the Subordinate Judiciary.

A dinner was hosted on 26.06.2014, in honour of Mrs. Susweta Katakey and Justice B.P. Katakey.
The then Chief Justice A M Sapre, in a simple function, organized by the Sonitpur district judiciary on 23.07.2014, inaugurated the Sub-divisional Court at Gohpur, the place where the renowned freedom fighter Kanaklata Barua was born. The District and Sessions Judge, Sonitpur, Tezpur, judicial officers, a few members of the registry of the Gauahati High Court and members of Bar were present during the occasion. The opening of court at Gohpur will mitigate the hardship of the litigants as the courts will be easily accessible to them.

The Chief Justice also inaugurated the Wall Magazine ‘Jeuti’ in Tezpur Court complex. The Wall Magazine will be a platform for the stakeholders in judiciary, including children of staff to showcase their creative writing skills.

During the same trip, the Chief Justice also inaugurated the Sub-Divisional Court at Bokakhat in Golaghat district. The new court is at a distance of 23 K.M. from the famous Kaziranga National Park. The programme was attended by the District and Sessions Judge, Golaghat, a few members of the Registry, members of the Bar and litigants.

The public should be able to feel that the courts are their courts; that their cases are being decided and the law is being made by people like them, and not by some alien beings from another planet.

— Lady Hale, Deputy President of Supreme Court of UK
On 24.07.2014, the Chief Justice also inaugurated the Sub-divisional Court at Nazira, a historical town on the bank of river Dikhow in Sivasagar district. The Chief Justice also laid down the foundation stone of the new court building at Sivasagar, a historical town associated with the Ahom Kings. The District and Sessions Judge, Sivasagar, judicial officers, a few members of registry of Gauhati High Court and members of Bar were present during the occasion.

**JUDICIAL DISCOURSE AT GOALPARA ON 26TH AND 27TH JULY, 2014**

The Judicial Academy, Assam and NEJOTI, in association with district judiciary, organised a cluster training programme at the district court complex, Goalpara, a place famous for its cultural heritage, particularly its folk songs. Goalpara Kingdom was earlier ruled by Koch-Rajbongshi. The Judicial Officers from Goalpara, Dhubri, Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Barpeta participated in the programme. The portfolio Judge, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan inaugurated the programme. The District and Sessions Judge, Goalpara delivered the welcome address. Justice A.C. Upadhyay, Mr. S.M. Deka, Academic Adviser, NEJOTI and Mr. S.K. Dhar, Faculty, NEJOTI guided the Judicial Officers in the working sessions.

Continuing judicial education is assuming a potentially significant role as an agent of leadership and change, which is relatively new to both common law and civil systems of justice. — Livingston Armytage
Gauhati High Court fraternity bid adieu to Justice A. M. Sapre, on his elevation as Judge of Supreme Court of India. A full court farewell reference was held on 12.08.2014 in Court No.1 where the Judges of the Gauhati High Court, members of the registry and members of the Bar in large strength were present during the occasion. Ten months earlier on 19.10.2013, Justice A.M. Sapre was sworn in as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court. During his short tenure as Chief Justice, he took keen interest for the improvement of the justice delivery system of all the four States within the jurisdiction of the Gauhati High Court. The Chief Justice had taken initiative for opening of new courts and he also guided the registry to prepare the Vision Statement of the Gauhati High Court.

INAUGURATION OF ICT LAB AND TRAINING PROGRAMME ON CYBER CRIME RELATED CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT BY JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR, JUDGE, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Justice Madan B. Lokur, Judge, Supreme Court of India, inaugurated the ICT Lab of the Judicial Academy, Assam, on 23rd August, 2014. The Judicial Academy, in association with CDAC (Centre for Development of
Advanced Computing), Kolkata, constructed the ICT Lab. The facilities available in the Lab includes desktop Computers, projector, Interactive Board, AIR legal data base, Cyber Security, Mobile Security Check Softwares. The Lab will be used for imparting practical training to the judicial officers and other stakeholders on cyber security. Apart from that, computer training will be imparted to staff and judicial officers.

Justice Madan B. Lokur also inaugurated the Training Programme for Judicial Officers on Cyber Crime Related Capacity Development. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge In-charge, Training, delivered the welcome address and described Justice Lokur as the Judge with ‘Green Stylus’ who is bringing about a computer revolution for Indian Courts. Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting), spoke on the occasion and stressed on the importance of Cyber Law. Mr. Jainder Singh, former IT Secretary and Chairman, Project Review Steering Group for North-East Judiciary also spoke during the inaugural programme. Justice A. C. Upadhay, Director, Judicial Academy proposed the vote of thanks.

Though ICT has been a tool for speeding up the justice system, we would soon witness in our digital economy, more and more crimes committed using ICT itself. In the world of cyber crimes, the distinction between fun and crime, accidental and premeditated offences and even indirect and insinuated crimes become blurred. In such situations, the judges, the lawyers, the police and the law officers should be trained to be aware of such possibilities of technology centric crime....

— Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India
Judges and Judicial Officers present during inaugural session

In the two days programme, training was imparted to the judicial officers of Kamrup (Metro), Kamrup, Darrang, Udalguri, Nalbari and Morigaon, on the topics: Emerging Cyber Crimes and Threats in Cyberspace, Technical and Legal Challenges in Cyber Space, Appreciation of Electronic Evidence, Electronic Evidence Attribution, Crimes in Cyber Space, Digital Evidence and Cyber Forensics, Overview of Mobile Forensics.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE PROGRAMME WITH THE DIRECTOR AND RESOURCE PERSONS

Inaugural session

Justice Madan B. Lokur expressed his views on the functioning of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, while Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting), Gauhati High Court gave his introductory remarks on the theme of the conference. Justice A.C. Upadhyay (Retd), Director, Judicial Academy, Assam delivered the welcome address.

The Juvenile Justice Monitoring Committee of the Supreme Court of India, in association with Gauhati High Court, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam and UNICEF, organized two day long Regional Round Table Conference of North-Eastern States and Sikkim, on effective implementation of Juvenile Justice Act, at Guwahati on 23rd and 24th August, 2014. During the inaugural session Justice, Madan B. Lokur expressed his views on the functioning of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, while Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting), Gauhati High Court gave his introductory remarks on the theme of the conference. Justice A.C. Upadhyay (Retd), Director, Judicial Academy, Assam delivered the welcome address.

The first technical session, on State wise presentations on status of the implementation of the JJ Act and key Challenges was chaired by Justice

REGIMENTAL ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE OF NORTH EASTERN STATES AND SIKKIM ON EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE ACT AT GUWAHATI

The Juvenile Justice Monitoring Committee of the Supreme Court of India, in association with Gauhati High Court, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam and UNICEF, organized two day long Regional Round Table Conference of North-Eastern States and Sikkim, on effective implementation of Juvenile Justice Act, at Guwahati on 23rd and 24th August, 2014. During the inaugural session Justice, Madan B. Lokur expressed his views on the functioning of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, while Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting), Gauhati High Court gave his introductory remarks on the theme of the conference. Justice A.C. Upadhyay (Retd), Director, Judicial Academy, Assam delivered the welcome address.

The first technical session, on State wise presentations on status of the implementation of the JJ Act and key Challenges was chaired by Justice
T. Vaiphei, and co-chaired by Justice Hrishikesh Roy, of the Gauhati High Court. Justice (Dr) Indira Shah and Justice N. Chaudhary made their presentations on the functioning of JJ Act in the States of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. Other Sessions were chaired by Justice C.R. Sarma, Justice T. N. K.Singh, Justice A. K. Goswami, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh. On the status of the implementation of Juvenile Justice Act and the challenges in the States of Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur and Sikkim, Justice S.R. Sen, Judge, High Court of Meghalaya, Justice U.B. Saha, Judge, High Court of Tripura, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Judge, High Court of Manipur, Justice S. K. Sinha, Judge, High Court of Sikkim made presentation for their respective states.
On the final day, the Members of the Child Welfare Committees, presentated on the functioning of the CWCs and recommended various suggestions for its improvement. Presentations were also made highlighting the need for providing effective legal aid to the children.

In the valedictory sessions, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge, Gauhati High Court, summarized the key discussions and action points. Few salient issues that were highlighted in the presentation formally submitted to the JJ Monitoring Committee of the Supreme Court of India are, need to comply with India’s commitment to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. All the stake holders including police, NGOs, and the society as a whole need to change their traditional mind sets for the betterment of the juvenile. The problem related to child trafficking, rights of the children with HIV/AIDS, the problems related to child soldiers were also highlighted. The suggestions were also put forward on effective functioning of CWCs, JJBs, effective management of the Institutions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000, effective legal aid for children.

Justice Madan B. Lokur, in his concluding remarks posed the question, ‘Are we doing enough for these children?’ and gave a clarion call to all stake holders to introspect, to be sensitive, to work together, keeping the child, and not self-interest as their key focus. Justice K. Sreedhar Rao, Chief Justice (Acting), Gauhati High Court also spoke in the valedictory session. Mr. K. J. Hilaly, Registrar, National Law University, Guwahati proposed the vote of thanks.
May 03, 2014

Dear Hrishikesh,

I have been an avid reader of 'Atman', the biennial News Bulletin of the Gauhati High Court of which you are the Editor.

There are bulletins and bulletins, but 'Atman' is different. It has captured my undivided attention every time. I have been wondering whether it was only because I have special regard for its Editor. Actually, no. I find that a lot of care and attention to detail is evident in 'Atman'. Be it the text, the tone, the language the overall sobriety, the uniform size of the photographs (thankfully, of a small size), 'Atman' stands out. The narrative in each issue covers all events and persons with even attention. The motto seems to be 'keep it simple, but effective'.

And, thankfully, all judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court are addressed by the prefix 'Chief Justice' or 'Justice' eschewing 'Hon’ble Mr./Ms.' Can we not persuade the Chief Justice of India to adopt this as a uniform practice throughout?

I would recommend that the 'Atman' model be emulated by other bulletins brought out by the courts and associated bodies elsewhere.

Warm regards.

(S. Muralidhar)

Justice Hrishikesh Roy
Judge, Gauhati High Court,
Guwahati(Assam)
## THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUDGES OF THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name of Chief Justice /Judges</th>
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## IN THEGAUHATI HIGH COURT

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

STATEMENT SHOWING INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY
OF CASES (EXCLUDING MISC. CASES) IN RESPECT OF THE
GAUHATI HIGH COURT FOR THE PERIOD
01.03.2014 to 01.09.2014

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*Excluding Misc. Cases*