

Minister Pijush Hazarika Visits Junbeel Farmer Producer Company, Highlights Women-Led Agri Entrepreneurship



The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : Assam Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Pijush Hazarika visited the Junbeel Farmer Producer Company (FPC) and reviewed various agricultural and food-based enterprises being undertaken by its members, with a focus on women-led entrepreneurship and value addition. During his visit, Hazarika distributed finger millet seeds among members of the producer company and interacted with farmers to understand their experiences, ongoing activities and future plans. He also toured a women-

run hatchery operated by the organisation, which has emerged as one of its recent ventures. The Junbeel Farmer Producer Company currently has around 520 members engaged in agricultural and allied activities. The organisation has been working to encourage farmers to move beyond conventional production by developing value-added products and exploring new income-generating opportunities. During the interaction, members

spoke about their involvement in entrepreneurship and food-processing activities. The group has been producing a range of traditional and value-added food items, including Komal Saul, pithas and cakes. The producer company is also planning to establish a millet processing unit with support under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF). The proposed facility is expected to help members process millet locally and create opportunities for value addition, potentially

improving the commercial prospects of millet cultivation in the region. The planned processing unit also reflects the growing emphasis on promoting millet-based agriculture and encouraging farmers to develop products that can generate additional income beyond the sale of raw agricultural produce. Hazarika appreciated the efforts of the Junbeel FPC and its members, particularly their focus on women's participation in agricultural enterprises. The minister highlighted the importance of strengthening women-led entrepreneurship and encouraging farmers to explore value-added activities. The women-run hatchery was among the key attractions of the minister's visit, demonstrating the group's efforts to diversify its activities into allied agricultural enterprises. Such initiatives can provide additional

livelihood opportunities while enabling rural communities to build local enterprises. The visit also provided an opportunity for the minister to interact directly with members and learn about the challenges and opportunities associated with their ventures. The government's emphasis on farmer producer organisations is aimed at helping farmers work collectively, improve access to resources and strengthen their position in agricultural markets. The Junbeel FPC's plans for millet processing, along with its existing food enterprises and women-managed hatchery, represent an effort to build a broader rural enterprise ecosystem around agriculture. The visit concluded with appreciation for the group's initiatives and its efforts to promote entrepreneurship, value addition and greater participation of women in the agricultural economy.

Hare Krishna Movement Guwahati Announces Three-Day Janmashtami Celebration



The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : The Hare Krishna Movement Guwahati is set to organise a three-day celebration of Sri Krishna Janmashtami, Nandotsava and the Appearance Day of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, popularly observed as Sri Vyasa Puja. The 16th annual celebration will be held at Hare Krishna Mandir in North Guwahati from September 3 to 5, 2026. The festival is expected to bring together devotees, families, well-wishers and visitors from Guwahati as well as different parts of Assam. Organisers have prepared a series of devotional, spiritual and cultural programmes throughout the three-day event. Sri Krishna Janmashtami marks the divine appearance of Lord Sri Krishna and holds special significance in the Vaishnava tradition. The celebrations at Hare Krishna Mandir will provide devotees and visitors an opportunity to

participate in religious activities while experiencing the spiritual and cultural traditions associated with the festival. The programme will feature special darshan of the deities, Harinam Sankirtan, devotional bhajans, cultural performances, Tulasi Arati and Sandhya Arati. Other highlights include Laddu Gopal Abhishekam, Jhulan Utsav, Pallaki Utsav, Maha Abhishekam, Guru Puja and celebrations dedicated to Sri Prabhupada. Spiritual literature distribution, Prasadam distribution and Annadanam will also be organised for devotees and visitors. The celebrations will begin on September 3 with cultural programmes at 4 pm, followed by Tulasi Arati at 5:15 pm and Sandhya Arati at 5:30 pm. Laddu Gopal Abhishekam and Jhulan Utsav will be held in the evening, followed by the Laddu Gopal Pallaki Utsav at 7 pm and dinner prasadam. September 4 will be observed as Sri Krishna Janmashtami. The day will begin with Laddu Gopal Abhishekam at 11

am and cultural programmes. Evening prayers will include Tulasi Arati at 5:15 pm and Sandhya Arati at 5:30 pm. The main Maha Abhishekam of Lord Sri Krishna will take place at 10 pm, followed by Maha Mangala Arati at 12:01 am and dinner prasadam. The final day, September 5, will commemorate Sri Prabhupada's Appearance Day. Cultural programmes will begin at 11 am. The evening schedule includes Tulasi Arati, Sandhya Arati, Sri Prabhupada Maha Abhishekam, Guru Puja and Pallaki Utsav, followed by dinner prasadam. His Grace Janardhana Dasa, President of Hare Krishna Movement Guwahati, has invited devotees, families and members of the public to join the celebrations. He said Janmashtami offers an opportunity for people to come together, reconnect with their spiritual and cultural heritage and experience the joy of devotional service. The organisers have appealed to people across Assam to participate in the celebrations and make the three-day festival a spiritually enriching community gathering.

USTM Hosts 10th P. A. Sangma Memorial Lecture, Honours Legacy of Distinguished Statesman

The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : The University of Science & Technology Meghalaya (USTM) organised the 10th P. A. Sangma Memorial Lecture today at the NKC Auditorium, USTM, commemorating the 79th birth anniversary of the late P. A. Sangma, former Chief Minister of Meghalaya and former Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The memorial lecture brought together eminent academicians, university leadership, faculty members, researchers and students to remember the life, leadership and enduring contributions of



one of Meghalaya's most distinguished political leaders. The programme was graced by Prof. S. K. Barik, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU),

Shillong, as the distinguished speaker. Prof. G. D. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, USTM; Prof A. C. Katak, Director, Medical Administration, PA Sangma International Medical

College; Prof H. K. Sharma, Principal, PIMC; Sr. faculty, Deans, and students were also present on the occasion. During the delivery of his speech, Prof. S. K. Barik remarked that USTM has been playing a commendable role in keeping alive the legacy of Late P. A. Sangma by commemorating his contributions through this Memorial Lecture and creating a platform for meaningful academic dialogue inspired by his vision and commitment to the Northeast. The Memorial Lecture, instituted in memory of Late P. A. Sangma, has emerged as an important annual academic platform at USTM, bringing distinguished personalities and intellectual voices together to engage with issues of relevance to society, education and the Northeast. The occasion

served as both a tribute to the enduring legacy of the late P. A. Sangma and a celebration of USTM's continued commitment to fostering academic excellence, research, knowledge creation and socially relevant intellectual discourse. Established in 2011, the University of Science and Technology Meghalaya (USTM) is the first state private university in the field of Science and Technology in North East India. The University was accredited with an 'A Grade' by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in its first cycle of assessment in 2021. USTM remains committed to excellence in teaching, research, innovation, and community engagement, while promoting inclusivity, sustainability, and regional development.

TC girls school alumni association hosts 'Smriti Rumanthan' to recall Bhupen Hazarika

The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : The Alumni Association of TC Government Girls Higher Secondary and Multipurpose School, Guwahati, organised a programme titled 'Smriti Rumanthan' at Kumar Bhaskar Natya Mandir, Uzan Bazar, on August 30 in connection with the closing ceremony of the birth centenary celebrations of Dr Bhupen Hazarika. The programme brought together several close associates of the

legendary singer and composer, who shared memories of their association with him and recounted lesser-known incidents from his life. Renowned artists Surya Goswami, Kamal Kotoky, Rupam Talukdar, Sangita Kakati, Mousumi Saharia, Asha Sama Kotoky and Namita Bhattacharjee participated in the programme. Dr Anjan Jyoti Choudhury anchored the session. The artists reminisced about their personal experiences with Hazarika, making the discussion

engaging and informative for the audience. Several lesser-known anecdotes from the life of the legend were also shared during the interaction. The meeting began with an address by the association's President Dr. Arati Deka, followed by a chorus performance by the alumni of 'Jilikabo Luitare Par'. Reema Bordoloi, Secretary of the Association, proposed the vote of thanks. A large number of people attended the programme, which marked a memorable occasion in the birth centenary celebrations of Hazarika.

World Sanskrit Day 2026 Celebrated at KKHSOU



The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University (KKHSOU) celebrated World Sanskrit Day 2026 with an intellectually enriching and culturally vibrant programme organised by the Department of Sanskrit under the Padmanath Gohain Baruah School of Humanities on 31 August 2026. The programme brought together distinguished scholars, academicians, researchers and lovers of Sanskrit. The celebration, coinciding with the full-moon day of the month of Shrawana and Raksha Bandhan, highlighted the deep connection between the Sanskrit language, India's rich intellectual heritage and its enduring knowledge traditions. The programme commenced with a Mangalacharana presented by Assistant Professor Pinku Kalita, creating a solemn and auspicious atmosphere. The programme was conducted by Dr. Indrani Deka, Assistant Professor, Department of Sanskrit, who guided the proceedings with academic dignity and cultural sensitivity. The event was graced by Professor Rajendra Prasad Das, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, KKHSOU; Professor Prasenjit Das, Director, Padmanath Gohain Baruah School of Humanities; Professor Suresh Chandra Bora, former Head of the Department of Sanskrit,

Cotton College; and Professor Mukta Biswas, former Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Gauhati University, who attended as the Guest Speaker. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor felicitated Professor Mukta Biswas with a phulam gamocha, a book and a sapling, while Professor Suresh Chandra Bora was also felicitated with a traditional Rabha Pajar. In his introductory address, Professor Rajendra Prasad Das highlighted the significance of Sanskrit as a living repository of India's intellectual, philosophical, scientific and artistic heritage. He emphasised the importance of transmitting Sanskrit knowledge to future generations and spoke about the philosophical depth, scientific structure and universal character of the language. He also encouraged the academic community to integrate the rich resources of Sanskrit knowledge with contemporary research and teaching. The Guest Speaker, Professor Mukta Biswas, delivered the keynote lecture on "The Importance of Sanskrit and Its Relevance in the Present Times." She

emphasised that Sanskrit should not be viewed merely as a religious language but as one of the principal sources of the Indian knowledge tradition. Referring to important texts such as the Vedas, Upanishads and Mahabharata, she highlighted the wealth of scientific and intellectual knowledge embedded in India's classical textual heritage. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Assistant Professor Leena Ojah, who expressed gratitude to all the distinguished guests, contributors, and the University's IT Cell and Multimedia Branch for their valuable support. The programme reaffirmed the University's commitment to preserving and promoting Sanskrit and its rich knowledge traditions, while inspiring the present generation to engage with its timeless intellectual legacy. In keeping with this commitment, KKHSOU continues to offer postgraduate studies in Sanskrit Literature for graduates from different disciplines, along with Diploma in Sanskrit and Certificate programmes in the Indian Traditional Knowledge system, thereby creating opportunities for learners to connect with India's rich linguistic and knowledge heritage.

The Assam Rising, Guwahati, September 01 : Vedanta Oil and Gas Limited, India's leading private oil and gas producer, has partnered with Beicip-Franlab India Private Limited, a global subsurface and reservoir integrated partner, to accelerate exploration, resource maturation and production growth across its Northeast India portfolio. The integrated seismic and sub-surface programme will cover nine OALP blocks and one DSF block, bringing exploration, resource evaluation and development planning under a single technical framework. This collaboration aims at identifying and further developing new drilling opportunities while unlocking additional value from existing discoveries and producing assets. As part of the engagement, Beicip-Franlab will undertake seismic

interpretation, geological and reservoir studies, prospect ranking, resource assessment and field development planning across priority assets, including new and existing fields like Hazarigaon and Rudra in Northeast. Speaking on the partnership, Jim Johnny Gast, Interim CEO and Whole Time Director - Vedanta Oil and Gas Limited said, "The Northeast holds significant untapped hydrocarbon potential and is a key pillar of our growth strategy. Through Beicip-Franlab, we are bringing together advanced subsurface expertise and integrated technical capabilities to accelerate prospect maturation, strengthen our exploration portfolio and unlock greater value from existing assets. This programme will help build a robust pipeline of drill-ready opportunities while supporting our commitment to increase



domestic energy production and contribute to India's energy security." The opportunities identified will subsequently progress through Vedanta Oil & Gas' technical assurance and exploration-to-development processes. Commenting on the project, Amit Singh, Managing Director, Beicip-Franlab India said, "Vedanta Oil & Gas holds a highly prospective portfolio in Northeast India, and our objective is to unlock its full value by transforming subsurface potential into tangible

development opportunities. Through integrated subsurface evaluations, resource characterization, and field development planning, we aim to deliver a robust pipeline of drill-ready prospects, enhance resource visibility across the portfolio, and identify high-impact opportunities that support sustainable production growth. Our purpose is to provide technical insight, strategic direction, and decision-ready solutions required to accelerate the maturation of discoveries and prospects, enabling a

more efficient and value-driven progression from exploration to development." The programme has the potential to unlock up to 300 MMboe of additional resources and reserves, while also supporting production enhancement opportunities across existing fields. Through integrated subsurface evaluation and development planning, the partnership aims to establish greater resource visibility, accelerate appraisal and field development decisions and create a clear roadmap from exploration to production. The Northeast is a critical part of Vedanta Oil & Gas' growth strategy, with the company seeking to deepen exploration activity and unlock the region's hydrocarbon potential. Vedanta Oil & Gas is committed to increasing domestic oil and gas production and contributing to India's energy security by accelerating the discovery, development and monetisation of indigenous hydrocarbon resources.