

Speech for Hon'ble Governor of Assam in connection with the presentation Ceremony of Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and Contribution for the year 2021

Namaskar,

Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu Ji, Chief Minister, Assam Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma ji, Minister of Cultural affairs, Assam Shri Bimal Borah ji, Chief Secretary, Assam Shri Jishnu Barua ji, Additional Chief Secretary Paban Borthakur ji and other dignitaries present in this august occasion.

It is my great privilege to be here to be a part of the Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award ceremony for National Integration and Contribution 2021. The prestigious Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and Contribution was instituted by Govt of Assam in 1993 in memory of Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi. The Award is conferred to an Indian national and persons of eminence for their contribution in National Development of Inclusive Growth. I am happy to learn that this year, the award has been bestowed to the renowned writer Dr. Nirod Kumar Barua, Assam Branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust and the Shillong Chamber Choir.

Gentlemen, Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi after whom the awards are being given was the first chief minister of the state who sacrificed his whole life to build a New Assam and a new Assamese society where all section of the people irrespective of caste, creed, religion, language and ethnic group could live in peace and amity. He believed that through education only that the fall of darkness before the eyes of the Assamese society could be remove and people could get an insight into a modern world. He is no more with us but his shining ideals and his dedication will always remain as beacon light to guide the younger generation.

Gentlemen, since January 9, 1946, when Gandhiji visited Assam and got the Trust set up in Guwahati, the Assam branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust has been working to reconstruct the lives of rural women and children by removing their ignorance, poverty and other difficulties. The trust has been working to implant in the hearts of women feelings of fearlessness, determination and self-reliance and to enable them to take their rightful place in society. I congratulate and salute the trust for their contribution towards humanity.

I also extend my best wishes and heartiest congratulation to renowned writer Dr Nirod Kumar Baruah. He is credited of

penning down several books on the relation between India and Germany in nineteenth and twentieth century and political history of Assam. He has also written many books on Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi. Sir, I wish you a healthy and a peaceful life ahead. May you keep on putting your thoughts into words.

I also convey my congratulations to Shillong Chamber of choir for its choruses which is acclaimed internationally. I appreciate each member of the choir who have put in their best efforts to have achieved the present status.

I once again offer my congratulations to all the Award Winners. I also appreciate the role of those who have maintained the high parameters associated with the process behind these Awards.

I will conclude by saying that as leaders of different fields of the society, you will take the country to a greater prosperity without losing your feet on the ground and help create a society founded on principles of shared joy, truthfulness and trust. My best wishes to you all for your future endeavours. I am confident, that in the coming years, we shall all strive for excellence and will shape the minds of the young learners to be a part of the socio-economic development of the Nation.

Thank you,

JAI HIND