



JANASANYOG, ASSAM
CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR

PRESS RELEASE

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CM presents Silpi award to noted artists Gopikanta Sinha and Apurba Bezbaruah

Rupkonwar was appreciative of and sensitive to art and beauty: CM

Dispur, January 17: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal presented Silpi Award 2020 to eminent artists Gopikanta Sinha and Apurba Bezbaruah at the Silpi Divas celebration held at Jyoti Chitran in Guwahati today. The programme was organized by the Cultural Affairs Department of the State Government. The award carries a citation, *anga bastra*, sarai and cheque worth Rs. 2 lakh.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Sonowal said that Rupkonwar Jyotiprasad Agarwala was appreciative of and sensitive to art and beauty. It was with the vision to keep alive Jyotiprasad's high values of character building and social reform that every year Silpi Divas was being organized. Therefore, those who aspire to attain the stature of an artist must indulge in lifetime practice, the Chief Minister said adding that all should devote their energy to overcome ill thoughts and negativity. He also urged the youth to follow the footsteps of the cultural doyen and advocated them to develop positive mindset to win over obstacles in life.

Underlining the rich natural and human resources of the State, Chief Minister Sonowal called upon the people to realize the worth of the inherent potential of the region to make successful headway in today's competitive world. He urged the people to revel in hard-work to strengthen peace, unity and brotherhood in society. The Chief Minister also stressed on the need to follow the teachings of legendary personalities for building a better society and called upon parents, teachers and the elderly people to guide and inspire the youth to be socially more committed, hard-working and upright. He also emphasised the need for developing ideal environment in society which could motivate the youth to exert their best for social development.

Chief Minister Sonowal also congratulated the awardees and lauded their remarkable contribution towards the cultural field of the State.

Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley while speaking on the occasion said that Rupkonwar Jyotiprasad Agarwala was a creative genius. He aroused patriotism and gave boost to peace, unity and camaraderie in society through his creations.



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Chief Minister's Media Advisor Hrishikesh Goswami in his speech said that Jyoti Prasad Agarwala was an inborn artist. He was engrossed in art and culture from tip to toe. For a person to be an artist requires courage and revolutionary zeal, the Media Advisor said adding that Jyotiprasad Agarwala inspired the Assamese community with his thoughts and creative masterpieces.

While Chairman of Jyoti Chitraban Pabitra Margherita anchored the programme, both the awardees also shared their views and experience on the occasion.

Chief Minister Sonowal also presented certificates to the winners of art competition which was held to commemorate the foundation day of Jyoti Chitraban and Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Government Film and Television Institute at the celebration.

Guwahati MP Queen Oja, Chief Minister's Legal Advisor Santanu Bharali, Commissioner & Secretary of Cultural Affairs Department Preetom Saikia, Cultural Affairs Director Bishnu Kamal Bora, Rupkonwar's daughter-in-law Anjali Agarwala and other dignitaries were present in the programme.

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