

Intimate session with cartoonists held



(Left) President Dr Saikia drawing a cartoon and (right) a view of the cartoonists and others present on the occasion seen with Dr Saikia.

A batch of seasoned cartoonists of Assam took part in an intimate session organised by Asam Sahitya Sabha at the Radhagobinda Barua Meeting Hall in the premises of Sabha's Guwahati office on September 19, 2021. Presided over by the Sabha president Dr Kuladhar Saikia, the proceedings began with presentation of the chorus '*Chira Chenehi Mor Bhasha Janani...*' by the artists of Guwahati Sangskritik Goshti followed by silent prayer for the eternal peace of the departed soul of Dr Banikanta Sarma (distinguished language-literature scholar), Dr Niloy Dutta (noted lawyer, social activist and the working president of the Sabha's 'Sangbidhan Pranayan Upa-samity') and Paniram Rabha (political figure and the Sabha's life member).

Conducted by the Sabha's publicity sub-committee convenor Debajit Bora, the session saw president Dr Saikia presenting opening speech in which he highlighted the role of cartoon in journalism all over the world. Then the cartoonists - Champak Borbora, Chiranjib Dutta, Nabapratim Das, Pradip Nath, Utpal Bora, Utpal Talukdar, Nituparna Rajbongshi and Diganta Bijoy - drew cartoons on the spot and said in brief their experiences.

Senior journalist Prakash Mahanta was present at the session as the guest of honour and he also spoke on the occasion. All the cartoonists and Shri Mahanta were accorded felicitation with *gamosa*. Another person of eminence present on the occasion was the Sabha's vice president Smti Mrinalini Devi who addressed the gathering.

Two members from the audience, Shri Swapnanil Barua (retired IAS officer and social activist) and Jugal Lochan Das (Bal Sahitya Akademi Award winning writer) also delivered speeches.

Prafulla Barman, the convenor of the session proposed the vote of thanks. Two other convenors are Debajit Bora and Gopal Jalan. The proceedings concluded with presentation of the Asom Sangeet '*O Mor Aponaar Desh*'