

Tribute to 'Natyasamrat' Profulla Bora



President Dr. Saikia (left) and playwright-director Hemanta Dutta (right) speaking on the occasion

'Natyasamrat' Profulla Bora, one of the most admired and popular playwrights of Assam, was paid rich tribute on the occasion of his 14th death anniversary on November 20, 2020. A day-long tribute programme was held on the occasion at Mangaldoi Sahitya Sabha Bhawan on that day which began with hoisting of the Assam Sahitya Sabha flag by the district president Sailen Rajbongshi followed by lighting of the lamp in front of Profulla Bora's portrait by his son and cultural activist Angshuman Bora and paying of floral tribute by noted playwright Abdul Aziz.

The open meeting, presided over by the Sabha president Dr Kuladhar Saikia, was inaugurated by former Sabha vice president, noted lyricist-poet Prof Idrish Ali. Three other eminent persons, playwright-director Hemanta Dutta, academician Hemanta Kumar Barua and Baan Theatre (Tezpur) president Bangkim Sarma were present on the occasion as the guest of honour, appointed speaker and invited guest respectively. All three of them spoke in brief about Profulla Bora's immense talent as a playwright and also about his huge volume of creations. It may be mentioned here that Profulla Bora has around 100 stage and radio plays to his credit.

In his presidential speech, Dr Saikia stressed on involving young generation in Sabha's various programmes. "In the programme like that of today, young talents associated with amateur theatre troupes should be involved. This will open up more avenues for such young talents to work in a arena of serious theatre and, on the other hand, Assam Sahitya Sabha too will enjoy popularity among the new generation cultural activists," said Dr Saikia.

The meeting began with presentation of the Sabha anthem '*Chira Chenehi Mor Bhasha Janani...*' followed by welcome address by the Sabha's Mangaldoi office regional secretary Dwipendra Narayan Konwar and the Sabha general secretary Jadab Chandra Sharma. Sabha's Guwahati administrative office secretary Manjit Singh and the Sabha's executive member Apurba Saikia were among others who attended the meeting that ended with presentation of *Asom Sangeet 'O Mor Aaponaar Desh...'*
