

## In Search of Sanjiv Sarma

One of the most vivid memories I have of my Ma is of her standing at the gate of our childhood home at the Gauhati University campus, when Dada, Bhaiti or I were even ten minutes late in arriving home from school. Her eyes would be glued to the road, and she would anxiously look at each school bus, as the students from various schools alighted in their different uniforms. In our youthful ignorance, I remember my brothers and I thinking it was a huge joke and betting if Ma would be at the gate, if our bus

stopped at a spot for a minute longer than scheduled. Now that Ma is no more, and I myself am a mother of an eight-year old, who runs to check on him ten times even if he is making a snowman right outside the window, suddenly Ma standing at the gate, waiting for us is not funny any more. As I choke back my tears at the memory, I am thinking of Minati Aunty, another mother waiting for her son. But this time it is not just ten minutes. She and her ailing husband Anil Sarma have been standing at their gate for eight long

### Inside ...

- Minutes of ASA Meeting ..... 2
- Help Build "Mother Shelter".. ..... 4
- Late Padma Kanta Dutta: Founder of Sankar Jayanti in UK in 1983 .....3
- India's GDP needs to be four times and Assam state's GDP seven times – for Good School Education..... 5
- Nitin Bezbaruah Sarangapani Memorial (NBSM) Fund Unveiled ..6

years, waiting for the right bus to bring her only son, Milumoni (Sanjiv Sarma) home.

I have known the Sarma family since I was a little girl, growing up in the Gauhati University campus. I remember Milumoni Da well as a friendly young man, intelligent and well spoken. I had heard about him coming to the US in the late eighties, to study Mass Communication at Hunter College at the City University, NY. But as it happens all too often in life, if one doesn't hear about a person one just assumes that they are well. So one day, in early September, soon after we moved to Denver, when I suddenly saw his youngest sister Mainu's blog on the Internet pleading to the Assamese community in America for information on Milumoni, who has been missing for the past seven or eight years, it was a shock. Since then I have been in regular communication with her and have been trying in my own small way to provide some information to this grieving family. In the last couple of months, I could come up with the following sketchy information on Sanjiv Sarma.

While studying at Hunter College NY, which shows his attendance till 1998, Sanjiv Sarma faced some financial problems. He worked part time with one Mr. Nukka Reddy, who was starting a business during that time. Mr.



Photograph of Sanjiv Sarma

*contd.to page 6...*

**DRAFT**  
**Minutes of ASA Quarterly meeting, October 29, 2005**  
**(Hosted by Sanjib and Sue Bhuyan)**

**Present:** *In person:* Sanjib Bhuyan, Kedar & Ruprekha Bhuyan, Mukul & Geeta Chowdhary, Nomal & Pronoti Dutta, Jukti Kalita, Umesh Tahbildar, Ritumoni & Kabita Sarma, Probal Tahbildar, Jayanta & Nilakshi Thakuria, Prakash & Anuradha Deka, Kalyan & Seshu Kakati (non-member). *Via teleconference:* Jugal Kalita and Ganesh Bora.

**Proceedings:** This is the 4<sup>th</sup> and last quarterly meeting for the 2004-05 term. The meeting started promptly at the scheduled time of 8:30pm.

1. Because the minutes of the last meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup> were not typed, there was no motion for its approval.
2. The Sarangapani tragedy – a moment of silence was observed in honor of the sudden death of Mr. Nitin Sarangapani, the only son of Ramgopal and Alpana Sarangapani of Houston, TX. Additionally, it unanimously decided to send a token contribution (\$100) to the Nitin Fund – a charity set up by the Sarangapanis. Kedar Bhuyan, ASA Treasurer, gave the check to Sanjib Bhuyan, ASA President, who will send out the official letter.
3. President's report –
  - a. Once again Sanjib urged for membership renewal. It was agreed that phone call to renew membership, a la telemarketing, is the best way but there is lack of personnel to do such work. Thus, everyone is urged to use their personal connections to urge others to renew membership or become members.
  - b. Assam 2005 – on behalf of Sunil Nath, Sanjib went over the balance sheet which was sent to all attendees in August. The total income was \$17,876.00 (including a \$2,500 loan from ASA) and total expense was \$16,848.30. The remaining balance (\$1,027.70) will be paid to ASA as a part payment of the loan mentioned earlier.
  - c. Assamese Get-together 2006 – couple of weeks ago Sanjib distributed the invitation letter he received inviting ASA to the CA event in July 2006. After discussion of the matter it was decided that ASA will accept the invitation and urge its members and supporters to attend the CA event. Sanjib will send out an official response letter early next week and request room and time for ASA's annual general meeting.
  - d. Sanjib informed all those present that he received a letter from the Secy of the Kuruwabahi Xatra (via Jugal) asking for donations to restore the Xatra. It was reported that Jugal has given some personal contributions when he visited the Xatra last as well as using ASA resources to help preserve the ancient manuscripts. It was decided that given ASA's lack of additional fund for donations, ASA will lobby the CM of Assam urging increased support for the valuable Xatras (and cc the Kuruwabahi Xatra). This effort will continue in person whenever ASA member visits his/her home state.
  - e. Next ASA meetings – the Jan meeting will be hosted by Probal Tahbildar and the April meeting will be hosted by either Kedar Bhuyan or Nomal Dutta. Those will be the last quarterly meetings of the current administration before a new ASA administration is elected by the July meeting.
4. Newsletter-
  - a. A vigorous discussion took place on the issue of giving the ASA Newsletter a proper name. This discussion has been going on over the Assamsociety Yahoo gp for sometime before this day. Although there was some opposition to the idea of giving the newsletter a proper name, Jugal tried to explain the rationale behind it. The ASA Exec Comm will make a final decision on the name (suggested names include Posowa, Axomia Probax, etc.) through voting.
  - b. The phrase "ASA Newsletter" will be changed to "Newsletter of the Assam Society of America" which will follow the proper name, e.g., Posowa.

- c. It was also decided that the ASA membership form will be included periodically in the newsletter just as in professional magazines (e.g., Time) to encourage membership.
  - d. Those who present in the meeting also asked Jugal to examine why most Editorial board members were not ASA members.
5. Report from VP (Utpal Brahma) – Utpal was absent.
  6. Report from the Treasurer (Kedar Bhuyan) –
    - a. Kedar Bhuyan noted that membership renewal is behind (it was noted that many of those present have not renewed their membership!).
    - b. He emphasized the lack of adequate funding to support many causes ASA takes on every year.
    - c. He also proposed that the Life Membership contributions should be put in the ASA Investment and Growth fund instead of the yearly operational fund where membership dues and project donations go. This matter will be proposed to the Exec Comm by Kedar Bhuyan.
    - d. Kedar Bhuyan reported that not including the set-aside funds in the ASA Investment and Growth fund, ASA's balance at the end of September is \$1,548.98 (not including the \$1,027.70 expected back from Assam 2005). This money amount mostly contains funds allocated to different projects and thus, cannot be spent on non-allocated business.
  7. Report of NE ASA VP (Prakash Deka) – Prakash was pleased to inform everybody that celebration of Sri Sri Shankadeva Tithi, which was celebrated earlier today, was a success. Although there were less people due to several key people having personal reasons, the event went off nicely at the Kingston Presbyterian Church (last year's venue). Per person charge was only \$6 this time due to a positive balance from 2004. Purandar Sharma will send out detailed balance sheet to those who attended.
  8. Report from the ASA Foundation (Nomal Dutta and Mukul Chowdhary) – the Foundation committee recently sent materials to IRS in response to its request for information. The process was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, but it is on track now and the Committee expects to hear from the IRS soon.
  9. Report from Project coordinators
    - a. Project Hope (Malabika Brahma) -Malabika participated via teleconference and reported that ASA's donation of \$1,000.00 was transformed into kind (e.g. tables, chairs, water purification machines, etc.) were highly appreciated back in Guwahati. These items bear the fact that they were donated by ASA. There were media presence in the news conference in Guwahati. Everybody thanked Malabika her continued work. Sanjib asked her to submit a written report along with pics so that Jugal can publish it in the newsletter.
    - b. Flood relief (Sanjib/Jugal/Jukti/Prakash) – Prakash handed the \$1,100 to Amiya Sharma of NedFi, Guwahati for use as a loan to a fisheries project in Hajo. Amiya's initial report indicated that the group receiving money was looking for a loan using ASA's donation as a base. We're waiting to hear from Amiya on the progress of the project, and information will be shared as soon as it is known.
  10. Report from Asomi Editor (Jukti Kalita) – 2005 issue was successfully published in July and distributed in Assam 2005. Also several copies were distributed in the Sri Sri Shankardeva's tithi today. Jukti is expected to continue his role as the Editor for the coming year.
  11. Old Business – no old business.
  12. New Business –
    - a. Remaining ASA quarterly meetings – see above
    - b. Asom Sahitya Sabha membership and chapter (Jugal Kalita) – Jugal will be asked to pursue this matter more vigorously if he wants, and explore the existing Life Membership situation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25pm.

## Help Build "Mother Shelter"

Sanjib Sabhapandit is one Assamese who has been trying to do something for the society. Asom Jatiya Vidyalaya, his brainchild, has been a wonderful success. APOL died after the group broke up due to political intervention. Now, he is running a dye unit and doing well. He is starting a project called "Mother Shelter" which he wants to get off the ground.

Sanjibda's newly initiated "Mother Shelter" project can be of tremendous developmental value. NEDFi is going to support a few such units. I am requesting you all to play a part in this effort to allow people to live with the floods with dignity. A bit of help from you will mean a lot to him. If any of the US based organizations would like to support one or two of such units then these could be put up with sufficient publicity to the donor.

Sanjibda has conceived, designed and developed the prototype of a flood relief camp called Capsule ?"Mother Shelter?" to allow people to live and cope with the ubiquitous floods in Assam as human beings. This is a capsule that has been

designed such that children can have a study table, women can use bathrooms, potable water facility by harvesting rain water and filtering, disposable/biodegradable septic tank etc all kept on a flotilla. The prototype has made a good name. In fact the same capsule can be used in times of a fair, mela where there are big gatherings without any toilet facilities, like the ones we see in the US or developed countries. Even if a Panchayat has one such unit, it would do a whole lot of good. The total cost is about Rs 50,000/- to produce one unit.

Here are some details on Sanjibda:

- Academic qualification: BE, MBA
- Five years as lecturer in Assam Engg college
- Founder director of APOL, the largest composite textile mill of NE India
- Founder President of Axaam Jatiya Vidyalaya
- Conceived, scripted and directed the first Light and Sound show of the NEI at Karmonaxa Is-

land in the Brahmaputra.

- Designed and implemented a humane mode of goat transport in the city of Guwahati (from the goat markets to the slaughter houses)

- Scripted, directed and produced the India National Best Film (Environment) ? Juye Poora Xoon?, 2004.

- Written two books.

His mailing address is:

Sanib Sabhapandit, C/O Maanpee Creation, Axaam Jatiya Vidyalaya, Noonmati Guwahati 781020.

Email:kukhkh@yaho.com.

Mobile: 98640-44470,

Phone: 0361-2556647

- Amiya K. Sharma  
(amiyo\_sharma@hotmail.com)

*Dr Sharma is an economist and currently working at North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) , Guwahati as Deputy General Manager.*

## Late Padma Kanta Dutta: Founder of Sankar Jayanti in UK in 1983

In the wake of 557th Birth Anniversary of Mahapurusa Sankaradeva, I was reminded of Late Padma Kanta Dutta (my jethu), the founder of Sankar Jayanti celebrations in London. Padma Dutta came to visit me in August, 1983. He was the then President of Kumargaon Sankar Mandir in Tezpur and a devout Vaisnavite. He gave all his life to Sankar Sangha and served the Sangha dutifully.

During his stay, he was very eager to celebrate Sankar Jayanti Mahotsav in London. Another well-known and a pious lady, Late Subhadra Kakati from Sualkuchi, Dr. Dinesh Kakati's mother, was also in London at the same time. She was delighted with the idea of starting a Sankar Sangha at London and joined in. Late Khageshsar Saikia, the Secretary of Kumargaon Sankar Mandir in Tezpur was also visiting his daughter in Manchester at the same time. What a coincidence! I saw it as a blessing of the Guru. With



Jethu's inspiration and guidance, I was able to organise the 535th birth anniversary of Srimanta Sankaradeva at Tavistock Community Hall in Harlesden for the first time, with tremendous help from the Assamese community in London. Although the idea was initially started by me, the community took ownership so that we are able to praise our Guru and celebrate Sankar Jayanti every year in London.

With my head bowed in reverence, I pray to these three great people and thank them for leading us to the path of our Guru Mahapurusa Sankaradeva.

Because "The history of the Assamese people, the history of its national awareness is the life of Sankaradeva — he is the pulse of the people". During the last 555 years, none else who is of Sankaradeva's stature has been born in Assam. Many religious preachers during this long period may equal Sankaradeva in one aspect or another, but none has ever had the combination of expertise like Sankaradeva. He was a poet, a philosopher, a musician, a dramatist, an actor and a producer, a composer of dances, a painter, a much travelled social reformer and the founder of the neo-Vaisnavite faith in Assam, all in one. No genius in the world has been so versatile.

*Photo shows from the left, Late Padma Kanta Dutta, founder of Sankar Jayanti celebrations in the UK along with his friend, Late Khageshsar Saikia, in 1983.*

- Rini Kakati , London

*Continued from previous issue*

## Assam's GDP Needs to be Seven Times for Good School Education!

*For the past two days, I have been pursuing an idea as to how much money is needed for providing "good" school education to ALL Indian students and how rich should India and Assam be to afford it. The idea struck me that if I can extrapolate the figures for Jaipur School's 500 students, for the whole nation, it may be workable. This discussion was published in the October 2005 issue of the newsletter.*

For comparison, the US spends \$247 billion on its school education for only 60 million school kids. I note the following:

1. This does not include the cost of building offices for Education Departments or for their supervisory expenses, e.g., travel to schools for inspection or for providing in-service professional development such as teacher training.

2. A significant percentage of Indian students go to private fee-charging schools.

3. There is lot of corruption in development related expenses. As per Surjit Bhalla study, in Delhi, only 27 paise from every Rupee reaches the poor. So, in the development expenses, the cost would rise proportionately to cover the shortfall. Further, on an average 25% teachers are absent and only 50% of those present can be found teaching in the class. To have effective teaching, the cost of supervision would rise dramatically. It is hypothesized that most of the absent teachers indulge in bribing higher-ups to get pay without work.

4. Thus, to go from the current level of Indian education to an effective level would involve much higher additional expenses in supervision and corruption control.

For Current expenses being incurred by the Governments of India and Assam, I performed research on the Internet for relevant data. Only 3.3% of the GDP is being spent on education, including college education, at this time. Ideally, it should be 6%. India's GDP per capita is \$445. So, for 1 billion

people, the total is \$445 billion. India currently spends ONLY \$13 billion on education. This is for all levels of education including higher education. For example, college level education involves 10 times the expense compared to primary education. Assume that India's total higher education expenses are half of its total school expenses. Thus, for effective education at ALL levels India should be spending  $66 + 33 = \$99$  billion dollars. It should spend \$99 billion on education but India is spending only \$13 billion. Further, as per the note above the figure would be higher to improve the current nd efficiency.

Therefore, India should spend \$99 billion on education, which should be about 6% of its GDP. So, India's GDP should be about \$1700 billion compared to current only \$445 billion. Note that all figures are in year 2004 prices.

### Conclusion 1:

*India need to increase its GDP four times to \$1700 billion and spend atleast \$99 billion on School Education alone, at current price levels.*

### Calculation of Assam's Optimal School Education Spending and Optimal State GDP

Assam's population = 26 million.  
Assam's school age population = 8 million (30% of total).  
Assam's current educational spending = \$100 million per annum.

This assumes Rs 400 per school kid per annum or \$8 per kid per annum. Assam spent Rs 199 per primary school kid per annum in

1995-96 at 1998 prices. In other words, Assam spent \$64 million per annum for Assam School education or \$100 million on all of Assam's education, including 50% more for higher education.

Expenditure for effective education per school kid = \$220 per annum.

For Assam effective school expenditure =  $\$220 * 8 \text{ million} = \$1.75 \text{ Billion}$ .

Optimal total educational spending = \$1.75 Billion for school education + \$0.9 Billion for higher education (50% of school spending).

Total optimal educational spending needed = \$2.65 Billion per annum.

So, Assam needs to increase its education spending 26 times from current meager \$100 million per annum to \$2.65 Billion per annum.

### Optimal GDP for Assam: Extrapolating

Assam's State GDP currently = Rs 35,000 crore = \$ 7 Billion.

Optimally 6% of GDP should be spent on education.

If optimal educational spending is \$2.65 Billion, then it would be 6% of a State GDP of \$45 Billion!!

### Conclusion 2:

*So Assam's GDP should be 7 times of its current level, at current prices, to have quality education. It should be \$45 Billion and NOT just \$7 Billion as currently is. Its total education spending should increase 26 times to be atleast \$2.65 billion, with \$1.75 Billion to be spent on school education alone. the extra amount needed to improve supervision, in-service teacher training etc as pointed out earlier.*

- Umesh Sharma, College Park, Maryland, USA.

## Nitin Bezbaruah Sarangapani Memorial (NBSM) Fund Unveiled

Nitin Sarangapani, son of Alpana and Ram Sarangapani of Houston, recently passed away. He was a college student and a US Marine at the time of his death. His parents have created a fund in his name.

**Mission:** The NBSM Fund has been created for the express purpose of providing charitable funding and help to needy causes both in the US and also in India (Assam in particular). The Fund intends to target charitable causes such as providing scholarships or educational help, providing help at source to disadvantaged children in Assam, specially those suffering from serious illnesses or disease.

So far the fund has collected around \$6000.00. The Sarangapani family intends to contribute substantially also to the fund in the coming months and years.

The short-term plan is that the Sarangapani family plans to offer a scholarship to a Science/Computer Science major student yearly at the College where Alpana Sarangapani works, where Nitin was working for the last few months and was also taking courses. Nitin was also taking courses at this college from his high school days. Many of the professors, the staff and his friends there adored him and love him very much.

**Directors of the Fund:** Utpal Brahma, Ramgopal Sarangapani, Alpana Bezbaruah Sarangapani, Priya Jesson

**CPA:** Mr. Dewan Ahmed

**Web master:** Babul/Jugal

**Send donations to:** NBSM Fund, 12007 Kleinmeadow Drive, Houston, TX 77066

- Jugal Kalita & Babul Gogoi



The photograph of Nitin's casket was taken by Chandan Mahanta

Contd from page 1...

### In Search of Sanjiv Sarma

Reddy still lives and conducts business in the New York area. According to Mr. Reddy, Sanjiv had reason to fear for his life, because of which he was reluctant to stay in his own apartment for a certain period in late 1997. Mr. Reddy put him up for a month after which Sanjiv flew to California. Mr. Reddy himself drove Sanjiv to the airport. He received a phone call from Sanjiv a month later, in which he mentioned that he was working 'on a ship'. Sanjiv also said that he needed money urgently to pay his motel bill. That was the last Mr. Reddy heard from him. The last letter his parents received from him was dated May 11<sup>th</sup> 1997. In that letter Sanjiv mentioned that he was in 'deep personal trouble' and asked them not to write or call him for sometime. That was his last communication with his family. There is another angle to the story. The family has heard that there might be a young lady from South India who might have had a relationship with Sanjiv. There have even been rumors that the two might be married. But no one seems to have any information about who the girl is, where she might be now, or even which part of South India she is from.

The family is pleading for information; any information that would help shed light on what might have happened to their only son.

His octogenarian father recently had multiple cardiac strokes and is lying in the ICU of a nursing home in Guwahati. He still worries about who will light his funeral pyre. The basic information about when Sanjiv Sarma came to the US, physical description etc can be found on Mainu's page at <http://sumitasarma.bihu.in> or <http://geocities.com/milumoni>. I once again appeal to the Assamese community here to help with any information they might have which might bring some closure for this family. I do have a little more information on him like his Social Security Number, the reason why he was afraid for his life, results of some paid searches, contact information of Mr. Reddy, etc which I hesitate to publish at this time. But I will be glad to share it with anyone who is interested in communicating with me personally in this regard. Mainu has informed that quite a few Assamese people have written to her and have tried to help, for which the family is very grateful. I am hoping that since I am in America itself it would be easier for people here to communicate with me. I may be contacted at [nandiniborahdas@gmail.com](mailto:nandiniborahdas@gmail.com) or over phone at 720-489-0675 (H)

and 605-430-5839. I welcome anyone who would like to call or write to me with either information, or advice on how I may proceed further with this search.

- Nandini Borah Das, Colorado



**Assamese Get-Together 2006**  
San Francisco, CA

The Assamese community of San Francisco Bay Area, cordially invites you to Assamese Get-together 2006, a joyous cultural celebration by people with ties to Assam, on July 1st and 2nd, 2006 at the Marriott Hotel, San Mateo, CA.

Let's celebrate the unique cultural heritage of Assam with our active participation and make it a memorable event.

Picturesque Bay Area will provide you endless opportunity to explore the cultural and geographical diversity of the Golden State and make your vacation worth every moment.

**Let's Make  
Assamese Get-Together 2006  
a Grand Success**

[www.AssameseGetTogether2006.org](http://www.AssameseGetTogether2006.org)



## Assam Society of America

PO Box 254  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

**I wish to become a member** of Assam Society of America. (Please select membership type below:)

Life Membership (\$500.00)

Family (\$40.00)

Single (\$20.00)

Student (\$5.00)

Term for Family, Single or Student membership is: **Jan 1, 2005 - Dec 31, 2005**

Additional donation:  \$500.00  \$250.00  \$100.00  \$50.00  Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**I do not wish to become a member** at this time. However, please consider me a well wisher and send me newsletters, magazines and other correspondence from the Society. I also wish to make a donation in the following amount:

Donation:  \$500.00  \$250.00  \$100.00  \$50.00  Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Assam Society Of America and mail to:  
Assam Society Of America, PO Box 254, Mays Landing, NJ 08330.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Dr/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name (Mr/Mrs/Dr/Ms): \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Current Community Service Projects Sponsored by Assam Society of America

(Please contact the coordinator for additional information, or to offer your donations or assistance.)

**Project Hope** - Attempts to provide material and monetary help to the Govt. B.D.S. Deaf & Dumb School, Kahilipara, Guwahati  
Coordinator: Mantu Baishya, NE ([mcbashya2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbashya2000@yahoo.com)); Malabika Brahma, NJ ([malabika\\_brahma@yahoo.com](mailto:malabika_brahma@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor A Destitute Family** - Provides help to economically disadvantaged women through the Mahili Samiti  
Coordinator: Akhil Choudhury, CA ([choudhury\\_assam@yahoo.com](mailto:choudhury_assam@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**SHARP** - Provides scholarships to needy students in Assam  
Coordinator: Vavani Sharma, PA ([vavani@yahoo.com](mailto:vavani@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Niky's Trust Tuition Scholarship** - Provides a scholarship to one chosen school per year in Assam  
Coordinator: Vavani Sharma, PA ([vavani@yahoo.com](mailto:vavani@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Donate a Book** - Donates technical books to schools and colleges in Assam  
Coordinator: Jugal Kalita, CO ([jugalkalita@yahoo.com](mailto:jugalkalita@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Web site for rare and old Assamse manuscripts**  
Coordinator: Jugal Kalita, CO ([jugalkalita@yahoo.com](mailto:jugalkalita@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Adopt A Child** - Donates towards the financial needs of homeless and orphan children in Assam  
Coordinator: Assam Society of America ([assam\\_society@yahoo.com](mailto:assam_society@yahoo.com))

Donation; Amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_

We welcome comments about how ASA can better serve the community. If you have any comments or would like to propose a new community service project, or you wish to help lead an existing or new project, we welcome you to contact us at the address above.

This is an  
Official Publication of  
Assam Society of America, USA



The ASA Newsletter is published monthly. Sanjib Bhuyan, NJ, on behalf of Assam Society of America, has published this issue of ASA newsletter. The editors are Satyam Bhuyan (Ames, Iowa), Ganesh Bora (Lake Alfred, Florida), Prasenjit Chetia (Atlanta, Georgia), Babul Gogoi (New Delhi, India), Jugal Kalita (Colorado Springs, Colorado, Co-Editor-In-Chief), Vavani Sarmah (Secane, Pennsylvania), Rini Kakati (London, UK), Umesh Sharma (Cambridge, Massachusetts), Alpina Sarangapani (Co-Editor-In-Chief, Houston, Texas) and Ram Sarangapani (Houston, Texas). The ASA Executive Committee is composed of Sanjib Bhuyan, President (Franklin Park, New Jersey), Utpal Brahma, Vice President (Burlington, New Jersey), Ganesh Bora, General Secretary (Lake Alfred, Florida), Probal Tabildar (Kendall Park, New Jersey), Mantu Baishya (Omaha, Nebraska), Kedar Bhuyan (Mays Landing, New Jersey), and Sangeeta Duorah (California), Nandini Bora Das (Centennial, Colorado).

We invite contributors from all over the world. We appreciate your valuable feedback, comments & suggestions, and of course, news from your part of the world for inclusion in the coming editions. Please send your written contributions to [asanewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:asanewsletter@yahoo.com). If you prefer, you can send your contributions directly to any of the editors listed above as well. Any contribution must be 750 words or shorter in length. Please include a scanned image of the author. We also request you to submit other pertinent photographs if possible.



**Assam Society of America**  
**PO Box 254**  
**Mays Landing**  
**NJ 08330**  
**USA**

*Enjoy Your Complimentary Copy*

