

Report of the Celebration of Teacher's Day at NERIE

With reference to the D.O. No 7-7/2020-EE.1/14 dated 24th August 2020, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India. NERIE has organized an Online Write-up Competition for B.Ed Students on the topic, "The National Teachers Award Winners from your State or About the Teacher Who had made a Significant Contribution to the Community towards Education", with an aim to understand and appreciate the teachers who have contributed immensely in the field of Education and shaped many individuals into responsible citizens of the country. We have received five (5) entries for the competition (all has been uploaded in the NERIE Website). The write-ups were on Mr. Gautam Dev Sharma, Kokrajhar, Assam (Nation Teacher Awardee 2020), Mr. P. Ramesh, Principal J.N.V. Darang (Nation Teacher Awardee 2019), Ms. Remya Parmweswar Iyar, Assistant Teacher, K. V. Khanapara, Guwahati (Nation Teacher Awardee 2019), Ms. Savitribai Phule (India's First Female Teacher), Prof. Bhabananda Deka (The Great Assamese Litterateur).

The second activity is an effort to recognize and appreciate the contribution of the teaching Community. NERIE B.Ed Students were informed to popularize using the Hashtag #OurTeachersOurHeros. Eight (8) students of NERIE posted the Hashtags.

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7/9/2020

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National Awards To Teachers, 2020 Winner - Gautam Dev Sharma, Kokrajhar, Assam

Total Five teachers from northeast India have been selected for the prestigious 'National Award to Teachers 2020' by The Department Of School Education and Literary of The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development. Gautam Dev Sharma is from Basugaon in Chirang district, Assam and he is a Assistant Teacher of Kokrajhar Government HS & MP School, Assam has been selected for the prestigious National Award to Teachers 2020 by the union ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD). Sharma Sir Born on February 26, 1978, Sir joined the Government HS & MP School, Kokrajhar in the year 2006. In 2018, he received Good Performing Teacher Award on the occasion of Teachers' Day from the Education department of BTC and was felicitated by NIIT on Teachers' Day in 2008 for enhancing e-learning of the students. Sir attended various National Level Seminars across the country, even on 14th & 15th November, 2019 he visited the North East Regional Institute Of Education (NERIE), NCERT, Shillong to participate the National Seminar On Science Education which was organised by NERIE. Besides, he received Best Guide Teachers' award in the science exhibition competition organized by RMSA, Kokrajhar in 2015. A total of 153 teachers were shortlisted for this award, among which 45 were selected by the jury, and 2 more were selected from the special category. He is the only teacher to get the national award from the state among 47 teachers selected from across the country this year. Adviser to the Lieutenant Governor KK Sharma, congratulated these teachers and said the award given to them is the ratification of the outstanding work done by them in imparting education to the students and also being role models to the student community. The teaching and non-teaching staff of Kokrajhar Government HS&MP School and other individuals felicitated Sarma with traditional Aronai on Saturday for being selected for national award. Sharma Sir said that these types of awards serve as a morale booster for others as well to strive for excellence and contribute their best in the field of education. The award will be conferred during the Teacher's Day celebrations on September 5th in New Delhi, India.

(Total-356 Words)

A short write up on a National Teachers Awardee of my state

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National Teachers Award (hereafter will be referred as NTA) is one of the prestigious award conferred to the teachers who have contributed towards enhancing both the quality of education as well as the lives of the students. In the year 2019, 46 teachers were awarded with the NTA by the president of India. Mr. P. Ramesh, the current principal of Navodaya Vidyalaya (Darang), is one of the two teachers awarded with NTA from the state of Assam in 2019. Mr. Ramesh is originally from Kerala and currently being posted as the head of the school JNV, Darang. Even being a native of South India, he was able to find plenty of similarities in assamese culture and tradition with that of the Kerala, with only the language contributing for the differences. Mr. Ramesh had participated in 100% literacy mission where he received the chance to teach the elderly individuals at a young age. Thereafter, he had received considerable amount of acknowledgement and affection which had inspired him to take up teaching as a profession. It is often considered that a teacher should make the best use of the education as a tool to promote all round development of his students. In an Interview he had mentioned how the curriculum followed by his school ensures holistic development of the students. The students of JNV, Darang are given opportunities to participate in Yoga Sessions, Physical Training, Community Services and relevant activities in addition to the classroom teachings. Such opportunities often provide space for the all round development of the students based on individual differences. Therefore, provision of varied opportunity acts as a key feature towards effective teaching.

A School, as a formal institute of education, would fail to provide the true essence of education if fails to ensure inclusion. Mr. Ramesh is a post graduate in clinical psychology as well as a first rank holder of an International diploma in career guidance and counselling. He had shared an instance when a teacher came to him with a complaint about a child who does not note anything in his notebook. As a principal as well as a psychologist Mr. Ramesh went to the class and asked the child to read the sentences written on the blackboard. The child could not read anything due to certain visual issues. The issue was resolved the moment the child was asked to sit in the first bench. From this

instance it can be inferred that inexperienced teachers might often consider the child as the problem rather than focussing on the root cause of the problem. As a responsible faculty, Mr. Ramesh also trains teachers to ensure inclusive education in the school. The Navodaya Vidyalayas were established as an initiative to educate the culturally disadvantageous group of children. Therefore, the true goal of such schools can only be achieved when quality inclusive education is ensured.

Teaching is one of the most prestigious and respectable profession as well as a social activity. It is the teacher (Guru) who draws out the true potential within a child and brings him/her to the light from darkness. Mr. P. Ramesh has rendered his service in the field of education keeping the children at the centre of education. Honouring such teachers with prestigious award can, therefore, be a significant step to motivate the teacher trainees to render their service effectively in the field of education and motivate the children intrinsically towards learning.

NATIONAL TEACHER AWARD WINNER – SMT.REMYA PARAMESWAR IYER

“All students are unique and if you take up a career on the basis of your quality that makes you unique, you will be successful.”-R.P.Iyer

Smt. Remya Paramweswar Iyer, a Biotechnology teacher at Kendriya Vidyalaya Khanapara in Guwahati is honoured with the prestigious National Teacher Award by President R.N. Kovind in year 2019 from Assam in recognition to her yeomen’s service as a teacher, has inspired so many students like me with her achievements and contributions towards the education. She became the only teacher of Kendriya Vidyalaya got nominated and won the highest teacher honour in country.

She has an MS in Biomedical research and pursuing research in neurochemistry joined the teaching profession in 2004, and servicing in KV Khanapara since 2008. Earlier Biotechnology was an infamous subject in Northeast region. Her input has been crucial in attracting students to take up the subject in her school and following areas.

In year 2011-12, under her guidance a group of students carried out a successful project on ‘Fluoride contamination of water in Guwahati’ and won All India National Children’s Science Congress at KVS national level. Students who took part in that project are today touching the skies of success and they owe their success to Smt. Iyer. I was lucky enough to meet and witness her aura during KVS Regional Science Exhibition 2011-12 and it was her who motivated me to take up Biotechnology in my Higher Secondary.

There’s no doubt that she won this award because she not only confined to her subject content but also teaches beyond the classroom. She always tried to know each of her students inside out. She strives to ensure that every child must make progress imbued with human values and skills necessary for 21st century.

Smt. Iyer introduced a new style of teaching that was communicative, interactive and made students think beyond the classroom. Her approach of teaching is outstanding. She instilled passion for science among her students and helped many students in realising their dreams. Not only this she also nurtured them in becoming leaders and mentors who later conducted training and learning sessions and workshops in other partner and rural schools with her.

She is primarily recognised for her efforts in development of new modern biotechnology lab in her school. She applied for the Biotechnology Lab in Senior Secondary School (BLISS) grant being offered by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. Her school won the grant based on her performance.

She conferred with many other awards including Raman Science Teacher Award in 2013, Fulbright Distinguished Awards in teaching in 2014 and KVS National Incentive Award (the highest honour any KVS employee can attain) in 2018. Currently she is servicing in Kendriya Vidyalaya IIT, Guwahati.

She truly deserved this award for her commitment and hard work which have not only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students.

We need more teachers like Smt. Iyer who are so passionate about teaching and continue cherishing it every day.

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Savitribai Phule: India's first female teacher

Teacher's Day is celebrated as a mark of tribute to the contribution made by teachers to our society. It is celebrated on 5th of September in memory of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. India has given birth to many dedicated teachers and educationists whose contribution to our society is hard to be measured. One such personality is Savitribai Phule, India's first female teacher who sparked a revolution of Women's Education in India. She is the one who gave her entire life for educating the females, the untouchables, the senior citizens, the poor, the labors, and all people from all age group and communities. In true sense, she is the one who ignited the spirit of education for 'all'.

Savitribai Phule was born during 19th century, in Naigaon, Maharashtra in the year 1831 and belonged to Shudra community. It was a common practice those days to marry a girl at an early age. In spite of her desire to study, she got married to Jyotirao Phule at the age of nine. Jyotirao being a visionary and with a firm belief that every woman must be educated, started teaching his wife at home.

Under his influence, Savitribai Phule had taken women's education and their liberation from the cultural patterns of the male-dominated society as mission of her life. Within the first eight years of marriage, on January 14th, 1848, they started a school for girls and Savitribai Phule became the first woman teacher of India. Their initiative was not appreciated by the society and they were outshined not just by the society but by their family members as well. Savitribai Phule was subjected to intense harassment everyday as she walked to the school because a group of orthodox men used to follow her and abuse her in obscene language. Stones, mud and dirt were flung at her as she passed. But she faced all this very courageously. She started taking an extra sari with her to wear at school. This couple kindled by passion for their goal did not stop their work of educating girls from all sections of society and opening more and more schools, thus resulting in establishment of eighteen schools. Looking at her passion for education, people started sending their girls to schools themselves. The outcome of their efforts was that in 1852, the number of girls in Jyotirao's Girl's school was 10 times more than the number of boys in Government schools.

Savitribai Phule's other notable contribution to education is in the form of poems like '*Kavya Phule*' published in 1854 stressing the necessity of English and Education.

Today's government programmes like Right to education act, midday meal scheme etc. which prioritises education, may seem like modern concepts but even 184yrs back Savitribai had set a precedent-she gave stipends to prevent children from dropping out of school. She was the teacher who inspired a young student to ask for a library for the school at an award ceremony instead of gifts to herself. She also conducted parent-teacher meeting at regular intervals to involve the parents so that they could understand the importance of education and encourage their children. Being a visionary she very well understood the relation between Malnutrition and education. She very much took care of health of each and every child in school.

Thus, it could be seen that Education for her was not merely alphabetical learning but a means of igniting the minds and the personality of women and others. Savitribai Phule emphasized on Secular education for social emancipation. The basic theme of her philosophy of education is: inculcating the values of liberty, equality, fraternity, justice and moral character among the boys and girls of all shades. Her impact on the liberation of women has been spectacular. She broke all traditional shackles of 19th century Indian to herald a new age of thinking.

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BHABANANDA DEKA

A great contributor of Assam

Prof Bhabananda Deka born in 19 August 1929 has been acknowledged as the pioneer Assam economist and author who conducted path-breaking research. He was also a leading Indian Assamese literateur of the famed 'Swarnam Ramdhenu era' of Assamese literature during the mid 20th century. He was the author of 115 English and Assamese books. He authored a variety of research papers and articles about the state of Assam. He pioneered the writings of books on Economics in Assamese. His Assamese book *Asom Arthaneeti* was the first ever research-based comprehensive book on Assam Economics, published in 1963. Because of his monumental social and intellectual contributions to Assam, he has been conferred with the honorary title of 'Asom Ratna' - Jewel

'of Assam' by the intellectuals of Assam
on 19 August 2007.

Prof Bhabananda Deka was born to
Late Baliram Pathak and Late Sayatri Bala
Pathak at Byaskuchi Satra, Barpeta. He
completed his graduation in Economics
from Cotton College, Guwahati in 1954.
And completed Postgraduation in Economics
in 1957. He went back to hometown and
worked for a year as a teacher. During
that period he also served historic
Byaskuchi Satra (Monastery)'s governing
body 'Bhattadeb Milan Samiti'. He re-
established the Satra at a new compound
together with the first library -
Bhattadev Puthivoral at Byaskuchi Satra.
For a brief period he worked as teacher
at two schools Kamrup Academy
and North Guwahati Girls' School.
From 1957, he worked in Arya Vidya-
peeth College before joining Pragjyotish
College. He was also the founder Principal

of Brajpur College in Sarthebari. He also worked as a Senior Research Officer in the Language Unit of Union Public Service Commission, Delhi.

CONTRIBUTION: He was one of the first Assamese to form Asomiya Sahitya Samaj in India's capital city of New Delhi.

Prof Deka established Assamese Department and Bengali Department in the Indian Constitutional Body Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) in New Delhi and introduced Assamese Language as a subject and medium for appearing in all-India level competitive examinations conducted by UPSC.

He also organised the Birth Centenary of the Doyen of Assamese literature Lakshminath Bezbaroa in New Delhi. His famous English book on 'Assamese Language & Literature' published during the centenary celebration.

He was a leading member of Asem Sahitya Sabha. He was the founder of Assam Economic Association. He was highly influenced by Sankari culture and folk culture heritage and was known for his active participation in newly setting up Belbari Satra and Byaskuchi Satra in Barpeta district of Assam in India.

He died on 4 December 2006 at his residence in Pub Sarania, Ljewahati.

"He had always been active in projecting the motherland in all its glory through its rich legacy of literature and culture".

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