



GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

FROM SEPTEMBER 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 27TH 2013

On 2nd September 2012 an Annual General Body Meeting of Assam Mountaineering Association was held and a 21 member new Executive Committee headed by Sri Satyen Sarma as President and Sri Manash Barooah as General Secretary was formed. I, on behalf of the present Executive Committee, thank all the members of Assam Mountaineering Association (AMA) for vesting us with the responsibilities to promote mountaineering & allied sports in North East, which is the basic motto of Assam Mountaineering Association. On the same Annual General Meeting the previous Executive Committee was directed to hand over the charge to the new committee by 2nd October, 2012 with all the accounts/documents etc. As the previous body did not hand over the charge in time as directed, a meeting was called on 6th October, 2012 by me to discuss our next plan of action. It was unanimously decided that the new members will assume their

charges and will go ahead with the various official works of AMA as soon as possible.

During our tenure the Sri Durga Prasad Neog, ex president of AMA who was also the first Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Retd.), Assam, breathed his last. Sri Bhagat Singh a veteran mountaineer of Assam also passed away. AMA members deeply mourned their death and visited the bereaved family members to convey them heartfelt condolence.

Sri Satyen Sarma our new President called on Col. H.S.Chouhan, the President of Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi on 18th September'12 to apprise him of the various activities of AMA. Both of them also discussed about taking necessary steps for promoting adventure sports in the NE region. Our President also paid a visit to one of the founder member of AMA, Sri Atanu Prasad Baruah in New Delhi, who was not physically keeping fine for some time. Sri Baruah was very happy to see someone from AMA and he so nostalgically shared the memories of his climbing days with AMA with Satyen Sarma.



Immediately after assuming office we decided to hold a programme where all the mountaineering and its allied sports organization of the state and also the adventure sports enthusiasts would be able to meet and interact. Our objective was to take some constructive measures to promote adventure sports in Assam in particular and the North East in general by building sound infrastructure, utilizing the vast resources that the nature has so generously bestowed this region with. And to achieve this everybody should work together.

5th October is the death anniversary of late Rohini Kumar Bhuyan, the father of mountaineering in Assam. We decided to commemorate this auspicious day by holding a programme titled “The Adventure Sports and Mountaineering Day” in Guwahati. And In the presence of Eminent dignitaries like Hon’ble Justice Mr. B. K. Sarma, Gauhati High Court, Mr. A. K. Phukan , Advocate General, Assam, Mr. Bhubneswar kalita ,

Member Rajya Sabha, Mr V. S. Bhaskar, IAS the then Commissioner of Sports, Govt. of Assam, Mr D. Hazarika, IAS the then Secretary Tourism, Govt. of Assam, Mr Swapnanil Baruah, IAS & Ex-President AMA Grand Function was held in the conference hall of the historic Guwahati Town Club in the evening of 5th October'12. AMA paid rich tributes to late Rohini Kumar Bhuyan, the "Father of Mountaineering" of North East India and also felicitated wife of late Bhuyan. Sri Atanu Prasad Baruah, a very active climber and organizer of yester year was conferred with the 'Life Time Achievement Awards" by AMA in the same function. The invaluable contribution of our founder presidents namely late Debi Charan Mahanta and late Tarini Kumar Baruah were also fondly remembered and their family members were also felicitated in the meeting. Sri Durga Prasad Neog, one of our dynamic past president also attended the meeting in spite of his extremely fragile health. He was so sick that failing to climb the dais he delivered his speech from his chair itself. His speech motivated us tremendously. Late Parasmani Das, a high ranking police officer of Punjab cadre, past Vice President of IMF, New Delhi, and also the Vice Principal of NIM, Uttarkashi, was a mountaineer of great

repute. He died in an avalanche in Sikkim Himalayas. Rich tributes were paid to him and his family members were felicitated. Two of our young mountaineers met with tragic death while pursuing mountaineering activities. They were late Rabindra Lal Das and late Amar Talukdar. We remembered them too and also expressed our respects to the bereaved family members in this meeting. AMA also took the opportunity to felicitate Mr. Pronoy Bardoloi and Miss Bhanita Timungpi, two very experienced mountaineers of Assam who had participated as climbing members in Mount. Everest Expedition with other team on two separate occasions. The following important Resolutions were taken in the meeting:

- (i) To observe 5th October every year as Mountaineering & Adventure Sports Day in Assam.
- (ii) Sports Pension should be given to Late Rohini. Kumar Bhuyan.
- (iii) Bravery Award to late Amar Talukdar.
- (iv) To submit a Proposal for setting up a Mountaineering Institute in Assam.



The 44th Local Rock Climbing Course started with 67 trainees from 2nd December, 2012 and it ended on 25th December, 2012, with almost all the participants completing the course successfully. The entire course was conducted efficiently by Bikash Bordoloi as Training In-charge, Pallav Kr. Deka as Co-coordinator, and Manash Barooah as Technical Observer supervising every aspects of the training



The 23rd Children Adventure Orientation Course, one of the very popular programme conducted by AMA every year got underway with 82 kids from 22nd December, 2012 & ended on 25th December, 2012. Sri Bhubneswar Prasad Training In-charge, Mayur Mahanta Co-ordinator, Arunanshu Sen Assistant in charge, Ajit Deka Technical Observer, Munindra Sarania Technical Observer, Abanita Baruah Advisor, Ashok Jhuria Advisor, worked tirelessly to make this course very enjoyable and safe for these little future mountaineers of the State. The training was flagged off by Hon'ble Justice Mr. Arup Goswami and Mr. Ujjal Bhuyan respectively. On the demonstration day of both the training Ministers of Sports Govt. of Assam Sri Ajit Singh, 2nd Everest from Sikkim, Kumjung Gyatso Bhutia, P.C.C.F. & HOFF, Forest Department Assam, Sri V.K. Vishnoi IFS, Shri Pranab Kumar Sarma GM (HR) NRL, Sri Utpal Bora, DFO, Assam State Zoo Cum Botanical garden, and veteran mountaineers, grace the occasion and agreed to help the association. The Newly procured equipments with the financial help from NRL also displayed on the occasion.



Amongst the Participants of 44th Rock Climbing course and 23rd Children Adventure Orientation Camp, a 26 member team of very young enthusiasts future mountaineers were taken to San-Dak-Phu(12,000 ft.) , in Darjeeling District, under leadership of Amar Jyoti Deka, Instructor, Pallav Kr. Deka, Biplab Saharia, Babita Engtipi, Soma Barua. The trekking completed successfully.



Another noteworthy programme undertaken by AMA in the early part of this year was conducting A special Rock climbing Course for 64 men and women belonging to the 2011-13 & 12-14 batch of in service Range Officer Trainee studying at Central Academy State Forest Service, Burnihat, Assam, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment & Forest, from 18th January, 2013 to 22nd January 2013. These trainees represented all the nook and corner of the country. Sri Biplab Saharia, the training In-charge was assisted by Sri Pallav Kumar Deka, Lecture of the Academy and also a member of AMA, Sri Amar Jyoti Deka, Sri Utpal Hazarika, Sri Ratan Basumatary, Sri Munindra Sarania and others in smoothly imparting to these young and energetic future care takers of our forests. .



For the first time a **Badge & Certificate of Proficiency** presentation ceremony was organized by Assam Mountaineering Association on 16th February'13 in a glittering function in the fully packed Rabindra Bhawan, Guwahati Mr. Tarun Gogoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam gave away the Badges and Certificates to all the successful trainees who took part in the different programmes like the Local Training, Children Training, High Attitude Trekking, & Special Training for Range Officers Trainee. Addressing the gathering Sri Tarun Gogoi appreciated the efforts of AMA to promote adventure oriented activities in the state and he also emphasized that more and more of the young people should come forward to participate in such daring activities which in turn will make them physically mentally and morally sound. Then Hon'ble Chief Minister, to the rousing applause of the audience, declared that his Govt. will do everything to establish a Institute of Mountaineering and Centre of Excellence in Assam in the very near future.

It must be mentioned that Sri Tarun Gogoi has written to DONER Ministry on 26th October, 2012 where in he has justified that the Head Office of the proposed Institute of Mountaineering and Allied sports should be in Guwahati, Assam, the gateway to the north east.



On 20.03.2013 Sri Satyen Sarma, President, AMA, led a delegation of AMA to meet the Chief Minister of Assam in order to discuss about the progress of setting up of the Institute of Adventure Sports & Centre of Excellence in Assam. The discussion was fruitful.



After a gap of several years AMA organized a full scale expedition to Mt. Thingchinkhang (6010 m) in the West Sikkim in the month of May this year. It was a joint venture with the Sikkim Amateur Mountaineering Association, Gangtok. The entire team and some senior members of AMA called on His Excellency Governor of Assam, Sri Janaki Ballav Patnaik at Raj Bhawan on 30.04.2013. His Excellency handed over the National flag and the AMA flag to the expedition team and also granted a sum of Rupees One Lac for the expedition. We are indeed extremely grateful to His Excellency Sri J B Patnaik for his help. Finally a team of 15 experienced members of AMA left Guwahati for Yoksum in west Sikkim on 02'04.2013. Four members from Sikkim joined the team in Yoksum on 03.04.13. Veteran mountaineer Sri Parbati Prasad Gautam was the Chief de Mission. Failing to reach the summit due to inclement

weather the team climbed a nearby peak measuring about 5575 meter.

Another important activity of AMA during our tenure was a High Altitude trekking to Dzongri in west Sikkim. A team comprising 15 young members, including two students from BTC, left Guwahati on 15.05.2013 under the leadership of Sri Ajit kumar Kalita. Sri Ajit Deka, one of our respected senior members, also accompanied the team. The trekking was a great success

AMA organized a Seminar on “RESPECT & SUSTAIN NATURE; WHILE ON ADVENTURE AVART DISASTER” at Don Bosco University, Azara, Guwahati on 31st August, 2013 where Col. H.S. Chouhan, President, Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi dwelt on the subject as the main resource person. Sri Atul Bora, Director of Technical Education, Assam also spoke on disaster management. The Vice Chancellor of Don Bosco University Mr. Stephen Mavely also addressed the gathering on the occasion. The seminar which intended to generate awareness about preservation of

our mother nature was attended by AMA members, students and faculties of Don Bosco University and Media persons.

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to inform you that the Govt.of Assam, has on 05.10.13 finally declared ex-gratia to late Rohini Kumar Bhuyan and late Amar Talukdar in response to our proposal adopted in the” The Mountaineering and Adventure Sports Day” held on 5th October’2012. This is the first time that mountaineers of the state have been honored by the Govt. of Assam.

It is matter of joy that during our tenure we could send 4(four) of our young members for Basic Mountaineering Course at HMI, Darjeeling. And all of them graduated with flying colour securing ‘A’ Grade. They have already applied for Advanced Mountaineering Course in the same Institute.

In addition to that 6 of our experienced members participated as Instructors in an IMF Sponsored Rock Climbing Course for physically challenged person. This programme was organized in and around Guwahati by North East Adventure Foundation. Moreover, in another Rock Climbing Course which

was organized by DSYW, Assam at BTC 3 of our experienced mountaineers imparted training as Instructor.

We also pleased to put on record that Sri Karan Kumar Chandilya, a young AMA member was selected to participate in the IMF Expedition to Mt. Kuchetadhura (6294 ft.) during September, 2013.

Tourism Industry in Assam is also trying to attract tourists by newly including adventure activities in their programmes. For these reasons they seek help from AMA to develop infrastructures for activities like Sports climbing, Trekking and so on. In such few endeavors our members rendered help to Hotel Iora Resorts, Kaziranga and Bhalukpong and Brahmaputra Jungle Resort, Sonapur. These can be good avenues for generating income for our members.

Pragjyotish College a premier educational institution of the city observed its Platinum Jubilee recently. AMA participated in the Exhibition and displayed various mountaineering items which attracted the students and the public. Our objective was to revitalize the mountaineering

activities of this institution once again. AMA has recently granted affiliation to the Lawyers' Adventure Club, Guwahati for the period of 2 (two) years.

The present Executive Committee is deeply indebted to several Organizations and Institutions for extending their invaluable help and cooperation in transforming AMA into a strong and vibrant institute of adventure sports. Numaligarh Refinery Limited deserves special mention in this regard. We have purchased brand new sets of mountaineering equipments with their financial assistance fulfilling our long standing needs. We offer our sincerest gratitude and thanks to them. We are also very grateful to the Directorate of Sports and Youth Welfare, Assam for granting NOC for undertaking renovation and beautification work of the AMA premise and grant 2.15 lakhs for various activity . We also wish to acknowledge with gratefulness the kind help and assistance that we got on various occasions from personalities like Sri P.K.Goswami, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court, New Delhi, Sri Chandan Sarkar, MLA, Abhayapuri LAC, Sri Anil Jaiha, Sri Ashok Barma, and Sri R.M.Singh and Sri Pradip Kumar of Assam Police.

The receipt & Payment for the AMA upto 31st March are as follows, which was duly audited by Chartered Accountant.

Receipts	Amount	Payments	Amount
<u>Opening Balance</u>		<u>Payments during the year</u>	
Cash in Hand	140.49	Printing & Stationery	15,740.00
Cash at Union Bank of India	8,776.32	Postage & Telegram	320.00
<u>Receipts during the year</u>		Fooding & Grocery	25,775.00
Donations	3,57,680.00	Photography	15,400.00
Interest on bank A/c	1,577.00	Poter & Labour Expenses	3,345.00
<u>Course Fees</u>		Misc. Expenditure	5,967.00
High Altitude Trekking	1,25,000.00	Ceremonial Expenses	1,54,200.00
Children Adventure Orientation camp	57,250.00	Equip, Lodging & Boarding Expenses	1,44,338.00
Local Rock –Climbing Course	58,350.00	Repairs & Maintenance	1,982.00
<u>Loan from Members</u>	1,59,755.00	Stove Fuel Expenses	6,700.00
		Training Expenses	16,000.00
		Office Furniture	61,300.00
		Bank Charges	50.00
		Equipment Expenses	41,550.00
		Sponsorship Fees	11,610.00
		Indian Mountaineering Foundation	5,000.00
		<u>Course Expenses</u>	
		High Altitude Trekking	96,670.00
		Children Adventure Orientation Camp	58,399.00
		Local Rock –Climbing Course	58,350.00
		<u>Closing Balance</u>	
		Cash at Union Bank of India	39,129.32
		Cash in Hand	889.49
Total	7,68,528.81	Total	7,68,528.81

After the above mention account there are three major expenditure on ventures like expedition, high altitude tracking & Seminar .The expenditure as these have been accounted and CA have audited & submitted final account to association & same was approved by Executive Committee .Details of all accounts are enclosed herewith .

Before concluding my report I would like to acknowledge the dynamism with which Sri Satyen Sarma, our President took the initiative and leadership role in putting new life to our beloved AMA which was almost on the verge of losing all its past glory for want of love and care by its own members. We were also actively supported by committed senior members like Sri Ashok Jhuria, Sri Ajit Deka, Mrs. Abanita Barooah Bhuyan, and Dr. Jagadish Basumatary, P.P Gautam, R P Gautam , Kishor Kr Baruah. It was a joy to see that many old and new members have started to take part almost in all the programmes once again which undoubtedly is a healthy sign for AMA. I would like to appeal and request those few who

are still shy to visit us that we need you also to work together for a better tomorrow of our beloved AMA.

Thank you all.

Manash Barooah
General Secretary AMA
28-09-2013