

an Mancha, Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Assam and the Commercial Representative Union (CRU), the four constituent members of the All India Peoples Science Network (AIPSN) along with other science lovers have decided to organise a march in Goalpara along with

The rally will also highlight the existence of evil curses like witch hunting within the ramparts of rationality and also propagation of false ideas like the 'elephant head of Lord Ganesha' as a proof of ancient surgery, 'Pushpak Viman of Lord

propagating unscientific and pseudo-scientific ideas and to encourage science education and scientific research by increasing the budget allotment to 3% of the GDP etc., will also be raised in the 'March for Science', Prof Seal added.

National Seminar held at Nabajyoti College, Kalgachia

GUWAHATI, April 9: A two-day-long UGC-sponsored National Seminar was organised by the Department of Arabic, Nabajyoti College, Kalgachia recently on the theme, 'Impact of Arabic Literature and Islamic Studies on Indian National Harmony and Integration'.

The seminar was inaugurated by Prof Ataur Rahman, eminent educationist and former HoD, Department of Physics, Gauhati University and the inaugural session was presided over by Dr Abdul Mazid Qazi from Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Del-

hi. The first technical session was chaired by Prof. Ataur Rahman. Dr Shahjahan Ali Ahmed, Principal of Nabajyoti College, Kalgachia welcomed the scholars and participants invited to the seminar from different parts of the country and focused on the necessity of popularising Arabic language and literature among the masses. Dr Qazi in his keynote address elaborately discussed the historical context of Arabic literature and Islamic studies and their impact on national harmony and integration in India.

On the second day of the

seminar, the technical sessions were chaired by Dr Abdul Kader Ahmed, Associate Professor of BH College, Howly and Dr Bakshi Hazrat Ali Ahmed, retired Associate Professor of Abhayapuri College, Abhayapuri. Some 45 participants from different colleges of Assam presented their research papers where they emphasised the need to promote secular ideas in Arabic literature and to cultivate a cosmopolitan outlook.

The MLA of Jania constituency, Abdul Khaleque addressed the seminar on the

second day and in his short speech he suggested to initiate moves to introduce 'Functional Arabic' in the curriculum which could open great opportunities of employment. The plenary and valedictory sessions were presided by the Principal of the college who synthesised the issues and concerns raised in the seminar with an analytical survey and consolidated recommendations for onward submission. The vote of thanks was offered by Prof BK Samal, HoD, Department of English, Nabajyoti College, Kalgachia.

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