

# Mahatma Gandhi remembered

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, Oct 5: In a bid to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, the NSS unit of Dispur College organized an initiative titled "Gandhi Smritisaron Poxek – A fortnight commemorating Gandhi".

Held under the leadership of Sutibra Malakar, assistant professor and programme officer of the unit, from September 16 to October 2, the fortnight-long programme aimed to revisit Gandhi's enduring philosophies of non-violence, self-reliance, sustainability, and ethical leadership, and to inspire the youth to embody these ideals in the making of a 'Viksit Bharat', stated a press release.

The programme will formally conclude with the State-level inter-institutional quiz competition titled "The Idea of India" to be held at the Pratima Barua Pandey Auditorium, Dispur College, on October 9.

The quiz is open to students at all levels, including postgraduate students, as well as those

in open and distance learning programmes.

The tribute programme began with the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" plantation drive held from September 19 to 22 in alignment with the "Sewa-Hi-Samarpan: Sewa Saptah" campaign initiated by the Government of Assam.

Organized in collaboration with the Eco Club of Dispur College, the drive saw the plantation of over 75 saplings of diverse species, including Arjun, Aamlakhi, Borjaam, Xilikha, Aatephol, Kothal, and Bhumura.

The planting drive took place across 32 locations, ranging from the college campus to the residences of NSS volunteers, NCC cadets, and students – reinforcing a strong message of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Moreover, the college observed NSS Day with a lecture session on the theme "Youth for a Viksit Bharat@2047: Strategies and Challenges" at the NPB Conference Hall on September 24. Dr Navajyoti Borah, prin-

icipal of Dispur College, served as the resource person and addressed critical issues such as brain drain, environmental sustainability, skill development, and poverty eradication – framing them in the context of youth participation in nation-building.

The event opened with a tribute to the legendary Assamese singer and cultural icon, the late Zubeen Garg, whose passing was mourned across the State.

The observance of Ayurveda Day, initially scheduled for September 23, was held on September 25 due to the funeral of Zubeen Garg. The event featured a webinar on "Ayurveda for People & Planet: Inclusive Approaches towards Equitability" delivered by Dr Vishal Priyam Deka, an Ayurvedic doctor and a renowned columnist. Dr Deka shared insights into household Ayurvedic remedies, community medicine, affordable healthcare, mental wellness, and the importance of sexual health awareness for the youth.