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World Anesthesia Day to be celebrated in Guwahati



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Under the banner of Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists (Guwahati city branch) the World Anaesthesia Day-2008 will be celebrated in the city on 16th October. Although the Anaesthesia day was celebrated in Guwahati for many years but this year's celebrations carry special importance as the ISA had already recognized the Guwahati city branch.

Addressing media persons at Guwahati Press Club today, the office bearers of ISA (Guwahati city branch) declared, "This day is a very auspicious day for all the members of anaesthesiology fraternity as it is considered to be the birthday of Anaesthesia. On this day in the year 1846 the possibility of performance of painless surgery was accepted by the world."

William Thomas Green Morton, a student of Boston medical school publicly demonstrated successful administration of Ether Anaesthesia for removal of a neck tumor of Gilbert Abhot in the amphitheatre of Massachusetts general hospital. The performing surgeon was Dr Warren. Dr Warren was so overwhelmed by the event that after the surgery he commented 'Gentlemen, this is no humbug'. The use of Ether spread rapidly to England and other parts of the world. Ether was closely followed by another very popular anaesthesia as Chloroform.

Like in other parts of world and India in Assam too Anaesthesiology has developed significantly since 1980s. Almost all the ICUs of Assam are managed by an anaesthesiologist. The only palliative care society of the region- Guwahati pain & palliative care society is headed by an anaesthesiologist, said Dr A. Deka, a senior anesthesiologist and an office bearer of the body.

Attending the interaction, Dr J. Bhattacharya, another senior anesthesiologist informed, "Assam Medical College & Gauhati Medical Collage have post graduate studies in Anaesthesiology. From the current year Silchar Medical Collage has started its course.

But there are only 12 post graduate M.D. seats 10 Diploma seats in the state which is very meager as we have severe shortage of qualified anaesthesiologist in the region."

"On this 162nd year celebration of world Anaesthesia, we on behalf of Guwahati city branch of ISA would like to appeal to the concerned authority to create more post-graduate seats for Anaesthesiology so that all the hospitals of the state can be manned by qualified anaesthesiologists," said Dr Siben Datta, an anaesthesiologist associated with the Down Town Hospital, a city based private nursing home.



[editor](#)

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