**Guwahati Lit Fest ends**

**Guwahati, 29 Dec:**  The Guwahati Literary Festival at NEDFI House has come to a remarkable end after a three day long event which had an interesting line up of sessions and had something for every kind of participants. The discussions on wide range of topics raised the festival to an altogether different level.

 The first session started with two parallel panels: One moderated by Samudra Gupta Kashyap on ‘Northeast: From World War to wars within’ with panelists Easterine Kire, Siddhartha Sarma and Pradip Phanjoubam primarily focused on World War II and its impact on the people living specifically in Kohima, Imphal and Assam and its representation in North East literature. The other session on ‘Tuning into literature: Music and literature’ was chaired by Mitra Phukan in conversation with Akhu and Loknath Goswami. They discussed on the deeper lyrical canvas of Folk, Classical and Modern musical base and reflected the impact of Assamese protest songs on a wider frame. Loknath Goswami sang a few notes by Dr. Bhupen Hazarika and Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, recalling the essence of lyrics used by them back then. Akhu said, ‘I want to talk about my generation and my people living in turmoil, through protest songs’. He sang Maria, a song about the ethnic killing in the Naga Kuki riot.

The second session on ‘In the shadow of the gun: Literature from a conflict zone’, conducted by Arindam Borkataki in conversation with Pranati Deka, Kamal Kachari, Tushar Panging, Moni Hazarika and Anurag mahanta, member of United Liberation Front of Asom (staying in peace talk). They expressed how the pen helped in giving meaning to their revolt. The panel was able to garner a lot of attraction, which raised voices from the audience and led to a heated discussion. The parallel panel on ‘Not lost in translation: Building bridges’ was chaired by Tribeni Goswami Mathur with panelists D.N Bezbaruah, Somak Ghoshal, Madan Sarma and Deep Saikia. D.N Bezbaruah mentioned, literature works at times to build bridges across the mind and human society and for translation a translator should have knowledge of different languages. Madan Sarma added a translator should have appropriate knowledge of languages. Deep Saikia said, A translator is more an interpreter who reads between the lines and to be a good translator one has to understand the silence in between the lines.

 The third session conducted three panels parallelly: The first on ‘Indigenous literatures: Writing roots’ by Tabu Ram Taid in conversation with Bijoya Sawian and Anil Boro discussed on native and regional literature. The second panel on ‘Wildlife and writing’ was moderated by Arup Kumar Dutta in presence of Soumyadeep Dutta, Abhijit Rabha, Shiela Bora and Samudra Gupta Kashyap discussed on environmental and wildlife research based writing. The third panel was by poet Nirupama Dutt in conversation with Novelist Balinder Dhanoa and Preety Gill. In the conversation Balinder Dhanoa expressed about her Novel ‘Echoes in the well’ and based on it reflected on the language variety and its impact on the human society.

 The last segment of the day concluded with the release of a souvenir named ‘Luiterature’ published by H.K Sharma, Secretary, Publication Board Assam under the chairmanship of Dr. Dhruba Jyoti Borah. The organizers hope the Lit Fest will appeal to the youth to take the literary movement forward.