



WEFA News Letter Issue No.16 Dt. 07.06.2016

www.wefa.org.in

Er. Rita Rajkhowa
President

Er. Indira Das
Secretary

Dr. Bibha Das Saikia
Editor

MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT

My dear members,

All of you must be busy with your works, at the same time enjoying the cool weather because of pleasant rain fall in the North East region which has brought down the temperature in the region.

Our State General Election for electing 126 members Assam Legislative Assembly was peacefully over, with a record voter-turnout of almost 82%. It is good that people have become politically conscious about their constitutional responsibility in the democratic setup. After the results are out, a new ministry would be sworn in. My only concern is, whichever party(s) comes into power, they should work for the welfare of the underprivileged and balanced development of the state. This is my utmost appeal to them to serve the people with dedication, commitment and rectitude.

The general election of WEFA also had been held recently. This is my last message to WEFA Newsletter as outgoing President. Now I will serve WEFA as Adviser and whatever guidance, advice and help are required I will try my best to execute that

and serve the people of my state through WEFA .

I also suggest there should be an executive meeting of WEFA very soon where they will discuss different viable projects and make plans to be executed in next two years.

I take this opportunity to convey my warm greetings and congratulations to the newly elected President and all the members of the executive committee and wish them all the best. I also request them to serve the cause of the women and girls in particular and the society as a whole with equal zeal and initiative as in past.

LONG LIVE WEFA!

Mrs. Rita Rajkhowa,
(Outgoing President of WEFA)

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT (New)

Welcome all my WEFA sisters. I seek your full cooperation in WEFA's all future plans. Without your support, WEFA will not be able to implement any of the future plans.

With all best wishes and love,

Er. Bandita Phukan
President (new), WEFA

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Annual General meeting of Women Engineers' Forum of Assam on 30.04.2016 at the Conference Hall of The Institution of Engineers (India) Building, Panbazar, Guwahati.

The meeting started at 5 P.M. and was presided over by Er. Rita Rajkhowa, President of the Forum. At the outset "Saraswati Vandana" was rendered by Er. Geetanjali Kakoti. Er. Indira Das, Secretary WEFA read out the minutes of the Last AGM and was approved by all members present. Thereafter, Annual Report on the activities of WEFA was presented by the Secretary WEFA Er. Indira Das and the Annual accounts was presented by the Treasurer Er. Labanya Padmapati Baruah and was approved by all.

WEFA theme song was presented by members of WEFA led by Er. Geetanjali Kakoti.



Dr. Mrinalini Das was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the President of WEFA for her effort to create a documentary video of 33 minutes on 'Journey of WEFA and its achievements' besides presenting the same at the Women Engineers Meet in the 'Indian

Engineering Congress' held on 20th December, 2015.



President Er. Rita Rajkhowa announced the dissolution of the existing Executive Committee by resigning from the post of President WEFA and the new Committee formed for 2016-18 is as follows:

1. Adviser: Er. Rita Rajkhowa
2. President: Er. Bandita Phukan
3. Vice Presidents:
 - a) Er. Nayan Bhandari Sarma
 - b) Er. Labanya Padmapati Baruah
4. Secretary: Er. Geetimala Baishya
5. Jt. Secretary:
 - a) Er, Rupali Naug
 - b) Er. Geetanjali Kakati
 - c) Er. Antara Baruah
6. Asstt. Secretary:
 - a) Er. Meena Bordoloi
 - b) Er. Chandana Chakravorty
7. Treasurer:
 - a) Dr. Mrinalini Das
8. Asst Treasurer: Er. Gauri Giri
9. Auditor:
 - a) Er. Rekha Majumdar
 - b) Er. Utpala Roychowdhury
10. Executive Members:
 - a) Dr. Bibha Das Saikia (Editor)

- b) Er. Mridula Das
- c) Er. Putuli Saikia Baruah
- d) Er. Lakhimi Bhagawati
- e) Er. Krishna Sarma
- f) Er. Runumi Phukan
- g) Er. Manjula Saikia Bhuyan
- h) Er. Mitali Chakravorty
- i) Er. Bijulee Goswami
- j) Er. N.H. Borbora
- k) Er. Banita Tumungpi
- l) Er. Ruby Das Bora
- m) Er. Indira Das (Ex. Officio -
Member)

Members present congratulated the new Executive Body and President Rita Rajkhowa expressed hope that the new body will strive hard to pursue the aims and objectives of WEFA and take the Forum to a new height.

Discussion on future activities of WEFA:

President Er. Rita Rajkhowa suggested that the members should try to own a piece of land within Greater Guwahati for Office Building of WEFA. She also said that now WEFA holds certificate of Tax Exemption under 12AA and 80G. So, WEFA should work actively. Now, if anybody gives us donation then he/ she will get tax exemption for his certificates obtained from Income Tax Department. Treasurer Er. L.P. Baruah suggested that new receipt books are to be printed with the Tax Exemption clause reflected on it. In the mean time members can tag a copy of the certificate along with the receipt.

Dr. Mrinalini Das suggested that WEFA should celebrate World Environment Day by planting saplings of seasonal trees on both

sides of the National Highway. Er. Geetanjali Kakoti and other members appreciated the suggestion and it was decided to approach the proper authority for permission and requisite fund.

Er. Indira Das suggested conduction of Awareness Programme at Parijat Academy, a private residential school at Pamohi. Vocational training on weaving and fruit preservation was also discussed by the members of WEFA.

Er. Manjula Saikia Bhuyan suggested that WEFA should adopt one school and create a Model School with the help of the stakeholders and authorities concerned should be approached for that.

President Rita Rajkhowa in her speech appreciated the effort of the members in carrying out WEFA's activities, especially to obtain certificates of tax exemptions from Office of the Commissioner of taxes. She also expressed hope that the new committee with younger members will achieve desired success. She elaborated the role of "Mushkan" a N.G.O. of Arunachal Pradesh and detailed the good work performed by them as an example.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

Er. Indira Das, Secretary, WEFA.

Editorial:

Many things have passed by during the last few months like, long waited elections, celebration of Rongali Bihu, natural calamities, e.g. earthquake, rains with thunder storm, flood, landslide, accidental

devastating fire etc. Several prestigious awards have been begged by our state in different directions making Assam – a state of pride.

New Government is formed in Assam recently. Hope the new leaders will be able to prove themselves as man of words and to reduce the problems of common people. The Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi once said “Be the Change You Wish to see”. We all talk about the change we want in governance but are not willing to contribute where it matters the most. Transparent and accountable governance will remain a farfetched idea unless spirited, educated and trained young men and women participate in political and democratic processes.

The new executive body of WEFA is selected (mentioned in Secretary Report) recently. I am confident the new body WEFA will march forward with confidence and dignity. With best wishes to all members of WEFA.

Er. Bibha Das Saikia, Editor, WEFA

Roma Agarwal: A renowned lady Structural Engineer in London

Roma Agrawal, a structural engineer who worked on one of the most iconic, modern projects in London. Her everyday work involves "making buildings and bridges stand-up". She grew up in Mumbai, India and moved to London at the age of 16 to study. She attended the University of Oxford and studied physics there and later did MSc in structural engineering at Imperial College London. She joined WSP Group as a

Graduate Structural Engineer and is currently an Associate Structural Engineer.

At just 29, Roma has already been widely recognised for her work. She was awarded 'Young Structural Engineer of the Year 2011' by the Institution of Structural Engineers, 'Best in Science & Engineering' at the British Indian Awards 2013 and was a finalist for the 'Young Woman Engineer of the Year' run by the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

Roma Agarwal's thoughts on Careers in Engineering:

“Engineering is such a fun and rewarding career. If you enjoy Mathematics and Physics, you should consider it. There are hundreds of different types of engineering you can look at, everything we eat, buy, our trains and cars, homes and offices would not be possible without engineers. Try and get work experience in an engineering firm to really understand what we do daily. Speak to your teachers and career advisors to discuss your options, you can get into engineering through apprenticeships, you don't have to have a degree.”

Memorable quotes:

“Persistence is what makes the impossible possible, the possible likely, and the likely definite”—Robert Half