



## Academic Captains: a learning experience

*"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."*

*- Plutarch*

Students take academics to be all about getting good grades and subject learning but it goes way beyond that. Over the year, we have realized that academics is all about nurturing creativity, critical thinking, and a passion for lifelong learning. We have explored new ideas, challenged our perspectives and learned from both successes and failures.

As we were entrusted with the badge of 'Academic Captains' of AVS, we embarked on a journey from being a student to becoming a role model for other students. Becoming a student leader came with greater responsibility than we ever imagined, which also acted as a driving force to make us work harder and helped us become a better version of ourselves. It was an incredible opportunity to act as a bridge between students and teachers. Throughout our tenure we stumbled upon several hurdles but thanks to the unceasing support and encouragement by the Deputy Head, Mr. Manoj Sharma and the Dean of Studies, Dr. Kuljeet Singh we got through them smoothly.

Like every past academic leader, we had our own set of goals. In the very beginning of our term, we implemented the 'Peer Teaching-Learning Programme' which proved to be a successful initiative and was evident by the improvement in the results of the underperforming students.

"Effective student leaders don't just lead; they serve as role models, inspire others, and leave a lasting impact on their peers and the community."

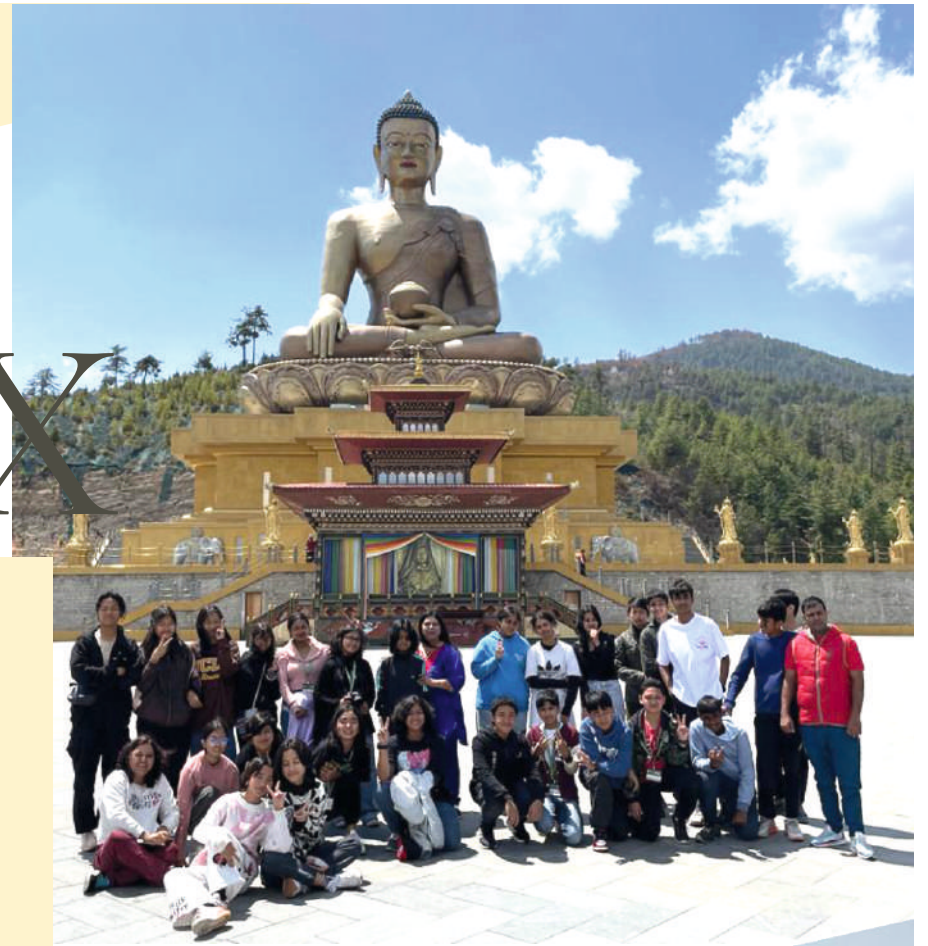
We hope that we were able to do the same. As our tenure as the 'Academic Captains' comes to a close, we are filled with gratitude and a sense of pride for being a part of the prefectural body. As we are passing the baton to the next batch, we would like to wish them all the best and hope that AVS continues to excel.

Manasvi Agarwal and Neel Madhav Garodia



# EDU TREK

The purpose of travel at The Assam Valley School is to enrich students and teachers through exposure to historical and heritage sites, ruins, landscapes, and visits to museums, wildlife parks and other places of interest and educational value. It is to foster a love of learning through the experiential process, to equip students to be independent and confident, and to give them a first-hand out-of-classroom experience of and respect for cultures, traditions, food, dress and habits different from their own.



It is our hope and our belief that the child, through travel, sees the world as truly being their oyster and that their place in the scheme of things is really for them to decide. It is to provide an opportunity to help children handle money wisely and to be able to look after their belongings responsibly.

# ADVENTURE



The Assam Valley School



It is to teach them to care for each other, to be able to put up with inconveniences and challenges and to be able to make the best of every situation. Our endeavour is to provide a plethora of experiences to our students and travel should definitely be a part of the journey. Students should first experience India in all its hues and colours and then also get a glimpse of neighbouring countries. We are certain that in time, with the potential, they will want to discover lands both near and far. From the 3rd to 10th of April most of the students from classes 5 to 12 travelled across the length and breadth of India to over a dozen different destinations, ranging from Ooty in the South to trekking way up north in the Himalayas. The school had also organized an adventure camp for those students who had decided to stay back.



EDUTREX



Classes 5 and 6 travelled to Darjeeling - Sikkim and Delhi - Agra - Jaipur. Classes 7 and 8 explored Bhutan, Mumbai - Imagicaa - Goa and Kasauli - Chail - Shimla. Class 9 went trekking to Beas Kund, Kedarkanta and Har Ki Dun and Class 11 had fun in Bangalore - Mysore - Ooty, Kochi - Alleppey - Munnar and Jaipur - Jodhpur - Jaisalmer - Udaipur.



A photograph of a night festival or event. The scene is filled with numerous strings of warm white lights, creating a starry effect against the dark night sky. In the foreground, there is a structure made of vertical poles and horizontal beams, heavily decorated with red lights. The overall atmosphere is festive and celebratory.

Founders'



# 27<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDERS' OPENING ASSEMBLY



The much awaited 27th Founders' Day celebrations began on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October, 2022 with the Headmaster, Dr. Amit Jugran addressing the school community. He welcomed the Acting Chairman of the Board of Governors of the school, Mr David Summerscale and his wife Mrs Summerscale who had come from London to grace the occasion, just like they do every year to celebrate the Founders' with the school. Dr. Jugran then proceeded with the assembly by appreciating and recognizing eighteen staff members with a token of love for having served the institution with diligence and dedication for twenty-five years and Mr Summerscale gave away the tokens of appreciation to these stalwarts.







The staff members who completed twenty-five glorious years of their service of the school are mentioned below:

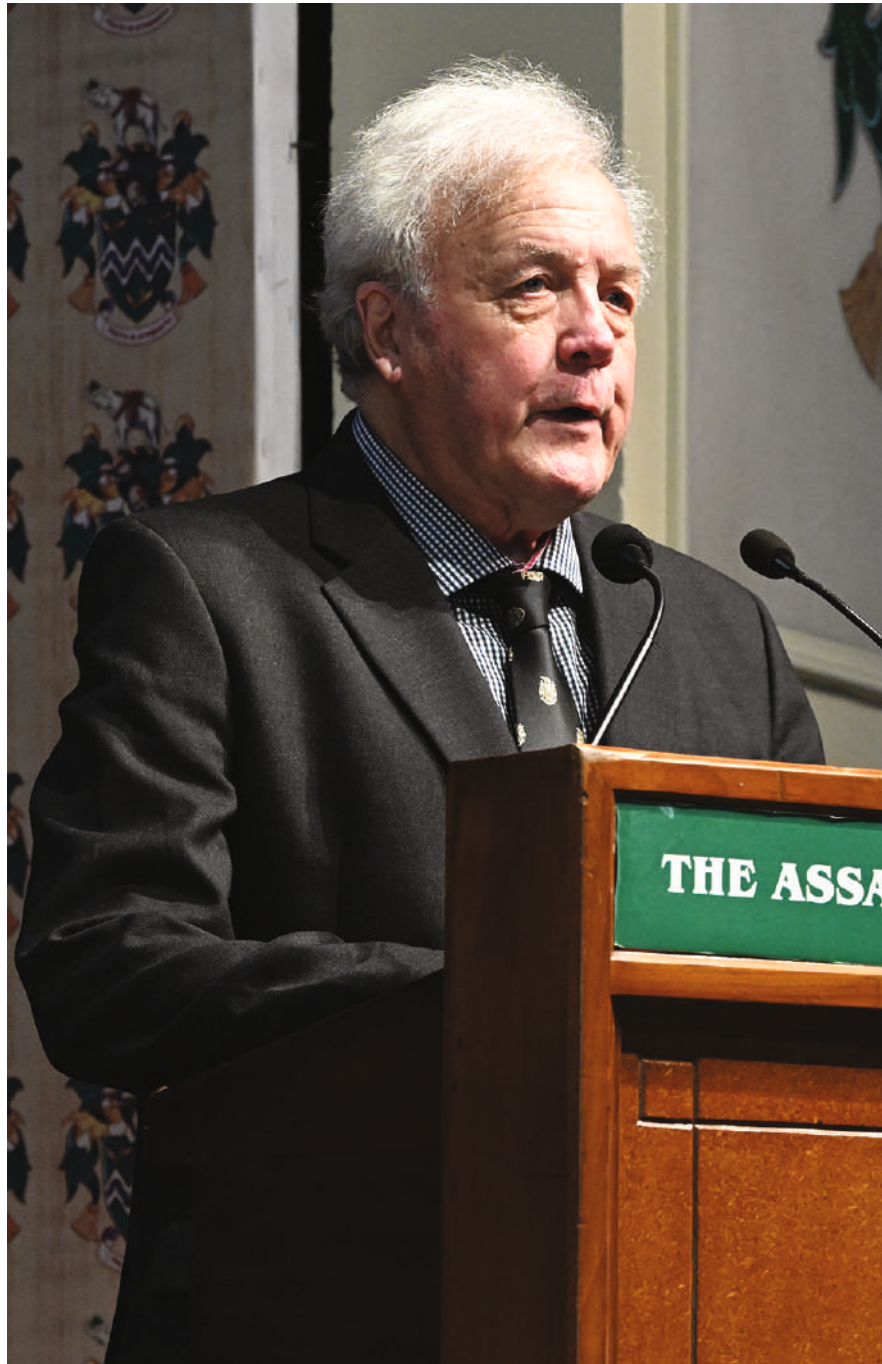
Mr. Ramesh Sharma  
Mr. Dal Bahadur Sonar  
Mr. Chandrika Baitha  
Mr. Lakhinath Gogoi  
Mr. Lakhinath Tanti  
Mr. Saam Tanty

Mr. Pushpakanta Deka  
Mr. Girin Ch Kalita  
Mr. Ram Bahadur Chetry  
Mr. Guresh Das  
Mr. Rajesh Tirki  
Mr. Ashish Mohari  
Mr. Bina Rani Bhatia

Mr. Bina Rani Das  
Mr. Probin Boruah  
Mr. Bacha Lal Pandit  
Mr. Abhijit Baruah  
Mr. Amirzit Singh Huidrom

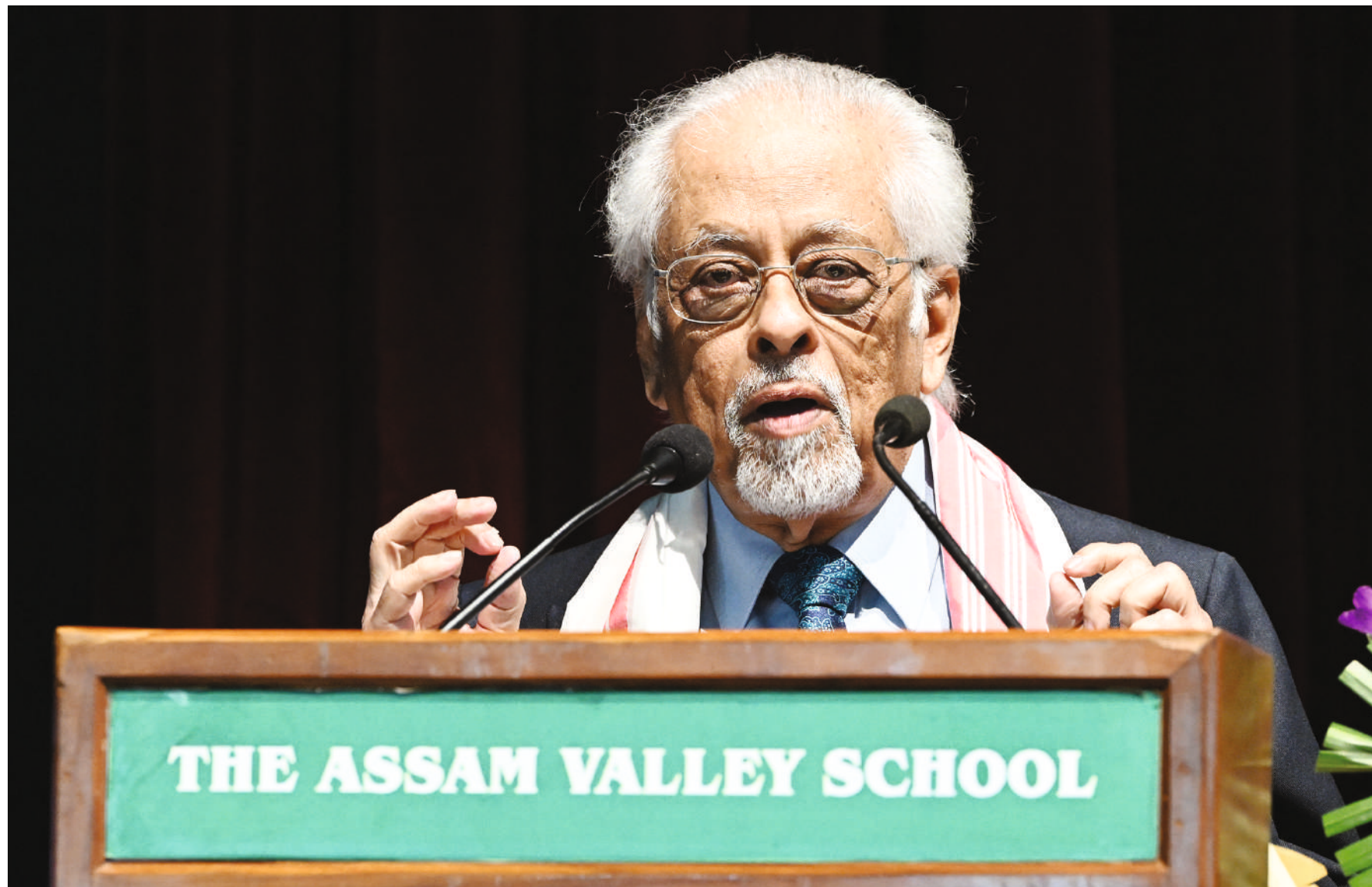


Founders' Speech By  
**MR. DAVID SUMMERSCALE**  
THE CHAIRMAN, GOVERNING BODY, AVS



We have all lived through dark times since we last gathered here to celebrate the Foundation of the School in more or less traditional circumstances. When I arrived at Kolkata at 3:00 am on February 6th, 2020 to be met by white-coated medical staff little did I think that the world was to be turned upside down; it took many more weeks in the west before it dawned on people that life was to be changed forever in ways both complex and subtle as well as obvious, and on a global scale. So it has been with schools, worldwide; AVS of 2022 is not the same as AVS of 2019; so it is within families. Things have fallen apart and have to be rebuilt. Everyone in this hall must recognize that fact, and everyone has been part of a vast process of transition and adaptation. My wife and I are so pleased to be back at AVS at last. The challenges which the school and its families have had to face were immense. But now we must look to the future. We have a new Headmaster, who is an old friend to the School, and who, I am very confident, will be an outstanding Headmaster. AVS has notable successes to cheer, not least its present ranking amongst all schools in India, and great performances both sporting and cultural of which to be proud. And the past two days have reminded us of so much talent and skill as well as all the immensely hard work of preparation. But most important of all is how AVS is fulfilling its function to prepare boys and girls for their future beyond this lovely campus. The campus is not an end in itself. Each year we are sending out ambassadors for the North-East who will make a significant difference to the lives of those around them in this scary world. And the key for that is for School to ensure that each individual who passes through these gates can be an individual secure in his or her own identity while benefiting from a firm foundation as an Aviator. 'I am not what I am'; says one of Shakespeare's most sinister villains. 'I am what I am' is all that most of us can claim to be. Another of Shakespeare's villains gives advice to his son as he sets off to University: in the midst of much comic waffling, guaranteed to irritate anyone about to leave School, comes this phrase: 'This above all, to thine own self be true.' And to those AVS ambassadors I say: be yourselves, be true to what you are and what you owe to your families and your education, don't just accept the masks that society may seek to impose upon you, rely on your own inner strength, your own integrity, your own self-belief. After all, the School's motto is very familiar to you: 'Truth is indeed strength.'





## Dr. PARTHA GHOSE, CHIEF GUEST AT FOUNDERS' SPEECH DAY

**D**istinguished members of the Governing Body and their families, the Visiting Director and Mrs. Ghosh, the Headmaster, Parents, Alumni, well-wishers of the School, the Staff and dear students.

I feel highly honoured to be the Chief Guest at the 27<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day Celebrations of The Assam Valley School. Having been a teacher most of my life, I would like to take this opportunity to address the students, particularly those who are about to leave the school.

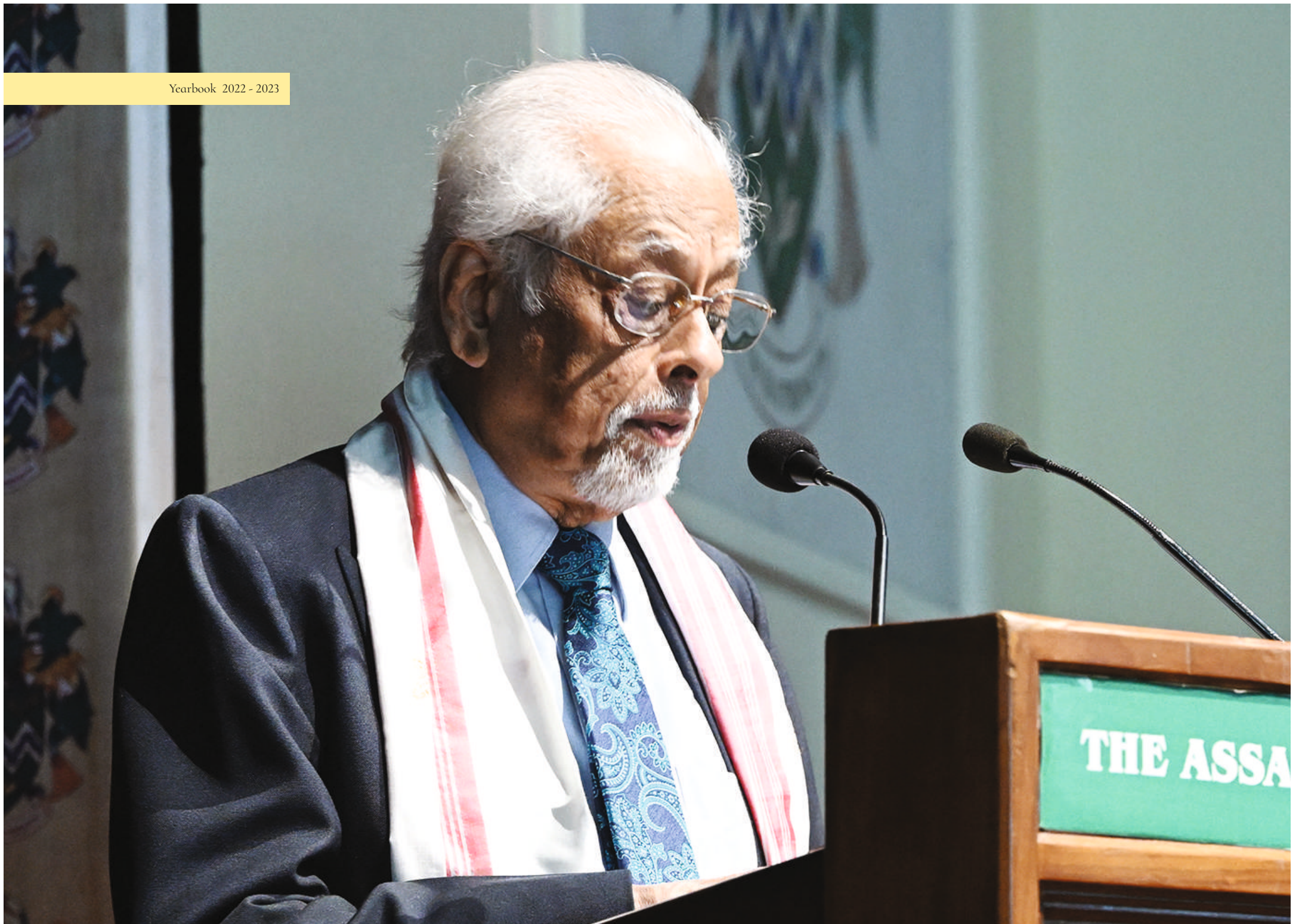
You are now at the threshold of a transition from a familiar sequestered *ashrama* life to an alien world full of surprises, adversities and challenges. Don't be afraid. Face

them boldly. Remember, the best way to learn swimming is to be thrown into the deep end of the pool. As the great Poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote, "Why be afraid of the unknown? It is only by knowing the unknown that life gets richer. My mother was unknown to me, she sheltered me in her lap. Every love involves the unknown. My own life is unknown to me and I wander around under its spell."

*You will be confronted by many contrasting stories and narratives about what's happening around you, politically, economically, ideologically, socially. They are someone's stories.*

*Don't get carried away by them. Be discerning and learn to create your own stories. You must have a story to tell the world. That's vital.*





Remember, change is the only thing that doesn't change in this world. So, prepare yourself to face changes all the time. You'll love it, I can assure you. To remain the same forever is to die.

Learn to look at things with your *chaitanya*, your *chit*. Think of this. All humans in all ages have seen apples fall to the ground, not fly away. Every one accepted that as common sense. But one man in sixteenth century England saw it with his *chaitanya*, and asked: why? And, as you all know, he came up with the theory of universal gravitation that changed human history forever. Don't ignore the mundane and the obvious; that's where lurks the real secret waiting for you to discover.

Don't be afraid of making mistakes—they are your real teachers. Human history is full of instances of initial mistakes that led to great discoveries.

Don't neglect little things like making your own bed. If you can't do the little things right, you will never do the big things right either.

Don't be afraid of dreaming big. Swami Vivekananda used to say, "Get up and set your shoulder to the wheel - How long is this life for? As you have come into this world, leave some mark behind. Otherwise, where is the difference between you and the trees and stones? They too come into existence, decay and die."

