

EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT – All India Radio Akashvani

Under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat 2020 initiative, a special program in 'Samachar Vibhag of Akashvani Jaipur' was planned by the All India Radio to improve the cultural connection between Assam and Rajasthan.

The interview was held in the studio of All India Radio Jaipur, on 11th February 2019 by Mrs. Shila and Mr. Sudarshan from AIR with Ankuranjan Saikia, Trishna Deka Baruah, Varshali Brahma, and Krishna Gupta from Assam studying in **MNIT Jaipur**.

The session started with a brief introduction about the existing custom, tradition, occupation and education scenario of the people living in Assam. Knowing about the various festivals celebrated, 'Bihu' was included as the traditional festival along with durga puja, diwali, chatt puja as assam is a state having strong mixture of different cultures and communities. The discussion was followed by tourism in Assam which included Kaziranga National Park, Mask Painting of Majuli Island, Ambuwachi Mela of Kamakhya Mandir, Sualkuchi – the weaving village of Mekhla Chadar(traditional dress of Assam) to name a few. Besides traditions, festivals and touristic places of Assam, the talk switched to the authentic food of Assam including rice of various types, Peetha – sweet prepared during Bihu, tea leaves etc. The session ended with a small discussion on the differences, similarities and connection between people of Assam and Rajasthan inspite of being so far in distance.