## Dr. B. K. Barua College Award, 2021

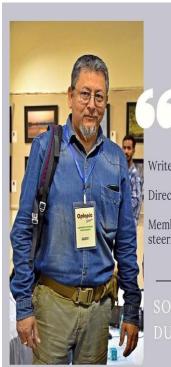
## Dr. B.K.B. College, Puranigudam

Dr. Birinchi Kumar Barua College Award instituted in 2016 has been a part of our institutional best practice and the highest academic honour offered by the college. Though it was intended to be a continuous annual practice a decision was adopted in 2018 with procedural amendment to make the conferring of the award a biennial activity together with the biennial Dr. B. K. Barua memorial lecture. The rationale behind this award giving practice is to shoulder a social responsibility towards promotion of creative inspiration for those working in the field of socio-cultural and historical studies, inculcation of values through fine arts and folk culture.. Initially the central focus of the award was on the unsung heroes, authors and artists who have not been recognized by the academics in an attempt to evaluate and honour their contributions. A good number of such unrecognized creative minds have been engaged in such literary cultural and historical practices that deserve attention. In the year 2021 the selection committee decided to shift the focus from the conventional areas to the issues of environmental crises and conservation of nature.

The College award merits its importance not for its content but for its keeping alive the memory of Dr. B. K. Barua and the objectives set for promotion of arts and craft far beyond the canon. The award carries a cash of 20,000, a citation, pieces of traditional attire and a collection of books.

## The Recipient of the fourth Dr. B. K. Barua College award in 2021:

After choosing persons from the field of literature, culture and history the selection committee shifted its focus to issues related to environment and biodiversity conservation. Mr. Soumyadeep Datta is the recipient of the college award in the year 2021 in honour of his huge contribution in this area particularly habitat conservation for some of the rare endangered species like Golden Langur and his substantial nature writings. Born in 1967 in the district of Dhubri of Assam Mr. Datta has been in the forefront of nature-movements in the entire North Eastern part of India. He has written more than fifty books on wildlife conservation, travel, tribal life and culture, Buddhist culture and religion. He received higher trainings from Smithsonian Institute of the USA in environmental education in 1989 and also trainedin bird studies and wildlife conservation from the Zoological Survey of India. He is presently a member of the Wild Life Advisory Board of Assam.





SOUMYADEEP Dutta

