

Assam to Celebrate Bhupen Hazarika's Birth Centenary

1. Occasion

- Assam government launched **year-long celebrations** to mark the **birth centenary of Bhupen Hazarika**, legendary singer, composer, and cultural icon.
- Hazarika, popularly known as *Sudhakantha* (nectar-voiced), was born on **September 8, 1926**.

2. Tributes by Leaders

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi:**
 - Paid tribute on social media, calling Hazarika a true cultural bridge who immortalized Assam's spirit of love, unity, and humanity through his soulful songs.
 - Stressed that Hazarika's music and legacy will forever inspire generations.
- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah:**
 - Highlighted his role in carrying Assam's voice and culture to the world.
- **Governor Laxman Prasad Acharya & Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma:**
 - Inaugurated centenary celebrations at Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Samannay Kshetra, Guwahati University.
 - Sarma: Described Hazarika's life as "*a poetry in itself*" and emphasized his teachings of empathy, rootedness, and unity.
- **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal:**
 - Said Hazarika's songs continue to be sung by young and old alike, reflecting his timeless appeal.
- **Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu:**
 - Remembered Hazarika's deep connection with Arunachal, particularly his bond with the **Adi and Mishing tribes** and **Boluypong village**.
 - Called him a cultural bridge between Northeast India and the rest of the

country.

3. Legacy of Bhupen Hazarika

- Known as the **Bard of Brahmaputra**, his music embodied unity, empathy, and humanity.
- His songs highlighted social issues, people's struggles, and the power of staying rooted.
- Iconic works include the **theme song of Gauhati University, "Jilikabo Luitore Paar"**, written in 1948.
- Recognized as **Bharat Ratna** in 2019, India's highest civilian award.

4. Cultural Impact

- Hazarika's melodies continue to inspire peace, empathy, and cultural pride in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and across India.
- His compositions bridged the **North-East's identity with the national mainstream**, making him a symbol of cultural integration.
- Considered a **legendary cultural ambassador** of Assam whose works will resonate across generations.

□ Conclusion:

The birth centenary of Bhupen Hazarika is being celebrated as a **year-long tribute** to his life and contributions. Leaders across India, including the Prime Minister, paid homage to his legacy, calling him a **poet of humanity and unity** who carried Assam's voice to the world through music. His songs remain timeless, binding generations with empathy, love, and cultural pride.

Timeline - Bhupen Hazarika

- **1926 (Sept 8):** Born in Sadiya, Assam.
- **1936:** At age 10, recorded his first song for Assamese film *Indramalati*.
- **1940s:** Studied at Cotton College, Guwahati.
- **1948:** Wrote university anthem "*Jilikabo Luitore Paar*" for Gauhati University.
- **1950s-60s:** Pursued higher studies in the U.S. (PhD, Columbia University), influenced by American folk music.

- **1956 onwards:** Composed iconic songs blending Assamese folk with themes of humanity, unity, and empathy.
- **1970s-80s:** Rose as the “**Bard of Brahmaputra**,” spreading Assamese culture nationally and globally.
- **1990s:** Expanded reach to Hindi and Bengali films; collaborated with leading artists.
- **1992:** Awarded **Dadasaheb Phalke Award** for outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.
- **2011 (Nov 5):** Passed away in Mumbai. His death was mourned nationally.
- **2019:** Posthumously awarded **Bharat Ratna**, India’s highest civilian honour.
- **2025:** Assam launched **birth centenary year celebrations**, with tributes from PM, Home Minister, and other leaders.

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Youtube](#)

