

Assamese Film 'Prastawana – The Preamble' Set to Explore Politics, Education, and Constitutional Values



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Assamese cinema is set to welcome a thought-provoking new addition with the upcoming release of *'Prastawana – The Preamble'*, a film inspired by the acclaimed literary work *'Yatra'* by renowned author Dilip Borah. Known for his impactful novels, short stories, essays, and columns, Borah's powerful storytelling has long resonated with readers across generations. His work has now served as the foundation for a cinematic venture that explores the interplay between politics and education in India.

'Prastawana - The Preamble' delves into the prevailing social and political environment of the country and examines how it affects students who find themselves caught within the complexities of the political system. The film offers a stark and honest portrayal of how political interference can distort the purpose of education, shedding light on the deeper injustices and exploitation that arise from such interference.

At its core, the film acts as a call to action for the youth of today. It emphasizes the need for vigilance in defending democratic values and seeks to educate viewers about the ideals of justice, equality, liberty, and fraternity — principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution that uphold the spirit of the world's largest democracy.

Directed jointly by Dilip Borah and Manik Roy, the film is also produced by Borah. Manik Roy, a notable figure in Assam's amateur theatre scene and the founder of Guwahati Shishu Natya Vidyalay in 1998, brings his experience of directing celebrated state and national-level theatre productions to the project. Drawing from the nuanced characters and complex storytelling of *'Yatra'*, the film is expected to deliver a cinematic experience that remains true to the source material's depth and message.

The story and screenplay have been written by Dilip Borah himself. Cinematography is handled by Bitul Das, while Raj Saikia and Bhaskar Dutta serve as assistant directors. The film is edited by the National Award-winning editor A. Sreekar Prasad along with Jhulan Krishna Mahanta. Arnab Bora has designed the film's soundscape, Gulok Saha is in charge of art direction, and Sumon Phukan has managed the costumes. Uttam Deka serves as the production controller.

Two songs in the film, composed and arranged by Satya Ranjan Bhuyan and Hiteswar Ray, add musical depth to the narrative. The film stars veteran actor Tapan Das in the lead role, supported by a talented cast including Paarvee Baruah, Hillol Kumar Pathak, Debajit Mazumdar, Aswini Kumar Bhuyan, Abatosh Bhuyan, Kaushik Nath, RK, Simanta Raj Sarma Kondoli, and Antara GG Choudhury.

Having recently passed the censor board, *'Prastawana - The Preamble'* is poised to spark conversation about the relationship between literature and cinema, and how storytelling continues to influence and reflect the socio-political climate of contemporary India.

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BY PRANTIK DEKA

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