

## Capacity enhancement prog for police officers launched

**STAFF REPORTER**

**GUWAHATI, Dec 16:** The fifth 'Capacity Enhancement Programme for Police Officers (GRP) on Child-related Laws' was inaugurated by Justice AC Upadhyay, Director, Judicial Academy, Assam, today.

The two-day programme is being organised by the Centre for Child Rights, National Law University, Assam in collaboration with UNICEF (Assam Field Office) to augment the capacity of police officers on child-related laws.

In his inaugural address, Justice Upadhyay, who was the chief guest at the function, emphasised that children who have fallen behind need to be brought forward.

"This becomes more important for the fact that the chil-

dren are our future. A child cannot be treated as a criminal and they constitute a special class and hence special treatment is necessary for them," he said.

Lauding the role of Government Railway Police (GRP) in child protection, Justice Upadhyay said that they could play an important role in social justice, equality and empowerment of children.

Speaking on the occasion, special guest of honour Prasanta J Baruah, Executive Editor, *The Assam Tribune*, said that child protection is a very sensitive issue and requires wide coverage. He informed the participants that earlier the journalists were hesitant in covering child-related news, but the situation has changed now and child protection and reporting have be-

come very important.

Bhaskarjyoti Mahanta, ADGP (GRP), Assam Police, said capacity building programmes should enhance the skill and attitude of police personnel. Change of attitude is necessary for bringing out the best of the police, he added.

Earlier, Justice Tinlianthatg Vaiphei, Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, Chancellor of the National Law University, Assam and the chief patron of journals, along with Prof Vjender Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University, Assam, released two journals of the university.

The guests were earlier welcomed by the Registrar of the university Dr Himanshu Pandey. The vote of thanks was offered by Dr Vijay P Tiwari, head, Centre for Child Rights.