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**CM lays foundation stone for reconstruction of *sabhagriha* of Basisthashram Devalaya**

**CM inaugurates new park at Basistha Bhootnath crematorium**

**Dispur, September 13:** In a bid to strengthen the infrastructure of historic Basisthashram Devalaya in the city, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma today laid the foundation stone for reconstruction of its *sabhagriha* (meeting hall). Noted social worker Anupam Sarma and CMD of Prag News Dr. Sanjive Narain have taken up the responsibility for reconstruction of the meeting hall.

The Chief Minister today also inaugurated a park with a small pond newly developed by CMD of Prag News Dr. Sanjive Narain at Basistha Bhootnath Crematorium Kali Mandir compound.

Addressing the devotees at the foundation stone laying ceremony, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that the temples and devalayas are significant from both religious and historic perspectives. They are an embodiment of our cultural identity and it is very important to protect, preserve and strengthen their infrastructure, he said.

The Chief Minister said that Basisthashram Devalaya has immense historic and mythological significance. The Assam government has already mooted a plan to carry out various tourist and pilgrim friendly initiatives at the Devalaya, he said adding that soon the Devalaya would attain a new look. The Chief Minister also asked the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup (Metro) Biswajit Pegu to take necessary steps to execute the master plan involving the Tourism and Public Works Department.

The Chief Minister also appreciated the steps taken by social worker Anupam Sarma and CMD of Prag News Dr. Sanjive Narain for boosting the infrastructure of the Devalaya and thanked them for their initiatives.

Chief *Doloi* of Basisthashram Devalaya Girindra Mohan Sarma also spoke on the occasion. The foundation stone laying ceremony was also attended by Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup (Metro) Biswajit Pegu, CMD of Pride East Entertainments Private Limited and wife of the Chief Minister Riniki Bhuyan Sharma, social worker Anupam Sarma and CMD of Prag News Dr. Sanjive Narain among others.

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