

PRESS RELEASE

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CM visits Jorhat district

State Govt. to develop freedom fighters' memorial park at Jorhat

Dispur, February 4: State government will carry out a re-development project at Jorhat Central Jail to transform the historic jail into a freedom fighters memorial with museum, park and convention centre. This project with budget outlay of Rs. 100 crore including infrastructure development of the existing Jail would be carried out with joint funding of the State government and the NEC.

Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma during his visit to Jorhat district today reviewed the project with senior officials of State government in a meeting held at the office of the Deputy Inspector General of Prisons (Range) Jorhat. Out of around 350 bighas of land of the Central Jail, a memorial park with convention centre, yoga and meditation centre etc. will be developed in an area covering 150 bigha.

The freedom fighters' memorial will include names of all the freedom fighters of Assam and the North East starting from the 1857 uprising. The prison cells where martyr Kushal Konwar and social reformer and freedom fighter Pitambar Devagoswami were imprisoned, would also be a part of this memorial park. As a part of this project, the existing infrastructure of the Central Jail would also be developed and a multi-storey residential complex for the jail officials would be constructed. The state government would soon finalise the Rs. 100 crore project.

It may be noted that Jorhat central jail which was constructed during the British rule in India carries the memories of the contribution of the state in India's freedom movement. Many prominent freedom fighters from Assam were imprisoned in this jail, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma during his Independence Day speech mentioned about the State government's plan to transform this site into a freedom fighters' memorial as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav commemorating the 75th year of India's independence.

Chief Minsiter Dr Sarma also visited the *samadhisthal* of Swahid Maniram Dewan at Chinamora in Jorhat today and paid his tributes to the great freedom fighter who was given capital punishment and hanged to death by the British for waging war against the British East India Company during the 1857 uprising. He also visited the site at Chinamora Tea Estate where a life size statue of the martyr is to be installed.

The Chief Minister also visited Jorhat Stadium today and met office bearers and other sports enthusiasts and discussed about State government's plan to develop a world class stadium at Jorhat by merging the areas of the existing Jorhat stadium, JDSC playground and parade ground.

Later the Chief Minister met representatives of Jorhat Government Boys HS School, Balya Bhavan Jorhat, Gomdhar Konwar Smriti Suraksha Committee, Dhekiakhwa Bornamghar, Lachit Maidam Management Committee, Lahdoigorh and Auniati Satra, Kaliapani, Teok at Jorhat Circuit


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House today. He handed over financial sanction letters to the representatives of the organizations for various infrastructure development activities in their respective institutions.

The representatives of Jorhat Theatre and Jorhat District Unit of AASU also met the Chief Minister and apprised him some of their issues.

Education Minister and Guadian Minister of Jorhat district Dr Ranuj Pegu, Jorhat MLA Hitendra Nath Goswami, Dergaon MLA Bhaben Bharali and Mariani MLA Rupjyoti Kurmi were also present during the visit of the Chief Minister to the district.

BG/ February 4, 2022.