



JANASANYOG, ASSAM
CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR

PRESS RELEASE

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CM attends 'Shradhanjali' programme on the occasion of Swahid Divas

CM releases new volumes of database on Assam agitation, launches Rs. 5 crore corpus fund for affected families

Dispur, December 10: Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma said that the sacrifices and heroism of the martyrs of six years long Assam agitation would continue to inspire the people of the state to embark on a new economic and political movement for the survival of the Assamese community. The Chief Minister said this while speaking at the "Shradhanjali" programme organized by the Assam Accord Implementation Department on the occasion of "Swahid Divas" celebration at Swahid Smarak Park at Paschim Boragaon in Guwahati today.

Coinciding with the occasion, Chief Minister Sarma released the 2nd and 3rd volume of the database on Assam agitation titled "Asom Andolonor Tathyakosh". He also ceremonially launched a Rs. 5 crore corpus fund to benefit people affected by the agitation.

Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that martyr Khargeswar Talukdar sacrificed his life for safeguarding our land from the aggression of illegal migrants at Bhabanipur on this day in 1979 while taking part at the spontaneous mass movement. He said that to uphold the pride of the Assamese people, more than 850 youths of the state lost their lives in Assam agitation and added that their sacrifices would continue to inspire us to move ahead with the new economic and political movement launched in the state for greater interest of the Assamese community.

The Chief Minister observed that in spite of the sacrifices of several hundred youths during the movement, the Assamese community is still unsafe, rather it is more vulnerable as huge tract of land of the state has come under encroachment today. The Assamese community has lost economic power and their political authority is greatly challenged today, he said and appealed the people to introspect at this critical juncture to make the Assamese community stronger.

Stating that the present government has been working staunchly every day in last six months to rebuild the Assamese community, Chief Minister Sarma urged the people to unite themselves to safeguard the language, art & culture and land rights of the Assamese people. He also said that the state government has been making unrelenting efforts to boost harmony within the community and said that eviction at Gorukhuti in Sipajhar and the agricultural revolution it has launched is the beginning of a new movement for regaining the rights of the Assamese. He further said that the government is committed to face all challenges and continue its efforts to keep the state's hallowed civilization afloat.

Moreover, the Chief Minister urged all to take active part in the movement for regaining the economic and political power from the hands of aggressors. He also made an appeal to those who have chosen the path of violence to join the peace process to boost this new movement.

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While launching the Rs. 5 crore corpus fund for the affected of Assam agitation, the Chief Minister said that efforts will be made to increased the fund up to Rs. 50 crores with support from public and private contribution. He also announced that along with the Swahid Smarak Park at Paschim Boragaon, the state government would set up a memorial project at martyr Khargeswar Talukdar's birth place Bhabanipur covering an area of 100 bigha land.

Minister for Assam Accord Implementation Department Atul Bora also delivered speech in the programme which was attended by Minister for Industries & Commerce Chandra Mohan Patowary, Minister for Bodoland Welfare Department UG Brahma, Minister for Water Resources Department Pijush Hazarika, Minister for Cultural Affairs Department Bimal Bora and Political Secretary to CM Jayanta Malla Baruah. Chief Secretary Jishnu Baruah delivered the welcome speech. Members of the families of the martyrs of Assam agitation were also present in the programme.

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