



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

PRESS RELEASE

No. 115/2022

**CM Dr. Sarma lays foundation stone for Guest House cum Yatri Niwas and Saraighat Lake development project at Amingaon**

**CM ceremonially distributes financial assistance to tour operators and tourist guides**

**Scheme for setting up of godown for storage of paddy in rural areas launched**

**Dispur, April 21:** With a view to benefit patients and other visitors to the upcoming AIIMS at Changsari as well as strengthening tourism infrastructure at Amingaon, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma laid the foundation stone for a Guest House cum Yatri Niwas and a project for development of Saraighat Lake near DC office Kamrup at Amingaon today. The Assam Tourism Development Corporation will implement the projects with estimated cost of Rs. 43 crore and 5 crore respectively.

The Chief Minister on the occasion also launched ceremonial distribution of financial assistance amounting to Rs. 2.00 lakh to 114 numbers of registered Tour Operators and an amount of Rs. 25,000 to 605 numbers registered Tourist Guides under "Paryatan Sanjeevani Scheme" of the Tourism Department.

Alongwith this, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma also launched a flagship scheme named "Setting up of Godown for storage of Paddy in Rural areas of Assam" under Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana (CMSGUY) being implemented by Assam Food & Civil Supply Corporation Limited (AFCSCL). As part of this, the Chief Minister ceremonially distributed 'Letter of Intent' to beneficiaries such as entrepreneurs, private agencies, NGOs etc. covered under this scheme for construction of godown and handed over cheque of Rs. 3.30 Crore as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment towards implementation of the scheme from CMSGUY to the implementing agency AFCSCL.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that Amingaon and its adjoining areas have witnessed tremendous growth in economic activities in recent times. Projects like AIIMS at Changsari and ongoing construction of a bridge connecting Guwahati with North Guwahati and many such projects have added economic value to the area apart from changing its socio-economic landscape. As a result of these development activities, there has been a significant rise of visitors and tourists to the area. The AIIMS is also expected to increase footfall in the area, especially patients and their attendants in coming days, the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister further said that keeping in view the new developments and to meet the growing demand, the State Government has taken the initiative to construct the Guest House cum Yatri Niwas. "The Public Guest House will provide comfortable and hygienic accommodation to the patients and their attendants who stand in need of undergoing treatment in AIIMS, Guwahati", Dr. Sarma said adding that the project would also provide a refreshment area for the on-going travellers and tourists by introducing way side amenity within the campus.

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Dr. Sarma said that the project for development of Saraighat Lake at Amingaon will cover 7 bigha land which will create an extension of the existing park along Saraighat lake. Along with Alaboi War memorial, work for which is expected to start from June, the Saraighat Lake and other sites of tourist interest will turn the area into an emerging tourism destination, he observed. Dr. Sarma also said that coinciding with the 400<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of Mahabir Lachit Borphukan, recently he had written letters to the Chief Ministers of all the states of India to incorporate a chapter on the great General of Assam's history in the school curriculum of their respective states.

The Chief Minister also urged the Chairman ATDC and the officials to ensure completion of the projects in a time bound manner within a period of 18 to 24 months. He asked them to set milestones, conduct regular monitoring and ensure quick disbursement of payments for speedy implementation.

He also informed that to meet the growing demand of the area, the government is planning for a Circuit House adjacent to Kamrup DC Office. He also said that as construction under phase I of the Integrated DC office complex is already complete, the government would soon start construction under phase II, which will make space available for all government offices in the integrated building. Dr. Sarma also informed that plans are afoot to construct an international badminton academy at Amingaon.

The Chief Minister further said that while taking part at the celebration of "World Tourism Day" last year, he made an announcement to provide financial support to tour operators and tourist guides who suffered huge loss during the Covid pandemic. He appreciated the Tourism Department for taking prompt step to materialize the announcement made by him.

Further underlining the newly launched scheme under CMSGUY for setting up of Godowns at rural areas, Dr. Sarma said that the state government during this year took an initiative to procure paddy from farmers at MSP of Rs. 1940 per quintal through FCI. While procuring paddy from farmers, the procurement agencies had to face challenges in terms of storage as the FCI godowns have limited capacity, he said adding that the new scheme will help to increase the storage capacity of paddy in paddy growing areas of Assam and provide safe storage conditions to prevent grain loss. The Chief Minister also informed state government's plan to procure paddy directly from farmers from next year.

Dr. Sarma informed that for implementation of this new scheme, the State Government through CMSGUY has accorded approval for a total amount of 39 crores for setting up of Godowns in 110 locations of rural areas in Assam with 50% subsidy, subject to a maximum of 40 lakhs per Godown. The Godowns would be able to store a minimum of 500 MT to a maximum 2000 MT of paddy at a time.

The Chief Minister asked the implementing agency to ensure time bound construction of the Godowns to meet the goal set by the state government. He also urged the farmers to

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focus on cultivation of millet along with rice, which has immense potential to financially benefit farmers.

Food & Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Minister Ranjeet Kumar Dass, Industry & Commerce Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary, Additional Chief Secretary for Tourism Maninder Singh and Additional Chief Secretary for FCS&CA BR Samal also spoke on the occasion.

While MD ATDC Padmapani Bora delivered the welcome speech, the programme was also attended by MLA and Political Secretary to CM Jayanta Malla Baruah, Hajo MLA Suman Haripriya, Chairman AFCSCCL Rajen Gohain, Chairman ATDC Rituparna Baruah, Vice Chairman ATDC Dilip Kumar Das, DC Kamrup Kailash Karthik among others.

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