



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

No. 124/2022

**PM inaugurates 7 cancer centres and lays foundation stone for another 7 set up with joint initiative of Assam Government and Tata Trusts**

**PM's vision gives new momentum to development in the north east: CM**

**Dispur, April 28:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated Dibrugarh Cancer Centre at Assam Medical College & Hospital in Dibrugarh in the presence of Governor Professor Jagdish Mukhi, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal giving a major boost to cancer care in the state.

Later in a public meeting held at Khanikar in Dibrugarh, the Prime Minister virtually inaugurated six Cancer Centres being developed at Barpeta, Tezpur, Lakhimpur, Kokrajhar, Jorhat and Mangaldai and laid foundation stone for another seven at Goalpara, Nalbari, Tinsukia, Sibsagar, Golaghat, Dhubri and Nagaon. The Prime Minister also addressed the huge gathering at the public meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said that by inaugurating Dibrugarh Cancer Centre and six other such centres at different parts of Assam as well as laying foundation stone for another seven more cancer centres, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unleashed a transformational change in terms of cancer care in the state. He said that the Cancer Centres will give a new fillip to cancer care in Assam and turn it into the largest cancer care network in the South Asian region.

Stating that recognizing the high incidences of cancer in Assam and resultant burden on the cancer patients and their families, Government of Assam and Tata Trusts entered into an MoU in February 2018 to create a Distributed Cancer Care Model, he said that as part of this Assam Cancer Care Foundation was formed.

Under this foundation, steps have been taken for setting up 17 cancer centres across Assam, he said adding that for implementation of this initiative Rs. 2766 Crores is being contributed by Government of Assam and Rs. 1153 Crores by Tata Trusts. The Chief Minister informed that while the Government of India has contributed an amount of Rs. 108 Crores for the State Cancer Institute, Corporate Social Responsibility contribution of Rs. 81 Crore has also been committed to the overall project cost by various companies. Dr. Sarma thanked Chairman of Tata Trusts Ratan N Tata for his unprecedented commitment, support and cooperation in realizing the Cancer Care Foundation and the new Cancer Centres.

Dr. Sarma said that the Prime Minister's vision gives inspiration and new momentum to development in the north east. He said that health infrastructure in Assam has received a major boost under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Modi. The Chief Minister informed that apart from eight existing medical colleges, construction of eight more medical colleges is under progress. Another eight medical colleges have been approved by the state government, Dr. Sarma said.

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The Chief Minister expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his support and guidance to tackle the challenge posed by Covid-19 pandemic. He said that due to the Prime Minister's commitment towards the region, there has been a remarkable improvement of connectivity in the north-east today. He also said that earlier cancer patients from the state had to travel to places like Vellore and Mumbai but under the new initiative they would get affordable cancer care in the state.

The Chief Minister also invited the Prime Minister for inauguration of AIIMS, Guwahati during November this year and to grace the 400<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebration of Mahabir Lachit Borphukan to be held at New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> November this year.

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, Minister of Health Government of Assam Keshab Mahanta and Chairman of Tata Trusts Ratan Tata also delivered speech in the meeting.

Union Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas Rameswar Teli, former Chief Justice of India and Member of the Rajyasabha Ranjan Gogoi, Chairman of Tata Sons Natarajan Chandrasekaran, several ministers, MPs and MLAs were present among others in the meeting.

AH/HS/BG/April 28, 2022