

## PRESS RELEASE

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## CM attends Me-Dam-Me-Phi programme at Sadiya

## Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha's ideals must be followed to establish Assam strongly at the world stage: CM

**Dispur, January 31:** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today attended the Me-Dam-Me-Phi celebration programme organized by Cultural Directorate, Govt of Assam and Tinsukia district administration at Sadiya. He also took part in rituals at the beginning of the programme.

Speaking at the programme, the Chief Minister called for maintaining peace and harmony among all sections of the society following the ideals of Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha who set the foundation of a greater Assamese society uniting all communities. The Ahom kings had set up temples and places of worship at different corners of Assam which had strengthened the spiritual and moral base of the society, he added.

Calling on the young generation to follow the ideals of Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha to contribute to the nation building process, Sonowal highlighted the example of Lachit Borphukan who valiantly fought with outside enemies to protect Assam and its people. He urged the youth to imbibe the spirit of patriotism shown by Lachit Borphukan and he stressed on the importance of realising the values taught by festivals like Me-Dam-Me-Phi to establish Assam strongly at the world stage.

Sonowal also said since assuming power in 2016, the present state government has been working sincerely to protect the interest of all communities in the state and he also informed that steps have been taken by the state government to erect a statue of Swargadeo Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha in Janata Bhawan premises at Dispur. He also highlighted steps like starting Siu-Ka-Pha a seat at Dibrugarh University, construction of memorial of 42 *Swargadeos* at Charaideo, selection of Sivasagar by the Central Government as one of the five iconic places in the country among others.

During his speech, Sonowal also called for united efforts by all stakeholders to turn Me-Dam-Me-Phi into a celebration like Kumbh Mela and he assured of looking into the demands like setting up a cultural college in memory of Phraseng Mung Borgohain at Sadiya, inclusion of 25 *Deoghars* in *Asom Darshan* scheme for providing Rs. 10 lakh for their development etc.

Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley, in his speech, stressed on the need to follow the ideals of great Ahom Swargadeos and maintain unity and harmony among all sections of the society.

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MoS of Labour and Tea Tribes Welfare Department Sanjay Kishan also spoke in today's programme and highlighted the achievements of Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha in shaping the identity of a greater Assamese Society.

Sadiya MLA Balin Chetia, social worker Pulak Gohain, Commissioner of Pranam Ayog Jugabala Burhagohain also delivered speeches in today's programme which was attended by several MLAs and many other dignitaries.

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