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CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Sonowal reviews implementation of schemes for Baghjan**

**Asks departments to implement schemes in a time bound manner for welfare of all**

Dispur, November 5: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today held a review meeting to take stock of the pace of implementation of various rehabilitation projects of Baghjan area as he categorically asked the implementing departments to execute projects to ensure welfare of all sections of the people of the area in a time bound manner. The meeting held in view of the Chief Minister's visit to the Baghjan blow out area along with Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan on June 14 to review the progress of implementation of his announcements on the ground at the conference room of the Chief Minister's Office at Janata Bhawan today.

It may be noted that on May 27, while carrying out the workover operations in the gas-producing well under Baghjan oilfield in Tinsukia district, the well suddenly became active and a blowout occurred. The disaster caused a widespread impact on the livelihood of locals living in nearby areas. Chief Minister Sonowal to give succor to the people of Baghjan areas made several announcements for the socio-economic development of the people living in the areas.

As upgradation of Baghjan Dighal Tarrang High School to Higher Secondary School was one of his announcements, on being asked about the status of its implementation, Principal Secretary Education Department B. Kalyan Chakravarthy apprised the Chief Minister that from the coming academic year the school will function as a higher secondary school. Moreover, on the renovation five number of schools around Baghjan area namely Dighal Tarang Gate Line LP School, 1 No. Baghjan Gaon LP School, Baghjan Gaon LP School, Dighal Tarang LP School, Kaliapani LP School, the principal secretary informed that progress has been made on this front too.

Moreover, with regard to setting up of a 30 bedded Model Hospital including the residential quarters at Baghjan, Principal Secretary Health and Family Welfare Samir Sinha said that DPR is being prepared as the foundation stone for the same can be laid very shortly. Further, construction of Veterinary Dispensary at Dingtal Tarang in Tinsukia will be taken up very soon.

As the Chief Minister for the socio-economic empowerment of the youths of Baghjan areas, announced setting up of Skill Development Centre, Commissioner and Secretary Industry and Commerce Department Dr. K.K. Dwivedi said that he is in touch with the concerned functionary for setting up of Skill Development Centre. He also said that efforts are being made for the venture in creating employment and entrepreneurship among the youths. Moreover, a project has also been initiated under Community Investment Fund and

Vulnerability Reduction Fund to help the self help groups under Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission.

Taking stock of the pace of rehabilitation processes, Sonowal also reviewed the Baghjan Rehabilitation through handloom weaving and asked Handloom and Textile Department to implement the project. He also took stock of the widening and strengthening of roads from Gellaphukhuri Tiniali to Baghjan Tiniali and improvement of NH 37 to Baghjan Gaon. For bringing permanent solution to flood and erosion in the Baghjan areas, Sonowal asked the Water Resources Department to expeditiously pursue the anti-erosion measures.

Sonowal also took stock of the piped water supply scheme with functional household tap connection for providing pure drinking water to Baghjan. Moreover, for bringing Baghjan in the tourism map of the state, Sonowal in response to his announcement, reviewed the implementation of Maguri Motapung beel as a tourist destination and asked District Administration Tinsukia and Assam Tourism Development Corporation to implement the project on a war footing.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Paban Kumar Borthakur, Principal Secretary Health, Finance Samir Sinha, Principal Secretary Education B. Kalyan Chakravarthy, Principal Secretary Environment and Forest Avinash Joshi, Special Commissioner to the Chief Minister Ranjan Chakravartty, CEO Assam State Disaster Management Authority M.S. Manivannan, Commissioner and Special Secretary PWD Rajesh Kemprai and other senior officers of the government were present at the meeting.

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