

PRESS RELEASE

No. 809/2020

CM unveils life size statue of Mahabir Lachit Barphukan at Sepon

Lachit Barphukan's valour inspires people to selflessly serve the nation: CM

Dispur, December 02: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal unveiled a life size statue of great Ahom general Mahabir Lachit Barphukan at Sepon in Charaideo district today. The statue has been installed by Sepon Unit of All Tai Ahom Students' Union, which is around 33 feet tall including its pedestal.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Sonowal said that Mahabir Lachit Barphukan's courage and valour gave distinct identity to the Assamese people worldwide inspiring generations after generations to dedicate themselves selflessly in the service of the nation. The Chief Minister lauded the Sepon Unit of ATASU for this praiseworthy initiative and observed that the statue of Lachit Barphukan would continue to remind people about this great warrior's indelible contributions and duty of the people towards the society. Chief Minister Sonowal at the same time also called upon the ATASU leadership and its members to play a more proactive role in strengthening the greater Assamese society.

Stating that the Ahom kings espousing the ideals of unity and harmony created six hundred years of remarkable history full of heroism and great virtues, Sonowal said that there was a need for further research on the history of Ahom period. He also pointed out that the State government took up the initiative to set up 'Swargadeo Samannay Kshetra' in a bid to inspire the younger generation to realize the contributions of the 42 great Ahom kings. The Chief Minister also said that while the global organization today talk about unity, solidarity and harmony, the Ahom kings much earlier set precedent of these ideals in its kingdom.

Sonowal further said that following Lachit Barphukan's ideals, people of the State would have to devote themselves for safeguarding the Assamese identity, its culture and heritage. The way Lachit Barphukan defeated the invaders was a testimony of the might and capability of the Assamese people, Sonowal said adding that there was a need to rejuvenate that strength to take the Assamese community forward in the 21st century.

Today being the Asom Divas, Chief Minister Sonowal also paid deep tribute to Swargadeo Chaolung Siu-Ka-Pha and greeted the people and urged them to commit themselves for promoting unity, harmony and brotherhood in the society.

Minister of State for Revenue and Disaster Management (i/c) Jogen Mohan, MP Tapon Kumar Gogoi, MLAs Prasanta Phukan, Kushal Dowari, Nabanita Handique, Bimal Borah, Rituparna Baruah, Terosh Gowala, Member Secretary of SLAC for Students and Youth Welfare Lakhya Konwar, President of Purbanchal Tai Sahitya Sabha Dr. Dayananda Buragohain, President of Dibrugarh Zila Parishad Daisy Rani Phukan Shyam, Vice

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President of ATASU Charaideo Unit Dayananda Phukan, President of ATASU Sepon Unit Richardson Konwar and several other dignitaries were present in the meeting. **BG/02.12.2020**

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