

## PRESS RELEASE

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## <u>Union Home Minister Amit Shah visits Assam-Bangladesh border with Chief Minister</u> <u>Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma</u>

## **Union Home Minister Shah inspects Border Watch Post**

BSF has been working unrelentingly to protect border and to check infiltration: CM

**Dispur, May 9:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah today visited Mankachar in South Salmara district on India-Bangladesh border and inspected a Watch Post operated by the Border Security Force (BSF). Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma accompanied the Union Home Minister during the visit.

Union Home Minister Shah and Chief Minister Dr. Sarma also visited a Border Outpost of the 45<sup>th</sup> Battalion of BSF at Mankachar and interacted with BSF officials. During the visit, senior officials of the BSF apprised the Union Minister about the operational areas of the outpost and steps taken by it for border security.

Minister of Panchayat & Rural Development of the Government of Assam Ranjeet Kumar Dass was also present during the visit of the Union Home Minister and the Chief Minister.

Later Union Home Minister Shah visited Tamulpur in BTR and took part in Bhumi Puja of the Central Workshop and Stores of the BSF and laid its foundation in the presence of Chief Minister Dr. Sarma.

Speaking in a public meeting held on the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma thanked the Union Home Minister for selecting Assam for the Central Workshop and Stores of the BSF at Tamulpur in Assam. He said that the new infrastructure project would boost operational efficiency of the BSF and help in economic growth of the BTR region.

Dr. Sarma said that once this project becomes operational, the BSF will have better access to arms and ammunition, weapons' testing and repairing facilities. He also said that the BSF has been working unrelentingly for protecting the border and to check infiltration as well smuggling of drugs and other banned items.

Reiterating Assam government's commitment for development of Tamulpur, the Chief Minister said that fulfilling its promise the government has upgraded Tamulpur from a subdivision to a district. He also assured to launch construction of several bridges as promised earlier. Dr. Sarma also underlined the role played by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah in establishing peace and unleashing development in the region.

During this programme, the Union Home Minister also ceremonially launched retail outlets of Khadi and Village Industries for 107 nos. canteens of the BSF. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also delivered speech in the public rally.

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While BTR Chief Pramod Boro delivered the welcome speech, vote of thanks was offered by Director General of BSF Pankaj Kumar Singh. Handloom & Textiles Minister UG Brahma, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Ashok Kumar Singhal, MPs Dilip Kumar Saikia and Rwngwra Narzary, Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Chief Secretary of Assam Jishnu Baruah, DGP Bhaskarjyoti Mahanta, several MLAs, members of BTR Council, senior officials of the Government of Assam, Assam police and BSF were present on the occasion.

The Union Home Minister and Chief Minister Sarma also visited a photo gallery and weapons display by the BSF on the occasion.

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