

## **CM lays foundation stone of development projects in Karbi Anglong**

**Dispur, May 7:** With a view to accelerate the pace of development in the hill districts of the state, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today laid the foundation stone of several projects in Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong districts. The Chief Minister during his daylong tour kick started the works for construction of a Civil Hospital, DIET, Polytechnic Institute, B.Ed College at Hamren, Public Hall at Baithalansu and Science College at Dongkamokam.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Sonowal assured that the Government of Assam would ensure safety and security of all people living in the hill districts and uphold the self-esteem of the Karbis. The Chief Minister also reiterated his commitment to usher equal development of all communities and strengthening better ties and harmony amongst them all.

“Government of Assam is fully aware of both challenges and opportunities in development of Six Schedule areas of the state. The area specific special requirement of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong district will always be priority of the Government and they will continue to get special attention”, Sonowal said adding that in the 2017-18 Budget, Govt. of Assam has made an all time higher allocation of funds to the Councils. This amount is about 20% more than last years' budget.

The Chief Minister also mentioned that an amount of Rs.50.00 crore as one-time special grant for undertaking various developmental works in Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council area is allotted.

“Since, there is only one Government college in Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council area, it is proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to set up one more Government college for Science stream”, the Chief Minister said while laying the foundation stone of Science College at Dongkamokam. The setting up of B.Ed. College and DIET will further improve the academic environment in KAAC, Sonowal added.

Maintaining that proper harnessing of tourism potential can bolster manifold economic growth in Assam, Chief Minister Sonowal appreciated the vast resources available in the hill districts and assured that the Government

would unleash series of activities to promote the tourism potential of the autonomous council areas.

Underlining the “Discovery of Assam” initiative, which is launched by the state Government to unearth the uniqueness and vast pool of resources of the state to highlight a positive image of Assam in the global arena, Chief Minister Sonowal commented that this project would also benefit Karbi Anglong. The Chief Minister further promised to vigorously carry forward major initiatives to transform the education, health, communication, employment, youth empowerment, agriculture and tourism sector of the hill districts.

CEM, KAAC Tuliram Ronghang, MLAs Dr. Nomal Momin, Sum Ronghang, Dr. Mansing Rongpi, Joyram Engleng and Chairman, Housefed Ranjit Dass were also present among others in the programmes.

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