

**Chief Minister lays foundation stone of CM's Seuj Uddyan Achoni**

**Dispur, May 10:** With a view to make pollution free Assam a reality, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of CM's Seuj Uddyan Achoni at Mikirpara area under Rani Reserve Forest today. This project to be implemented with an expenditure of Rs. 3.65 Crore is considered to be a beginning in achieving the Chief Minister's coveted goal of an Assam free from pollution.

Speaking on the occasion Chief Minister Sonowal called for joint action by Forest Department and Public to increase the green cover of Assam. 'Assam is known for its rich biodiversity throughout the world. If we have to keep the glory continue, everybody would have to contribute in the conservation of nature,' – the Chief Minister stated.

Stating that forest officials have a great responsibility in protection forest and its biodiversity, the Chief Minister advocated a concerted effort to awaken people on their role. The Chief Minister further directed the forest officials to carry out frequent interaction with students and teachers across all the educational institutions of the state. The Chief Minister also raised concern over rising number of incidents man-animal conflict and blamed the human being for the situation.

The Chief Minister also distributed appointment letter to the newly recruited Forest Rangers in that programme.

Addressing the new recruits, the Chief Minister urged them to perform their duties with sincerity and utmost dedication. Chief Minister Sonowal also directed the forest department to honour those officials who render exemplary service in the field of conservation of nature.

Underlining that the state government is resolutely working to transform Assam and to bring in positive change in the thought, option and behavior of the people of Assam, the Chief Minister Sonowal called for active support from all sections of the society to make Assam a model state in terms of conservation of nature in next 10 years.

State Forest & Environment Minister Pramila Rani Brahma and West Guwahati MLA Ramendra Narayan Kalita also spoke on the occasion.

MLA Tapan Kumar Gogoi, Chief Secretary Vinod Kumar Pipersenia, Principal Secretary of the forest department, Pawan Kumar Borthakur and several senior officials of the forest department were also present in the programme.

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