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Assam Govt to Preserve Heritage of Darrang Kings

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The Assam Government, led by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, announced a grant of ₹50 crore for the preservation and restoration of the heritage of the Darrang kings of the Koch dynasty.

The announcement was made during the 516th Biswa Mahabir Chilarai Divas celebrations at Pipora Dookan in Darrang district.

Purpose of the grant:

To conserve and restore historical structures and legacy associated with the Koch dynasty and develop it as a major tourism and heritage centre in Assam.

To protect Assam's historical heritage and connect future generations with their glorious past.

Heritage initiatives announced:

Unveiled a 37-foot statue of Maharaj Krishnanarayan of the Darrang kingdom.

Virtually inaugurated Chilarai Bhawans constructed at Mangaldoi and Golaghat.

Directed the Darrang district administration and Public Works Department to immediately start heritage restoration work.

Historical background:

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The Koch dynasty emerged in the region after the decline of the Pal dynasty and reached its zenith under Maharaj Naranarayan, with Mahabir Chilarai playing a decisive role in military and administrative affairs.

Chilarai is known for his lightning-fast battlefield tactics, well-organised land and naval forces, and construction of strategic roads such as the Gohain Kamal Ali Road.

About Darrang and Its Heritage

Darrang district is located in upper Assam on the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River and has a rich historical lineage tied with the ancient kingdom of Koch Hajo (a branch of the Koch dynasty).

The Koch dynasty played a significant role in Assam's medieval political and cultural evolution, influencing neighbouring regions including present-day North Bengal and parts of Bangladesh.

The Gohain Kamal Ali Road was a crucial strategic route built during the Koch period, facilitating military and trade movements across the region.

Heritage and Tourism Context

Heritage conservation supports cultural tourism, contributing to local economic development and preservation of regional identity — a key focus of state cultural policies.

Assam has been actively preserving historical sites; the Assam Legislative Assembly approved the Satra Commission Bill, 2025 to safeguard Vaishnavite heritage, reflecting the state's broader commitment to heritage conservation.

Cultural Significance

Darrang district is also historically linked with Ojapali, a traditional Assamese narrative song-dance, indicating the region's deep cultural roots.