

ONGC inks MoU with ASI to conserve Ahom Kings' Monuments at Sibasagar, Assam

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As part of its structured CSR initiatives, ONGC signed an MoU with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on 29th June 2010 in New Delhi to preserve some of the invaluable National Heritages in the form of historical '*Ahom*' monuments (belonged to the '*Ahom*' Dynasty) in Sibasagar district of Assam.

The project titled "*Amulya Dharohar*", under the aegis of Archaeological Survey of India, aims at protection and upliftment of famous historical '*Ahom*' monuments like **Rong Ghar, Kareng Ghar, Talatal Ghar and Group of Maidams at Charaideo**. As a responsible corporate citizen, ONGC has taken up the aspirations of the local people in this regard, and is extending the entire financial support to ASI for comprehensive maintenance and conservation of these monuments.

The MoU was signed by Mr. D.R. Gehlot, Joint Director General of ASI and Mr. A.B. Chakraborty, Chief CSR, ONGC in presence of Mr. R S Sharma, CMD, ONGC and other dignitaries from ONGC and ASI.

Referring to ONGC's major oil and gas production operations in Assam since sixties, Mr. Sharma said, "ONGC's proactive stand on giving back to the society is visible in its various CSR initiatives. The MoU signed with the ASI to preserve the heritage sites at Sibasagar is one of the examples of our commitment towards maintaining and preserving the culture and heritage of the local community who toil for the Nation".

"I am sure that the financial support of ONGC will not only help ASI to properly maintain and beautify these heritage sites, it will add value in community development through flourishing tourism," commented Mr. Sharma.

On this occasion, ONGC also signed another MoU with National Culture Fund (NCF) to replace the existing plastic case with toughened glass case around the Chariot at the entrance of National Museum, New Delhi. This project is being undertaken with the NCF and is scheduled for completion before the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

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