

## PRESS RELEASE

Archaeological Survey of India celebrates "World Heritage Week" every year in the month of November from 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> to create awareness about the cultural heritage of the country. Guwahati Circle is celebrating the same at six of its monuments with the inauguration at Ranghar, Sivasagar with photo exhibition open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm. There after it is going to be celebrated at Ghanshyam house, Sivasagar on 20<sup>th</sup> November, Bhubaneswari temple, Rajnagar, Tripura on 22<sup>nd</sup> November; Unakoti, Tripura on 23<sup>rd</sup> November; Sri Surya Pahar, Goalpara, Assam on 24<sup>th</sup> November and at Bamuni Hill, Tezpur, Assam, on 25<sup>th</sup> November. At all the places students from the neighbourhood school/colleges are/ will be invited to the site, take up **Swachh Smarak, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** related activities along with the visitors, followed by essay, drawing and other competition for the children at the site.

As a part of this celebration Guwahati Circle on 21<sup>st</sup> November through the Hon'ble Governor of Assam, Sri P. B. Acharya at Raj Bhavan , Guwahati got released 1) one guide book on Sivasagar in Braille, 2) 3 brochures in Braille, a) Monuments of Sonitpur, Assam b) Group of four maidams at Charaideo, Assam C) Monuments of Tripura 3) A booklet on Sri Surya Pahar Archaeological Museum, Goalpara, Assam 4) Stone Jar of North Cachar, Assam.

The publications in Braille are the first of its type published by the Guwahati Circle for the Visually Challenged visitors to the site through the Govt. Braille Press, Basistha. The guide book is the first guide book of Archaeological Survey of India printed in Braille and is for free distribution.

The Governor appreciated the initiative of the Archaeological Survey of India for making its monuments physically challenged friendly. He opined that such literature should be made available on all the monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India, Guwahati Circle. He stressed upon the need to protect more monuments in the North East by the Archaeological Survey of India. If there are any problem faced by the Archaeological Survey of India in doing so they are free to come and discuss the same with him and he shall try to help in whatever way possible in the state or if required will take up the matter with the Centre. He stressed there should be all round development of the North East including in the field of protection of its cultural wealth, for unless North East develops in all aspects, India cannot develop.

Both the print and visual media was present. It was represented by Times of India, Amar Asom, Niyamiya Barta, Jansadharan, Gana-Adhikar, Doordarshan, DDNews, News Live, Dy365, Pratidin Time, Assam Talk, and others.