



सत्यमेव जयते

**DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEE
ON DEVELOPMENT (G) DEPARTMENTS
2026-2027**

**SIXTEENTH
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Report on Demands for the Grant No. 65
for the year 2026-2027**

DEPARTMENT: TOURISM

THIRD REPORT

Presented to the House on 22nd July, 2026.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

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(i)

**COMPOSITION OF THE DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
DEVELOPMENT (G) DEPARTMENTS,
2026-27**

CHAIRPERSON:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley, | MLA |
|---------------------------|-----|

MEMBERS:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 2. Shri Prasanta Phukan, | MLA |
| 3. Shri Dhormeswar Konwar, | MLA |
| 4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das, | MLA |
| 5. Dr. Rajdeep Roy, | MLA |
| 6. Shri Tankeswar Rabha, | MLA |
| 7. Shri Raju Mesh, | MLA |
| 8. Shri Arup Kumar Dey, | MLA |
| 9. Shri Aminul Haque Laskar, | MLA |
| 10. Shri Mohibur Rohman, | MLA |
| 11. Shri Prakash Chandra Das, | MLA |
| 12. Shri Maneswar Brahma, | MLA |
| 13. Shri Mehboob Muktar. | MLA |

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Rajib Bhattacharyya, Secretary, AAS
2. Smti. Bhashwatie Borah Rajguru, Deputy Secretary,
3. Smti. Susmita Das , OSD (Under Secretary),
4. Dr. Kanun Basumatary, Under Secretary,
5. Shri Biren Mazumdar, Committee Officer,
6. Shri Achyut Sarma, Committee Officer.

(ii)

INTRODUCTION

1. I, the Chairman of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments having been authorized by the Committee to present the **Third Report** on their behalf on the demands for **Grant no. 65** relating to **Tourism Department** for the financial year 2026-2027.
2. The committee took evidence of the Government representatives on **16th July, 2026**.
3. The Committee wishes to place its thanks to the representatives of concerned Department who appeared before the Committee and placed their considered views and notes. The Committee also like to thanks the Department for furnishing the replies on the points raised by the Committee.
4. The report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on **17th July, 2026**.
5. The Committee also expresses its thanks to the officers and staff of the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat, who devoted their time and energy in processing and compilation of the report within a very short span of time for their Secretarial assistance & co-operation.

Dispur :

The 17th July, 2026

NABA KUMAR DOLEY

Chairperson,
Departmentally Related Standing
Committee on Development (G) Departments
Assam Legislative Assembly.

CHAPTER -1
REPORT
GRANT NO 65 TOURISM

The Grant No.65 relates to Tourism.

The Budget Provision under Grant No. 65 of Tourism Department for the Year 2026-27 is shown under the following table :-

	Revenue	Capital	Total (Rs. In Lakh)
VOTED	4580.52	2652.93	7233.45
Charged	0.00	0.00	0.00

Major Head of Accounts	Head Details	Total (Rs. In Lakh)
3452	Tourism	4580.52
5452	Capital Outlay on Tourism	2652.93
Grand Total		7233.45

1. A BRIEF NOTE IN RESPECT OF GRANT NO 65: Grant No. 65 plays a pivotal role in supporting the Tourism Department of Assam, focusing on leveraging the state's abundant tourism potential. Acknowledging the global significance of tourism as a rapidly growing and environmentally friendly industry, the grant aims to contribute significantly to the economic development of the region while addressing unemployment concerns.

Assam, known for its abundant biodiversity, varied cultures, significant historical sites, and picturesque landscapes, is an exceptional choice for travellers. The tourism opportunities in this region encompass wildlife encounters, distinctive cultural traditions, the world's largest river island called Majuli, renowned for its Vaisnavite culture, extensive tea plantations, the historic ruins of the Tai Ahom Royal dynasty in Sivasagar, the magnificent Brahmaputra River, and the exquisite Golden Muga silk, among numerous other captivating attractions.

Furthermore, the Tourism Department actively engages in the promotion and development of tourism-related infrastructure. This collaborative effort involves partnerships with the private sector and coordination with other relevant departments. The note underscores the importance of sufficient investments and integrated efforts from all stakeholders to fully explore and capitalize on the tourism potential of Assam. The overarching goal is to boost tourism as a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and to showcase the distinctive offerings of Assam to visitors.

2. No new scheme has been launched in respect of Tourism Department, Government of Assam.

3. PRELIMINARY STATUS PAPER RELATING TO GRANT NO. 65: A preliminary status paper related to Grant No. 65 in the context of the Tourism Department in Assam has been developed. This document provides an overview of the current situation and initiatives associated with the grant. The key points outlined in the preliminary status paper include:

- a. **Grant Overview:** Grant No. 65 is specifically allocated to the Tourism Department in Assam, indicating a targeted focus on leveraging tourism potential for the state's development.
- b. **Global Significance of Tourism:** Recognizing tourism as a rapidly growing industry globally, the paper emphasizes its status as a smokeless industry with the potential to significantly impact economic development and address unemployment issues.
- c. **Tourism Assets in Assam:** Assam is highlighted for its rich biodiversity, cultural diversity, historical sites, and natural beauty. The state's tourism is centered around various attractions such as wildlife, unique cultures, the world's largest river island Majuli with its Vaisnavite culture, tea gardens, historical ruins, the Brahmaputra River, and the Golden Muga.
- d. **Departmental Initiatives:** The Tourism Department is actively engaged in promoting and developing tourism infrastructure. Collaborative efforts with the private sector and other relevant departments are being pursued to maximize the potential of tourism in Assam.
- e. **Investment and Collaboration:** The preliminary status paper underscores the need for adequate investments and integrated efforts from all stakeholders to fully capitalize on the tourism potential. Collaboration with the private sector is particularly emphasized.
- f. **Goals and Objectives:** The overarching goals include boosting tourism as a means of fostering economic growth, generating employment, and showcasing the unique offerings of Assam to visitors.

4. PERFORMANCE BUDGET / ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT:

**BUDGET PROVISION & EXPENDITURE (SOPD & EE) DURING THE LAST
THREE YEARS:**

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	SOPD (Revenue & Capital) Budget	EE (Revenue & Capital) Budget	Total Budget Provision	Expenditures	Percentage
2023- 24	7563.68	2621.91	10185.60	6393.91524	62.78%
2024- 25	7535.12	3051.36	10586.48	4210.23344	39.77%
2025- 26	7802.20	2307.50	10109.70	6020.38051	59.55%

5. Action taken report on the Recommendations made by the Hon'ble Committee in its Second report (Grant No. 65) of 2025-2026.

Sl. No.	Observation and Recommendation	Action Taken
1.	The Committee observes that there is lack of tourist lodges and homestays in many tourist hotspots of the state. Therefore, the Committee recommends to increase Budget allocation for "Amar Alohi Scheme" and also to build tourist lodges, guest houses or homestays in the districts which have tourist prospective	The Budget allocation for the "Aamar Alohi Rural Homestay scheme" during the financial year 2024-25 was Rs. 300.00 lakhs and it was enhanced to Rs. 475.00 lakhs under minor Head-101 – SOPD – G and Rs. 475.00 lakhs during the last financial year 2025-26. Further, during the current financial year 2026-27, an amount of Rs. 755.00 lakh has been proposed for completion of the ongoing homestay clusters and to initiate New Home Stay Schemes.
2.	The Committee observes that there are much more opportunities to promote our tourist places which are lesser known and have historical importance. Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Department should take necessary steps to promote all those places and also to promote hill areas viz Karbi-Anglong and Dima Hasao. Further, as requested by the Hon'ble MLA of Dibrugarh LAC, the Department take necessary steps to promote and develop Soraipung and Sitakund and also to promote Sindura picnic spot of Katigora as requested by the Hon'ble MLA of Katigora LAC.	Assam in the past few years has seen a rising trend in the overall tourist footfall of the state. The efforts of the Government as well as the private stakeholders have contributed to this growth story. Increasing tourist footfall has several positive impacts on the region, ranging from economic development to cultural exchange. However, it requires careful planning to ensure that the state's natural and cultural heritage is preserved while benefiting from tourism growth. To bring in sustainability in this sector it is imperative that Assam look beyond Kamakhya and Kaziranga. The Department of Tourism has mooted the idea of promoting Lesser-Known destination to this end and the strategy that is being employed is called "Aparup Assam" Aparup Assam is a guide book, published by the Directorate of Tourism, that contain the list of lesser known and upcoming tourist destination of the state. These places have been selected based on the tourist footfall figures, inputs of local officers and proximity to

	an important tourist destination. There are more than hundred destinations in the list which the department plans to take up in a phase manner for promotion. Further, Karbi Anglong, the largest district of Assam, is a land of breathtaking natural beauty, unexplored landscapes, and immense tourism potential. Located at the heart of Assam, this district is blessed with lush green hills, enchanting waterfalls, and pristine forests, making it a Perfect destination for nature lover and adventure seekers. In view of the above the Department of Tourism, Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu has developed important tourist spots like Longsokangthu, Kangthilangso, Dikrutpi Waterfalls, Kaipholangso, Langvoku and Koka through SOPD schemes under grant no.76 of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council. Tourist places of Dima Hasao also being promoted by O/o the Deputy Director of Tourism, Dima Hasao, Haflong. Regarding the Soraipung Range of Dehing-Patkai National Park is indeed one of our most popular destinations among tourists, with a particularly strong appeal to birdwatchers due to its exceptional avian diversity. The rich biodiversity of the entire park, including Soraipung, offers immense potential for eco-tourism and nature-based experiences. To further enhance the visitor experience and to responsibly develop the Soraipung Range, we acknowledge the critical need for improved tourist amenities. Our current assessment indicates that the following facilities are essential to support the growing number of visitors and to provide a comfortable and sustainable tourism environment: • Tourist Lodge: To provide suitable accommodation for visitors, especially those staying for multiple days to explore the park in depth.
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		• Homestays: To encourage local community participation in tourism, provide authentic cultural experiences, and offer a range of accommodation options. • Restaurant: To cater to the food and beverage needs of tourists, potentially showcasing local cuisine. • Public Toilets: Essential for basic hygiene and convenience of visitors. • Tourist Information Centre: To provide visitors with comprehensive information about the park, its flora and fauna, regulations, guided tours, and local attractions, thereby enhancing their understanding and appreciation of the region. Sitakunda, nestled as an island in the Buridihing River, is already a cherished destination for tourists visiting Dihing-Patkai National Park or the Tipam area. To further enhance its allure and offer a unique experience, we recommend introducing boating and rafting activities. These additions would not only diversify the recreational options but also allow visitors to experience the serene beauty of the Buridihing River firsthand. Lastly, as per the report received from the Tourism Development Officer, Cachar the Sindura Picnic Spot located at Kalain, Katigora is a beautiful picnic Spot. It is surrounded by green hills, tea gardens and a river with big stones. Lots of people visit the Sindura Picnic Spot. Steps may be taken for promotion and providing tourism facilities at Sindura Picnic Spot.
3.	The Committee recommends that the Department should take necessary steps to provide proper training of Tourist guides to the youth which will generate employment and also bring	Tourism Department, Government of Assam regularly organizing following training programme within the budget provision earmarked for the said training programme as per the current need, importance, challenges affecting the skill gap in terms of soft skills in tourism and hospitality sector and also to skill

	more development in the tourism sector.	the Drivers to function as guides as well to boost the current income. 1) Tourist Guide Training for the unemployed educated youths from major tourist destinations of Assam; 2) Capacity Building Training for the Service Providers (Tourist Guides, City Taxi Drivers, Jeep Safari Drivers, Mahut etc.) of Tourism Industry in Assam. Basic Foreign Language course in Franch, German etc. is one of the components of this training module. 3) Training program for adventure sports activities to the interested youths in Assam. The training programme includes communication skills, stress management, etiquette, personality development, behavioural skills and attitude etc. These trained personnel shall get a certificate from Tourism Department, Government of Assam and will also be eligible to avail any Government support schemes now and in future. During this financial year 2026-27, a budget provision of ₹46.53 lakh has been proposed under the Head of Account 3452-80-103-1447-000-32-01-SOPD-G for conducting various tourism training programmes and skill development of unemployed educated local youths. Further, Institute of Hotel Management, Guwahati and Food Craft Institute, Samuguri, Nagaon, affiliated with National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, offering various Degree and Diploma Courses to provide training to the eligible candidates in Hotel Management, Catering Technology,
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		General Food Management and Allied Subjects to strengthen the Tourism and Hospitality sector of the State.
4.	The Committee recommends that the Department should take necessary steps to promote homestays of the Tourist destinations of the state.	The department of Tourism through its implementing agency ATDC has implemented a scheme in the name & style of “Aamar Alohi Rural Homestay scheme” in the FY 2016-17 and 2018-19 in different upcoming and promising tourist destination of Assam. Total 29 and 34 homestays were developed in both the FY. All these homestays have been given online marketing support by displaying each of the homestay unit’s photos and other details of the units in the official website of Assam Tourism. In addition to the above to promote homestays in tourist destinations across the State, the Department has taken significant steps to streamline and strengthen the homestay ecosystem. The State Cabinet on 23rd June, 2026 has approved the registration framework for homestay operators, enabling them to function under a formal regulatory mechanism. Registration will provide legal recognition and institutional support to homestay operators, ensure adherence to prescribed standards, and enhance the confidence of tourists in availing homestay facilities. The initiative is expected to promote rural tourism by encouraging visitors to experience the authentic rural lifestyle, culture, traditions, and hospitality of Assam. It will also generate direct and indirect livelihood opportunities for local communities, strengthen community participation in tourism development, and provide sustained incentives for the establishment and promotion of quality rural homestays across the State.
5.	The Committee observes the need of an Online Portal.	Development of a portal to enable online booking of all homestays in Assam is in the

	Therefore, the Committee recommends online portal so that the tourist from different places can book or access their lodges and homestays in advance.	pipeline.
6.	The Committee observes that the Department is facing shortage of fund allocations for promotion and advertisement of Tourist places. Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Budget allocation should be Increased in the Department especially for advertisement and overall development of the Department.	By increasing the budget and focussing on strategic advertisement and infrastructure development, the Tourism Department, Government of Assam can significantly enhance its visibility, attract more tourists, and boost local employment and income generation. These efforts will position Assam as a premier tourism destination in India and beyond. However, the allocation of budget for the promotion and advertisement of Tourist places in Assam during the last FY 2024-25, 2025-26 are as below; <u>2024-25</u> <u>Budget Provision</u> 1. Publicity under 07-Publication : Rs. 300.00 lakhs 2. Publicity under 32-GIA : Rs. 200.00 lakhs <u>2025-26</u> <u>Budget Provision</u> 1. Publicity under 07-Publication : Rs. 585.00 lakhs 2. Publicity under 32-GIA : Rs. 462.50 lakhs And as per the allocation the proposed budget during the current FY is as below; <u>2026-27</u> <u>Proposed Budget</u> 1. Publicity under 07-Publication : Rs. 290.00 lakhs 2. Publicity under 32-GIA : Rs. 300.00 lakhs
7.	The Committee recommends spot visit comprehensive tours to have a deeper understanding of the tourist hotspots.	Tourism Department, Government of Assam will provide all kind of assistance for such kind of spot visit /comprehensive tours to the tourist hotspots in Assam planned by the Hon'ble Committee.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
NOTIFICATION

No. LADRSC.(G) 1/2026/9

Dated Dispur the 10th July, 2026.

In pursuance of the Rule 260-I (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly has been pleased to nominate the following Members to constitute the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments.

1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley	MLA & Chairperson
2. Shri Prasanta Phukan	MLA & Member
3. Shri Dhormeswar Konwar	MLA & Member
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das	MLA & Member
5. Dr. Rajdeep Roy	MLA & Member
6. Shri Tankeswar Rabha	MLA & Member
7. Shri Raju Mesh	MLA & Member
8. Shri Arup Kumar Dey	MLA & Member
9. Shri Aminul Haque Laskar	MLA & Member
10. Shri Mohibur Rohman	MLA & Member
11. Shri Prakash Chandra Das	MLA & Member
12. Shri Maneswar Brahma	MLA & Member
13. Shri Mehboob Muktar	MLA & Member

And in pursuance of Sub-Rule (3) of the Rule 260-I(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly has been pleased to appoint **Shri Naba Kumar Doley, MLA as the Chairperson** of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments.

The term of office of the Members of the Committee shall not exceed 1(one)year from the date constitution.

Sd/-Rajib Bhattacharyya
Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

Memo No. LADRSC. (G).1/2026/10-22

Dated Dispur the 10th July,2026.

Copy forwarded to:-

1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley, MLA & Chairperson, Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments for favour of his kind information.
2. All Members of Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly for kind information.
3. The Private Secretary to the Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for favour of his kind information.
4. The Private Secretary to Deputy Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker for his kind information.
5. The Private Secretary to Leader of the Opposition, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition, Assam Legislative Assembly for favour of kind information.
6. The Private Secretary to Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly for his kind information.

7. The Director, Assam Govt. Press, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati-21 for favour of publication of the above notification in the next issue of the Assam Gazette in Part-I. Five Spare copies of the same may be pleased supplied to this Secretariat for records.
8. The Principal Accountant General, Assam, Maidamgaon, Beltola, Guwahati-29.
9. The Chief Reporter Cum Editor of Debates & Ex-Officio-Joint Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly for information and necessary action.
10. The Additional Secretary, In -charge Nazarat Branch, Assam Legislative Assembly for information.
11. The Accounts Branch, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur for information.
12. All Officer In-charge of different Legislature Committees, Assam Legislative Assembly for information.
13. The Officer-in Charge Website branch, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur for information.



Deputy Secretary
Assam Legislative Assembly.

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OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATION

TOURISM

Grant No. 65

After presentation of the Budget in the House for the Financial Year 2026-27 and after having a stimulating discussion on Preliminary status paper, Action Taken Report, the Committee made the following observations and Recommendations.

1. The Committee observed that the Department is facing shortage of fund allocation for promotions and advertisement of Tourist places.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Budget allocation should be increased in the Department especially for advertisement & overall development of Department.

2. The Committee strongly recommends to establish home stays especially in Community Areas to promote Tourism.
3. The Committee recommends that the department should promote the concept of “Concert Tourism” in Assam taking inspiration from the successful model implemented in Meghalaya.

The Committee recommends that the Budget allocation under Grant No. 65 for the Financial Year 2026-27 be for the Tourism Department be approved by the august House.

The Action taken Report on the recommendations may be submitted to the Committee within 90(ninety) days from the date of presentation of the Report in the House.
