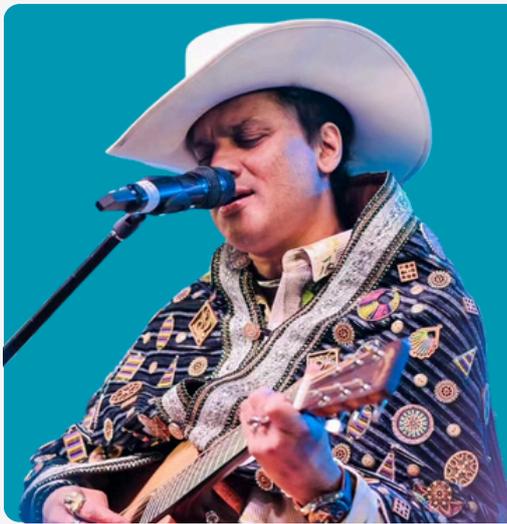


Assam Govt Orders Second Autopsy of **ZUBEEN GARG**



In a move aimed at quelling public suspicion and ensuring transparency, the Assam government has ordered a second post-mortem examination of singer Zubeen Garg's body. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the autopsy would be conducted on Tuesday morning at the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) in the presence of doctors from AIIMS Guwahati.

Zubeen Garg, one of Assam's most celebrated cultural icons, died in Singapore on September 19 while attending the North East India Festival, where he was scheduled to perform the next day. Authorities in Singapore conducted an autopsy before handing over his body, with the death certificate citing drowning as the cause of death.

However, fresh concerns emerged after reports suggested that Garg had suffered epileptic seizures in the past, leading to speculation that such a condition might have contributed to his untimely death. On social media, fans and sections of the public demanded a second autopsy in Assam to rule out any foul play.

Responding to these demands, CM Sarma said: "After the Singapore doctors had conducted the autopsy, I don't think it was necessary as they have more technical expertise, but there should not be any scope for any section to indulge in any kind of politics over Zubeen."

While admitting he was not personally in favour of "cutting up the body again," Sarma said the government proceeded with the decision after securing consent from Garg's family.

The fresh autopsy comes amid multiple police complaints filed in Assam against North East Festival organiser Shyam Kanu Mahanta and Garg's manager Siddharth Sharma. They have been accused of negligence and possible foul play, with the cases now handed over to the state's Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Following the post-mortem, Garg's mortal remains will be taken to Kamarkuchi at Sonapur, on the outskirts of Guwahati, where his last rites will be performed with full state honours in the presence of around 85 family members and close associates.

On Sunday, thousands of grief-stricken fans queued through the night in Guwahati to bid a final farewell to the singer. His body, kept in a glass casket draped with the traditional Assamese gamosa, became the focal point of an outpouring of emotion across the state.

