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**Tribal Welfare Minister attends merit
award giving ceremony in Khumulwng**

**The government is making arrangements to encourage tribal students
towards education through merit awards: Tribal Welfare Minister**

Knowledge can be gained through reading books. There is no comparison of books to becoming a dignified and good human being. Books are the only source of knowledge and power which is why the state government is making arrangements to encourage tribal students towards education by giving away merit awards every year, said Tribal Welfare Minister Mevar Kumar Jamatia after inaugurating state-level merit award giving ceremony to indigenous merit students at Nuwai Auditorium Hall of TTAADC Sadar Office, Khumulwng on December 27. The programme was organised by Tribal Welfare department. This year, the department has enlisted total 26 thousand 548 indigenous students of class 6 to class 12 for merit award who have secured more than 60% in their final exams.

The Tribal Welfare Minister in the inaugural programme said, the students who are being awarded by the government for their merit and hard work are also inspiring other students to become better in studies. The Minister hoped that more indigenous students would be awarded for their merit in coming days. He advised students not to be abided just with lesson books only but also buy some good books and read them to expand their knowledge. He said, one has to work for the welfare of family and the society keeping one's goals stable.

MLA Dharendra Debbarma in the programme said, today's students are tomorrow's future which is why they have to build themselves up well through education and involve themselves in welfare of the society. Principal Secretary of Tribal Welfare department Puneet Agarwal presided over the programme. He spoke about various plans that the department and the government have taken for the welfare of indigenous students. Director of Tribal welfare department delivered welcome speech in the inaugural programme. TTAADC EM Ganesh Debbarma, TTAADC CEO C.K Jamatia and other guests also delivered speech in the programme. Other dignitaries present in the programme were Additional Director of Tribal welfare department Ananda Hari Jamatia and Jirania SDM Jiban Acharjee. The programme was ended by folk dance performed by the students of Khumulwng Music College. The Tribal Welfare Minister handed over certificates to the students on that day.